

# Church History for BUSY People

How did our current, divided religious world come to be?  
A paraphrased history of the church and its effect on world history.

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**Attention:** The material in this church history outline would take a very long time, possibly years, to compile on one's own time. Many internet sites have been manipulated by people with a deceitful agenda to falsify what really happened. Dr. Petrillo has diligently researched church history during his life and presents that information in a concise manner. If you have ever tried to study these topics on your own, you would have found it exceedingly difficult to find the truth, or understand what the authors are trying to explain. This outline overcomes that problem and makes church history very clear and easy to understand. This outline also shows the flow of church history beginning in the year zero, and moving to the modern era. I have not included source citations in order to try and keep everything concise. If you need citations, I can get them for you. I hope you enjoy studying this outline as much as I enjoyed writing it.

– Mark O'Brien

*“The transition to clarify the minds of men from tradition to Truth, from false doctrines to pure faith, from human speculations to heaven-given Scripture (John 17:7-17; Ephesians 3:3-5) was not easy! There was a cobweb of confusion that had to be removed from many minds (Calvinism; Universalism; Mourner's Bench; Getting an experience; Men voting to determine one's worthiness to be a member in some church; infant church membership; Faith only; Submission to creeds of manmade disciplines—None of which can be found in the New Testament.) Some of those transition steps are a sobering and heartening story.”*

Dayton Keese, Restoration Revival (Lubbock: Sunset Institute Press, 2008) p. 286.

## I. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED

- A. Term **CHURCH** used in a broad sense, and will include denominationalism, and not as the exclusive group who has been born again into God's family by adult immersion which is the definition of the Greek word, Baptism.
- B. Term **CHRISTIANITY** used in a broad, generic sense as well. This will include all those who do not follow the Biblical teachings, but have a generalized "Christian belief system".
- C. Two major **CENTERS OF CHRISTIANITY**.
  - i. Church in the **East** = Constantinople
  - ii. Church in the **West** = Rome
- D. The Early **CHURCH FATHERS**. (Examples: Irenaeus, Origen, Polycarp)
  - i. Lived in the 100's and 200's A.D.
  - ii. NOT INSPIRED like the Apostles, and never claimed inspiration.
  - iii. Some were taught by the Apostles.
  - iv. Leaders in their local congregations. (Elders, Deacons)
  - v. They wrote accounts of the early church:
    - 1. How the early church worshipped.
    - 2. How the early church thought
    - 3. How the early church responded to heretical teachings
    - 4. They were men who saw the beginning of abuse of authority in the early church.

## II. WHERE DOES CHURCH HISTORY COME FROM?

- A. Church history is naturally drawn to the **newsmakers** - people always in the public eye.
- B. Church history is the study of **changes** that men brought to Christ's church.
- C. Two areas of changes will be examined.
  - i. Doctrines (II Peter ii. 1-3)
  - ii. Government of the Church
- D. **The true, first Christians** from the year 33AD (those Jews converted in Acts 2) were **news-unworthy**, lived "under the radar" during developing early church history, and continued to exist throughout time from its establishment in 33 A.D. (Acts 2 first Gospel sermon world ever heard.), and has survived even to this modern time. See Jesus' statement that His church would never be overcome by the gates of Hades (Matthew 16:18).
  - i. The first Christians were ordinary people who were unaffected by the great controversies of their time and remained that way due to their convictions that the Scriptures gave all they needed to imitate Christ. They continued to live lives that were changed by Jesus and continued to manifest Christianity daily.
  - ii. These people did not make any news for church history because they were not news-worthy people. History is not and has not been interested in these quiet people.
  - iii. According to ALL records written by church Fathers, they met on Sunday, took the Lord's Supper every Sunday, Baptized adults by immersion for the remission of sins for salvation, and sang without instrumental accompaniment. There are no dissenting written records.
  - iv. A Jewish Encyclopedia describes pouring "Baptism" (begun in AD 325) was not considered valid and those who had been poured on had to be baptized correctly – fully immersed in water.
  - v. This original church is *still accessible* to everyone.

III. **“THE GREAT TURNING OF EVENTS”.** (Apostasy and denominationalism before 100 AD.) How an apostate segment of the original church which was founded in Jerusalem in AD 33 moved from under the radar and news-unworthy and making the front page of world history. Each church had its’ own hierarchy as per the Biblical example (Elders, Deacons, Teachers). But something changed the authorized Biblical example.

A. Here’s what happened...

- i. Unscriptural thinking and teaching was developing in churches.
- ii. Men or men who were Elders in some churches either through Biblical ignorance, wicked ambitions, or even good intentions, wanted to stop abuses, or heresy, and create doctrinal unity and uniformity in the churches. So they visited to try and help the other congregations.
- iii. The autonomous self-governing church then developed the idea of sending one Elder to the different churches in other areas in order to talk to the potential “heretics” altogether with the other church’s Elders.
- iv. A spokesperson was chosen to organize these meetings. (This is Scripturally sound.)
- v. No abuse of authority was planned however there is an unfortunate tendency in human beings that seeks to elevate self and to seek high positions.

B. **ANOTHER IMPORTANT CHANGE: An unscriptural hierarchy formally developed.**

- i. When the meeting leaders returned from their meetings back to their home congregations, new un-scriptural titles and un-scriptural positions were given to the leaders: **“A Bishop among the Elders”.** (Here’s where things start to go bad.)
- ii. Note: Word “Bishop” and “Elder” are interchangeable in the NT.
- iii. This new hierarchy morphed over time into an evil abuse of authority.
- iv. This newly formed group eventually changed into a ruling religious body and ruled for 1,200 years under the name “Catholic”.
- v. The self-assumed authority figures gained power by adopting a fallacious religious practice based in greediness and then twisted Bible passages into something that supported their practice.

C. **Summary: (My words) In a nutshell.** Some Elders from the original churches in AD 33 that Christ built capitalized on the power they were given at these meetings and formed their own new churches. They became greedy, extremely wicked, and bullied people around them. They saw the opportunity to hold false authority over people. These Elders who engaged in this behavior would have been disfellowshipped based on church discipline that Paul wrote about. The true church continued on after disfellowshipping them, remaining once again, news unworthy and quiet.

#### IV. TWO FOLD ATTACK ON THE CHURCH DURING 100-199

A. **The first great attack: False teachers.** The men of the original early congregations met in Rome to decide on how to stop false teachers as discussed above. They state that false teachers gave compelling arguments and so the church needed to argue effectively against them, or their members might withdraw membership.

- i. The Elder who returned from the meeting became the center of that church’s attention and was given different authority because of his new experience. He was **given the name Bishop in about AD 175**. This was a newly developed idea since the rest of the Elders were not known as Bishops.
- ii. When all the “Bishops” were together in Rome, **someone was chosen to lead the discussion**. He was then moved to an even higher position. So a hierarchy of Bishops developed to combat false teaching and create doctrinal unity. This was done as a uniting and practical move, probably not as an intentional power play.
- iii. However, eventually pride moved in and these Bishops became overcome by power and arrogance.

- iv. By the 190's - in less than 50 yrs - these Bishops were commanding authority over many congregations and regions.
- v. Idea of **Apostolic Succession developed c. 150-199** to stop false doctrine. All early churches incorrectly believed that if an Apostle had visited a church, he passed on his authority to some one man at that church. This is called Apostolic Succession. (Bible verses disproving apostolic succession: **Jude 3, I Peter 1:3, Gal 1: 8-9.** ) The New Testament is the final revelation of God, and apostolic succession is simply not part of God's plan.
- vi. **Remember**, the ruling group of "Bishops" in the political Roman state-church system believed Peter somehow passed on his apostleship by misusing Jesus' words about giving Peter the "keys of the Kingdom". This verse was foreshadowing of Peter preaching the world's very first Gospel sermon in Acts 2, and meant nothing more. The word "key" is a figure for the authority to open something. Christ empowered Peter to preach that most important message and that's the "key" to the "kingdom". Peter "opened" the locked "door" of the kingdom of God by preaching the first Gospel sermon the world had ever heard. The Gospel "key" is our way into the "kingdom" which is the church. So they believed **the man that Peter passed his apostolic succession to was to be the leader of all the Bishops.**
- vii. c.225, a chair called a *Cathedra* was built for the ruling Bishop and he would sit and discuss spiritual issues with those men who were under his authority.
- viii. Around **700 AD, the Papacy existed formally.** When this Pope sat in the **Cathedra chair** and spoke about an issue, the speech was called **Ex-Cathedra**. It was believed Christ spoke through the Pope while he sat in this chair. This was the **beginning of the doctrine of the infallibility of the Pope- "The Vicar of Christ"**.
- ix. Later, building of Cathedrals led to a materialistic emphasis, and to increased power given to these leaders.
- x. Twelve men in Italian power roles felt that the apostles had passed their authority on to them. They believed that they had the same authority as the Apostles. They believed they had the same inspiration of the Holy Spirit as all the Apostles. This was one of the most serious Scriptural departures in church history.
- xi. The Formalization of Doctrine developed to stop false doctrine.
- xii. Development of Creeds (c. 175) a compiling of cardinal doctrines.
- xiii. Canon was more precisely defined. (**Remember** that history asserts that the Bible was bound in book form as we have it today, by AD 100.) So no group of men ever was responsible for the Canon as it is today as you may hear from some.
- xiv. The CATHOLIC CHURCH DID NOT DETERMINE CANNON as they claim today. The canon existed one thousand. five hundred years before denominational Catholicism said it did. World history supports this undisputable fact.
- xv. The 27 letters "Codex" of the Canon came from Palestine, Egypt, Europe, etc.
- xvi. It only took 2 decades after John's death in 96 for the Canon to be completed though our current Bible was bound by AD 100. This is undisputable historical, scientific fact.
- xvii. Major false doctrines the church had to contend with up to c. 300: *Docetism, Gnosticism, Antinomianism, Marcianism, Ebionism.* **The Apologists** are the men who fought these false doctrines.

**B. The second great attack: Persecution (129 years long and ended in 260)**

- i. For the first 300 years, the church was in "survival mode".
- ii. *Ignatius* (considered the 3rd Pope by Catholic Church.) Also called an "Apostolic Father". Martyred in Rome, death by Lion in the amphitheater. Not inspired, and did not claim inspiration. Wrote about church persecution in his era c.110.
- iii. *Polycarp*. Taught by Apostle John, per Irenaus. Compiled Ignatius' writing. An Elder in Smyrna. Martyred by Antonius Pius c.150 at age 86 - burned at the stake. Taught

autonomy of the Church and Eldership (Scripturally correct) Taught that each church should have one head leader (Unscriptural).

- iv. Early Christians studied Revelation a lot since they were confused as to why Rome was persecuting them, and the book of Revelation's theme is the persecution of the early church.
- v. The early Christians wanted to know if calling the current Caesar, "Lord Caesar" was ok to save their families from death upon refusing to call Caesar "lord". The Italian government at that time was severely persecuting the church. The Italian government did not want any other god but their Emperor, Caesar.
- vi. The persecution method used many times was this: The Italian guard would bring a statue of the Emperor that had a bowl of glowing coals held out in front of it to the house of a Christian. Each member of the household was forced to take a bit of incense and sprinkle it on the coals and recite some type of incantation regarding the Emperor being their god instead of Christ. If anyone refused, the Italian guard would begin to execute family members, beginning with the children.
- vii. Some Christians saved their family's lives by calling the Emperor "lord". They did not lose their lives. These people were not welcome at church the next day because they didn't stand up for Christ in persecution as the book of Revelation commands. There were many in the church that paid that price for refusing to call the Caesar "lord".
- viii. The persecution caused Christianity to creep into even the highest Italian governmental positions. In 284 – 305 Emperor Diocletian started some persecution again.
- ix. By AD 300, Italian Christianity, known as Catholicism was represented in all parts of the Empire but not in a recognizable form. It wasn't until about AD 450 that Catholicism was more clearly defined.
- x. After persecution ended, everyone could worship openly, and this led to certain abuses.

## V. WORSHIP WITHOUT PERSECUTION LED TO ABUSES (The 300's)

- A. **Background:** Now that Christianity could worship openly, doctrinal standardization was lost. The arrogant hierarchy discussed above began to assert increasing public control. This hierarchy began wearing special clothing like robes and ornate sashes to try and separate themselves from the common church member. Hierarchy began to control everything.
- B. **Abuse of the Lord's Supper.**
  - **Transubstantiation developed** in 340 AD Catholics believed that as priest blesses bread and wine, it becomes the literal body/blood of Christ. **My words:** This is a gross misinterpretation of a literary device called Metaphor Christ is using to explain what will happen to Him and how He wants us to remember Him. Christ could not have had blood in the chalice since His blood had not yet been shed. There's no example of any apostle teaching Transubstantiation, either.
- A. **Pageantry in worship:** holding up the chalice, aggrandized motions and movements, types of vocal inflections, etc.
- B. **Liturgy expanded.** Priests liturgized on anything they wanted to, and in any way they thought correct.
- C. **Expansion of the Power of the Priesthood.**
  - i. Scriptural Eldership role was replaced by one Priest.
  - ii. Priest privately held the contribution money, and decided on all worship practices.
  - iii. Huge buildings built with this money.

## VI. RISE OF ITALIAN ROMAN CATHOLICISM AND THE EFFECTS ON MANKIND. (c.400's AD)

- A. **Background:** West and East competing for religious & political preeminence and power. They both thought there would soon be a need for a new religious center. They thought Jerusalem would fall as the religious center of Christianity and so they fought over which city would be the "new Jerusalem". The Western church chose Rome since their *tradition* (a.k.a the "Magisterium") taught that Peter had been there (apostolic succession). The Eastern Church chose Constantinople since

Paul and several other apostles had been there. The city believed that Peter had passed his special authority – apostolic succession in Constantinople.

- i. The prominence of certain bishops was connected with the prominence of their cities.
- ii. There is no historical or Biblical evidence that Peter ever went to Rome. **My words:** This is only Italian lore created to gain religious authority and political power over the people.

B. Power changes in Italy that forced major historical events.

- Around 300 AD four men were competing for the Emperor position. Galerius died in 311, and two became the strongest competitors of the four. Maxentius was heathen, and Constantine was favorable towards Christians. So Christians voted for Constantine.
- NOTE: Rome fell by invading barbarian tribes in 476. But the Papal hierarchy ruled the world on a vaster extent, with a more despotic hand than pagan Rome had.
- Most historians estimate that from 476 to early 1500, FIFTY MILLION people were murdered by the Roman state-church system's hierarchy. (Haley's Bible Handbook, and Foxe's Book of Martyrs) Some historians believe this to be a conservative number. Foxe (Foxe's Book of Martyrs) may state the number may be closer to one hundred million.
- "Italian Romanists are in favor of tolerance **only** in countries where they are the minority. The Papacy has fought religious freedom at every step in history." (Haley's Bible Handbook)
- The simple Christians who lived under the radar practicing true New Testament Christianity were never and have never been found guilty of murder or anything like what history has found in the Papacy.

C. Constantine needs to beat Maxentius' army [which was superior to Constantine's army] so he prayed to all gods for help. He said the Christian God told him in a dream, "By this sign, you will conquer". **The symbols were the first two letters of Christ: X and R.** Most scholars doubt he had this dream vision, but he used it as political propaganda brilliantly. In October 313 Constantine beat Maxentius's army at the Tiber River near Milvian Bridge and so he became Emperor.

D. **Constantine and Licinius then shaped church and world history by legalizing Christianity. The Edict of Toleration or, of Milano of 313.** First official word to outlaw Christian persecution.

E. RESULTS of Christianity legalized:

- i. Christians officially on equal legal footing with all other religions. All land stolen from Christians returned to Christians.
- ii. Constantine murdered his partner Licinius in 323 and so was the sole power.
- iii. **Constantine then declares himself "Bishop Ordained by God" and made himself the overlord of Christianity** and used his personal beliefs of what Christianity ought to be in order to try and strengthen the empire. Any NON CONSTANTINE-APPROVED churches were forced to stop their worship and align with Constantine's church.
- iv. He persecuted pagans who were 10 years earlier made equal with all other religions. The Pagans were now persecuted by **Christians** at this time.
- v. The Eastern Church at Constantinople did not recognize Constantine. Under Maximus Daia, the Christians were still being persecuted in Constantinople.
- vi. **Constantine's wife Helena** was a devout Christian. She acquired many of the relics like the wood of the cross, and the bones of the three wise men. In fact, **Helena is attributed to instituting relic worship of the Catholic Church.** The Catholic Church believed that relics would bring more spiritual authority to their city.
- vii. **Union of State and Church. The Gospel became "Italian common law". These practices were outlawed:** Crucifixion, murder of unwanted children (Including Abortion), Gladiatorial games, slave abuse, tattoos and body piercing.
- viii. Church Father, Eusebius lived during same time as Constantine. Eusebius said Italy was changed and became bright and hopeful when Christianity was legalized.
- ix. **Christian Priests now replaced Pagan Priests** in worship and government. Bishops came out of hiding, and huge and ornate cathedrals were built, like St. Peter's in Rome. (Note: No

Scriptural authority for the building of these cathedrals- the money supposed to be used for the poor of the congregations.) Constantinian Church authorities mass produced Bibles by hand copying c.325-400 and distributed them to the people that they had recently confiscated Bibles from. No business to be open, etc.

- x. **Development of “Christmas” c.350. Constantine picked December 25 to celebrate Christ’s birth.** For three hundred years, Christians never celebrated Christmas. Sunday was a pagan holy day. **Constantine** thought it logical to change it to SONday. December 25th was a pagan holy day (birth of pagan gods) already so Constantine just kept the date the same, again, for convenience sake.
  - xi. **Another MAJOR DEPARTURE FROM SCRIPTURAL CHRISTIANITY:** observation of holy days, begun in 190 AD.
  - xii. Many converts during this time.
  - xiii. More changes were made to the doctrine of Christ. In other words, the text was abused. Competition, arrogance, and hunger for power continued to grow. “Bandwagon” Christianity became popular. People did not have a devotion to the text; they converted to Christianity to answer the question, “What’s in it for me?”
  - xiv. The unscriptural hierarchy as described above continued to grow.
- F. **Asceticism, Monasticism, and Communism movements** founded due to the liberalism in the church and the flood of converts. (600-700 AD)
- i. **Monasticism** founded for those who wanted to escape from the “Evil Society” which was the abuse of power by the Roman Catholic hierarchy.
    - 1. Key founders: Antony and Apocomyus
    - 2. Membership was extremely selective
    - 3. Copied Bibles in the Scriptoriums
    - 4. Were professional scribes
    - 5. Bible study, Prayer, Worship, “Holy solitude”, Life-long devotees
    - 6. Our best New Testament copies come from these Monastic Scribes.
    - 7. Like a labor/Bible camp. Set up the rules, no laughing, and no speaking. This system was considered the best and even survives to modern times.
    - 8. Some members threw themselves into thorn bushes to try to overcome sinful desire.
  - ii. **Asceticism** founded for those who wanted to show “True Devotion”.
    - 1. Ascetics expressed their religion through denial and suppression of the flesh, renounced material possessions, practiced celibacy, and cultivation of the spiritual side of man.
    - 2. Followers joined the Ascetic movement because they were angry that they had to sit and worship next to recent converts who knew nothing about the persecution their Grandparents went through. The recent converts were formerly pagans who really never had to pay any price for their Christianity.
    - 3. The answer for the Christians who knew the price of Christianity and were uncomfortable worshipping next to new converts was to flee to the desert to be with others who had the “Passion Of The Apostles”, which was the understanding of the price of belief in Christ during unpopular times.
    - 4. They formed a group *in private* and did those Christian things they thought the church should’ve been doing *in public*.
    - 5. They “*martyred*” *themselves* since Constantine took away the persecution that made superstars out of Christians.

- iii. **Communes** created for the righteous to escape.
  1. Founders former Monastery Monks: Pachomius and Bessel of Cesaria.
  2. Pachomius built nine Communes; two were for women ONLY, and these became *NUNNERIES* in later years!
  3. Anyone could join- the general public.
  4. Escaping the evil of the cities
  5. There was some social interaction with the near-by cities.
  6. Much looser than Monasticism
  7. Could bring up a family here
  8. Prayer and study, renounced possessions, separatists, self-sufficient, farming, called inmates, vowed obedience.
  9. Bessel of Cesaria also built some Communes which encouraged a “service – oriented” perspective. Much more interaction with the outside world.
  10. This system is still in practice in the Eastern Church world Communes today.
- G. **AUGUSTINE.** The basis of most modern Catholic doctrine. (Wrote from 390-435)
  - i. Never learned Greek. He Launched many unscriptural doctrines because he did not know Bible Greek.
  - ii. Used Jerome’s Vulgate (c.400) which has serious translation errors. NOTE: the catholic church’s doctrine is built upon **Jerome’s Latin Vulgate**.
  - iii. Was turned off by the Bible that his mother taught him so at 18 he joined the Manachees.
    1. Manachees revered Buddha, Zoroaster, Jesus, and others.
    2. Founded by “Mani”
  - iv. Then he became an expert in Neo-Platonism, and rejected Manacheeism.
  - v. Moved to Milan to hear a preacher Ambrose (The Bishop in Milan) who was a world renowned orator who knew the Emperor.
  - vi. Ambrose converted Augustine to Christianity. 386
  - vii. Augustine became an excellent orator himself and moved to Hippo, Africa and became Bishop of Hippo. 396
  - viii. **Through study of the Old Testament, Augustine developed the idea of physically attacking non-Christians as the best means of evangelism. He taught that people must be converted by force and violence. He thought this was the best approach to Evangelism. This idea was later adopted by Mohammed.**
  - ix. **ORIGINAL SIN.** Augustine struggled with the lusts of the flesh all his life and wrote about this. Through this struggle he **developed the idea of ORIGINAL SIN**. Here’s how he came to that idea:
    1. He thought the lusts of the flesh are evil so sex must be evil, too.
    2. Therefore whatever comes from sex will be evil - human beings-babies.
    3. This is where the heretical **doctrine of INFANT BAPTISM c.417** came from, as well.
  - x. Augustine believed that God didn’t give man the ability to be sexually pure. Quote: “*He would encourage sinners to say, God hasn’t given what He commands, so I can’t help myself.*”
  - xi. Augustine and Pelagius argued about Original Sin. Pelagius’s argument was that God would never give man rules that he cannot follow (supported Free moral choice). Augustine had more followers than Pelagius so Pelagius was exiled through a series of councils by Augustine. (Of course, Pelagius had a more Scriptural argument than Augustine.) (See I Cor x.13)
- H. **Doctrine of Veneration of Mary. c.431** (Perpetual virginity, life-long virginity, even though she had at the least six children besides Jesus, and the “sinlessness” of Mary.)
  - i. Many churches of this time thought that Martyrs could intercede for them through prayer.

- ii. The question that needed to be answered was, could God be born into a sinful woman?
- iii. A new Council was called, named the **Council at Ephesus**, June 7th, 431 because two Bishops leaders named Nestorius (Bishop of Constantinople) and Cyril (Bishop of Alexandria, Egypt, the Eastern Church) disagreed on how important Mary should be in the Catholic Church.
- iv. This was an important Council because Constantine had declared Constantinople the new Rome, the new religious center of the world. Nestorius didn't want to lose the argument since this may lead to the devaluing of the new Rome.
- v. **Bishop Nestorius** representing Constantinople Syria – the Eastern Church (Anti-Mary) taught that Mary was the mother of Jesus the human being and who was also God. He taught that the divinity part of Jesus did not come from Mary, but from God. Nestorius taught that God and Christ are eternal and existed before time itself existed, so Mary had nothing to do with the divinity of her baby. Mary could not have given birth to 'God' as if she was partially divine, too. So Nestorius refused to call Mary "mother of God", and called her "Mother of Christ" instead. (This is of course the scripturally correct idea.)
- vi. **Bishop Cyril** representing the Western church (Pro-Mary worship) however, taught that the divinity of Jesus did indeed 'come from' Mary. Cyril also taught that Jesus was God and man together perfectly – which of course is Scriptural. So Cyril taught that Mary was a type of 'divinity' by herself- which of course is heretical. Cyril initially taught the truth about the nature/divinity of Jesus. But he then extended that idea to the following false syllogism and arrived at an erroneous conclusion in line C:

- 1. Mary is the mother of Jesus
- 2. Jesus was God
- 3. Therefore, Mary is the mother of God

- vii. From there Cyril argued whether the "Mother of God" could actually have sin (they thought 'no') or even engage in sexual relations (they thought 'no'). So the whole discussion about Mary was nothing more than an extended discussion about the person and nature of Christ.

**Definition of Syllogism from The American Heritage Dictionary:**

NOUN: 1. Logic: A form of deductive reasoning consisting of a major premise, a minor premise, and a conclusion; for example, All humans are mortal, the major premise, I am a human, the minor premise, therefore, I am mortal, the conclusion. 2. Reasoning from the general to the specific; deduction. 3. A subtle or specious piece of reasoning.

- viii. **Cyril challenged Nestorius to come to Ephesus to debate their disagreement.** Cyril waited from June 7th to June 22nd, and **Nestorius showed up 19 days late, so Cyril started and ended the Council without him.** Cyril says that he won the debate by default because Nestorius showed up 19 days late. Nestorius explained he was delayed by weather, rough terrain, and plague stricken lands. Nestorius finally got to Ephesus on June 24th, but nobody would listen to him. No one was there to argue Nestorius' side, so Cyril passed the motion quickly and Mary became the sin-free "Mother of God". So Cyril cheated Nestorius. All Catholics had to believe Mary to be the "Mother of God". Cyril didn't want Nestorius to get any chance to convince anyone of his side of the story because if Nestorius won this debate, the Emperor's "New Rome" Constantinople may win religious preeminence. It has been 1,577 years since the Council made their decision and the Catholic Church still teaches that Mary is the "mother of God". As in the prayer, "Hail Mary, mother of God..."
- ix. **\*Nestorius was correct. Cyril was incorrect.\* The Bible nowhere claims that Mary gave Jesus his divine nature, nor explains that Mary was sinless.**
- x. **FURTHER EXPLANATION:** In the verses below, Christ states that it is incorrect to regard anyone else except himself as the law giver or praise worthy. Jesus the Christ is saying, "Don't venerate my mother, 'I'M THE MESSIAH, NOT HER!' The point of reason is that Mary is NOT what the Catholic Church says she is. She is not to be venerated. **Mary is not a**

**mediator.** (1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.)

- Mark 3:31 There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. Mark 3:32 And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. Mark 3:33 And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? Mark 3:34 And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! Mark 3:35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

I. **Council of Chalcedon c.476** Debate on the nature of Christ, again. (Council of Nicaea 325 was this same debate.)

- i. The council started with a more defined stand than the Nicean council. They stated that Christ was entirely God (which was against false teacher Arius), and entirely man (against false teacher Apollonarius) and that His humanity and divinity were neither separate nor merged into a hybrid.
- ii. This was a theological triumph for Rome, Italy because Roman Pope Leo the Great was here given the title of the spokesman for God, or also, the Vicar of Christ. This was the FIRST TIME IN HISTORY that a man "Pope" was recognized as the equal to Christ.
- iii. 450 years passed from the close of the Canon to the idea created by men made a mere man Christ's spokesman, or a Christ in the flesh living on Earth.
- iv. The Roman Empire was crushed by nomadic tribes or barbarians (Goths, Visigoths, Ostrogoths, Vandals, etc.) in 476. Rome was so weak it could not survive.
- v. These theological disputes were a background, Roman Catholicism became evangelistic and Monasteries were established and many converts came in.
- vi. **Gregory the Great** used great personal wealth, compassion to convert many. He made peace treaties with Roman enemies intending to convert them. **Gregory the Great was given credit for establishing Christianity all throughout Europe by the end the 500's.**
- vii. Gregory the Great did not evangelize near Constantinople because that would infringe upon their territory. So they went through the Germanic countries, Britain, and Ireland, and north of there.

VII. **MEDIEVAL PERIOD - 600's.** Establishment of Rome through Catholicism as the spiritual center of the world, through the false ideology of Peter's apostolic succession. **Remember** Christ said He would build His church "on this *rock*", "*petras*" (fem.). But Peter's name is not *petras*, it is "*Petros*" (masc.). The switch in genders here indicates that Christ used it as for the very purpose of avoiding any notion that Peter is the foundation of the church. Believing that Christ built the church on Peter instead of Peter's confession would be like saying: "What a beautiful baby **boy**; what's **her** name?" in Greek. (See also I Cor. 3:11, Eph 2:20, Isa 28:16) In **II Cor. 12:11 Paul** states that no chief apostles existed and if one did, he'd be the one. The "Rock" Christ spoke about is the confession Peter made that would soon turn into the world's first Gospel sermon. So they believed furthermore, there's only one head of the church, Christ. Our confession of our faith aloud is **bedrock** to membership in Christ's church. **Remember, the ruling group of Italian "Bishops" believed Peter passed on apostolic succession by Jesus' words about giving Peter the "keys of the Kingdom". This verse was foreshadowing of Peter preaching the world's very first Gospel sermon in Acts 2, and meant nothing more. Christ empowered Peter to preach that most important message and that's the "key" to the "kingdom" which is the church.**

#### A. **Background.**

- i. Roman Catholicism was now strongly rooted in many areas.
- ii. Massive and lavish Cathedrals built during this period. (Materialistic emphasis)
- iii. Priests were trained in Rome and were sent to these particular churches to work in these churches.
- iv. As churches grew, huge sums of money flowed back to Rome.
- v. This well-oiled system worked for a considerable amount of time.
- vi. East and Western churches still fighting for world's spiritual attention.

- vii. Catholic tradition says Peter went to Rome (not true) and Christ gave the keys to the kingdom to Peter. Matt 16:18, and wherever Peter went, he took the keys with him, and that was Rome as they thought. That “key” was the first Gospel sermon the world ever heard.
- viii. Remember, the ruling group of “Bishops” believed Peter passed on apostolic succession by Jesus’ words about giving Peter the “keys of the Kingdom”. This verse was foreshadowing of Peter preaching the world’s very first Gospel sermon in Acts 2, and meant nothing more. Christ empowered Peter to preach that most important message and that’s the “key” to the “kingdom” which is the church.
- ix. Constantine said Jesus told him that Constantinople would be the new Rome. Rome retorted back that they had the direct apostolic succession and that Peter never went to Constantinople.
- x. Questions about spiritual things being asked by the general populace, but they couldn’t find the answers for themselves. The Catholic hierarchy was thinking “for them” by now.
- xi. They could not ask God through the Bible because the Italian church had become so powerful that they WERE the answer through the attendant Priest.
- xii. The Italian church owned all the Bibles, and did not teach the populace to read or study and so the continent was kept completely uneducated until the 1400’s
- xiii. One in 10,000 people could write their names during the Dark Ages.
- xiv. **If one wanted to become Catholic clergy, one had to study Augustine, Pope’s writings, and Catholic theology, and very little of the Bible.** Must be able to thoroughly discuss all councils up to that time, including the arguments on both sides.
- xv. Egyptian Communes and Christian presence in Egypt fizzled out by 500-600’s. Christianity had no presence in Africa and the Middle East. Scholars do not know exactly why.

#### VIII. RISE OF ISLAM (MOHAMMEDANISM) 600-900

- A. **Important Definitions:** Definitions: Word “**Islam**” means submission, and “**Muslim**” means one who submits. “**Caliph**” means successor, or representative. Those who came after Mohammed were called Caliphs.
  - i. The word **Caliph** is a word borrowed from the word **Catholic**.
  - ii. The idea of a Caliph (successor) is also Islam’s word for the Catholic Apostolic Succession idea.
  - iii. What happened in Islam is a mirror image of what’s happening in Catholicism at this time.
- B. Mohammed’s Background and important dates:
  - i. Orphan born in Mecca. **b. 570-d. 632.**
  - ii. Was a caravan trader between Mecca and Syria
  - iii. Mohammed claimed to have a vision from Gabriel in a cave at age 40 (AD 610) that told him to write down the Koran over the next 20 years. Quote: “...*To recite in the name of god who by the pen has taught mankind those things they did not know....*”
  - iv. Much of the Koran was written after Mohammed’s death. Muslims refuse to accept that fact.
  - v. Conquered pagan city of Mecca in 630 and converted them to Mohammedanism. About one thousand Jews murdered, and women taken as slaves.
  - vi. Before Mohammed founded Mohammedanism, he saw the idolatrous spiritual state of his people and thought that the Jews might allow them to convert to Judaism. He thought that Judaism would stop the idolatry and save his people. But the Rabbi’s he met with rejected him and chastised him so he made it his agenda to war against all Jews in retaliation.
- C. Mohammed’s religious beliefs:
  - i. The account of Mohammed’s climb to prophet status:
    - 1. A jailed Christian Syrian hermit named Bahira sees a caravan that Mohammed is in, and he calls out to the caravan. Bahira was temporarily released to talk with the caravan.
    - 2. Bahira invites the caravan to have a meal with him.

3. Bahira was somehow drawn to the young Mohammed and Mohammed was invited to dine with them, as well.
  4. The account says that Bahira came to believe that Mohammed was a God-selected prophet.
  5. This was Mohammed's first-ever introduction to any type of organized religion.
  6. The idea of ONE, ALL – POWERFUL GOD caught Mohammed's attention.
  7. Bahira the Monk taught Mohammed the basic tenants of Christianity; however Mohammed rejects many other tenants of Christianity.
  8. Since Arabia was ignored by Christianity, it was ripe for a unifying religion. The Christian world completely rejected Mohammed's claim to be a prophet, so he strongly rejected Christians.
- ii. Mohammed rejected Christianity: claimed to be a prophet himself
  - iii. Rejected idea of the Trinity, crucifixion, resurrection.
  - iv. Mohammedans believe that Jesus is the genuine Prophet the OT speaks of, however rejected the teaching that Jesus is God's Son.
  - v. **Self-proclaimed reformer of Judaism and Christianity** (Kept the food laws, and circumcision, however)
  - vi. Taught polygamy is proper.
  - vii. Taught the veneration of the Ka'ba which is the big black rock in center of the city of Mecca.
  - viii. Mohammedanism also teaches Moon worship. (See the Islamic flag moon symbol.)
  - ix. Icons were and are considered extremely evil in Mohammedanism, and during the initial spread of Islam, many relics were destroyed.
  - x. **Got the idea to convert by the sword from Augustine's writings and teachings, and the Old Testament. (Idea that all infidels must be killed.) Bahira taught Mohammed this idea since Bahira learned it from Augustine – Catholicism.** Here is a quote from the Koran that teaches holy war. (Quran v. 47) *"When you meet the unbelievers, strike off their heads. Make a great slaughter among them and put them in bonds. Had Allah willed, he could've punished them himself. But this way he tests you. As for those who die in defense of Allah's true religion, he will admit them to paradise, where flow rivers of milk that never sour, and rivers of unpolluted water, rivers of clearest honey. They shall eat of every fruit and receive forgiveness from their Lord."* NOTICE that this is "jihad" belief and subsequent promise land description is based on the Promised Land that Abraham received!
  - xi. Most of the Koran is loosely paraphrased from the OT and some passages are copied directly.
  - xii. So it is clear that the Koran teaches that Allah commands these people to exterminate unbelievers.
  - xiii. Mohammed's teaching methods are by "Divine Recitations" which to us would fall into the category of brainwashing.
    1. It is a **requirement** to be Moslem to **continually recite parts of the Koran**. This is the way Mohammed said Gabriel gave it to him. This is the **brainwashing** effect within this false religion. This is why we see the Moslems doing repetitious prayers.
    2. Pillar of Koran v. 17: Call to prayer: "Praise be to Allah who has never begotten a son."
    3. This is the 4 Am "call to prayer".
    4. Note that even though they believe Jesus was a prophet, they reject Jesus in their prayers.
    5. Margaret Singer, clinical psychologist and once Professor of Psychology at the University of California, Berkeley was the preeminent cult expert of the 20th Century. She counseled and/or interviewed thousands of people affected by

controversial groups often called "cults." Dr. Singer offered meaningful definitions of unsafe groups or "cults" in her book *Cults in our Midst*.

(<http://www.rickross.com/faq.html>)

- a. According to Singer, unsafe groups or cults can generally be defined by three factors:
  - i. The origin of the group and role of the leader.
  - ii. The power structure, or relationship between the leader[s] and the followers.
  - iii. The use of a coordinated program of persuasion, which is called thought reform [or more commonly, "brainwashing"].
- xiv. Two years after Mohammed began preaching his message, and murdering any that disagreed with him, he died.
- xv. His followers (not Mohammed) collected Mohammed's writings and bound them.

#### D. Spread of Islam

- i. *Scholars are still amazed* at the boldness and speed at which Islam swept over the Earth. Most of the spread of Islam happened before the Christian (mostly Rome, Italy) world even knew what was happening.
- ii. The quick spread of Mohammedanism is due to the constant threat of death and the power of intimidation, NOT due to the Koran's message.
- iii. Within 75 years, Islam captured the Holy Lands and all those lands to the north of Arabia.
- iv. Persia and Byzantines were overrun simultaneously by Islam **very easily** because these two empires had been at war and had weakened one another. Islam also conquered:
  1. Syria fell in 634
  2. Jerusalem fell in 637
  3. Egypt fell 638
  4. Persia fell 640
  5. N. Africa fell 689
  6. Spain fell 711
- v. They were first stopped in *Tours, France* by **Charles Martel in 732**.
  1. This Was One Of The Decisive Battles Of The Ages!
  2. **Charles Martel invented the stirrup** which gave the Christians a decided advantage in warfare. The STIRRUP is accredited with stopping the advancement of Islam.
  3. The name "Martel" means "The Hammer", so the name is "Charles The Hammer".
- vi. Arabia ruled after this for 400 yrs, and The Turks have been in control almost to modern times.

#### IX. SUMMARY 600-900.

- A. East and West Christianity continued to fight through this time. Constantinople argued that the Emperor Constantine had decreed their city to be the 'headquarters' of Catholicism, and Rome, Italy argued that they had supremacy to be the new Holy City because they stated that the first Pope, Peter had declared Rome to be the headquarters.
- B. The papal state and Papal power was created by Charlemagne, King of the Franks, grandson of Charles Martel. (742-814)
  - i. Charlemagne wasn't a Pope, but he helped the Pope, and the Pope helped him.
  - ii. This brought a very strong power to Catholicism.
  - iii. Charlemagne is thought to have brought some manner of peace to the world during this time when Nomadic tribes and The Vikings were attacking.
  - iv. After Islam was stopped, Cathedrals began to be built
  - v. **Iconoclastic Controversy Council.** Icons re-established in **787** by 300 Catholic Bishops at the third Nicean Council. These councils argued about the importance of religious images in

the church. (Most icons and relics had been destroyed by the Mohammedan conquests) Leo thought religious icons should be destroyed. Some resisted.

C. Official Church doctrine becomes more established.

- i. **Establishment of the Ecumenical Council.** The church tried to determine which of all the council's decisions up to now were important, and which were not. Only four were considered "Ecumenical" at this time. There were two ways Rome, Italy used to determine what religious questions and answers were binding (ecumenical).

1. If council called by Emperor

2. If all churches represented at the Council.

D. Simple Christianity continued to be practiced during this time.

- i. Still "underground" and subversive.
- ii. Still in survival mode.
- iii. Very small groups
- iv. Not many educated, could not read.
- v. Had access to writings of the church Fathers. **Remember** that the entire New Testament can be reproduced through the quotations of the church Fathers with the exception of eleven verses.

E. Catholicism continued to be practiced during this time.

- i. Catholic practitioners were the vast majority of the population.
- ii. Submitted to the rules and regulations of the Papacy.
- iii. Fully believed that apostolic succession moved Peter to the "first Pope" and was God's plan.
- iv. Remember, the ruling group of "Bishops" believed Peter passed on apostolic succession by Jesus' words about giving Peter the "keys of the Kingdom". This verse was foreshadowing of Peter preaching the world's very first Gospel sermon in Acts 2, and meant nothing more. Christ empowered Peter to preach that most important message and that's the "key" to the "kingdom" which is the church.
- v. The populace knew well what happened to those who voiced opposition to Catholic opinion and status quo. Death and imprisonment were common.
- vi. Catholic hierarchy demanded **universal membership**. Universal membership is the idea of **membership by birth**. Any moral or doctrinal deviation was punished.

F. Departures from the Biblical pattern, and dates summary.

- i. As written above, in the **late 200's**, preeminent men within the Elderships in some congregations were being called **Bishop**. *"Why don't representatives from our church meet with representatives from other churches to discuss religious matters of persecution and false doctrine?"*
- ii. From these meetings, **councils** were called.
- iii. After councils, **apostolic succession** was developed.
- iv. Apostolic succession led to the **Papacy**.
- v. **Primacy of Rome, Italy** developed.
- vi. **Creeds were developed** as official and concise statements of beliefs.
- vii. **Councils created the creeds**. Creeds did not exist before this.
- viii. All churches that wanted to be considered faithful had to sign off on the **Nicean creed of 325**.
- ix. **Observance of Holy Days**. c.313 when Christianity was made legal. There is some evidence that holy days were observed in the late 190's as well, but were makeshift Jewish holidays turned into Christian holidays. There's no Biblical authority for any holy days except every first day of the week, Sunday.
- x. **Infant "baptism" AD 417** result of the Council of Carthage. Augustine took the infant baptism principle as a safeguard against sinning and he used it to argue against Pelagius and for original sin. Both men believed in infant baptism. However, they both knew very well

that baptism is only for someone with sin. They then moved THEIR idea that infants should be baptized under the idea that only those with sin could be baptized and decided to say that humans were born with sin. So infant baptism morphed into original sin. Recorded history does not reveal any study of the New Testament for this false doctrine. It was only after the Reformation period.

- xi. **Veneration of Mary.** The question asked: Could God be born in a sinful woman? Perpetual virginity developed.
- xii. **Cathedrals** led to materialistic emphasis that led one away from the spiritual and TO the material. Meanwhile, the population at large lived in almost abject poverty.
- xiii. **Liturgies 400-600.** Five reasons why Liturgies came about:
  - 1. Uniformity
  - 2. To teach new Bishops (New Bishops need to know what to say for funerals, marriages, etc.)
  - 3. Desire for order in service.
  - 4. Orthodoxy: standardization of doctrine. So that nobody could say anything heretical.
  - 5. Desire to preserve Pope's words who were succeeded from the Apostle.
- xiv. Musical Instruments introduced into the worship c.670, and 755 AD by Pope Vitallian. Came to embellish worship, to help the bad singers. (In Greek Orthodoxy, no instrumentation ever came in.)

#### X. 850's- 900's THE PUSH OF EVANGELISM (Peace from war, and year 1000)

- A. The conversion of Russia (Cyril and Methodius)
  - i. Russia did not have a written language, so Cyril and Methodius developed the modern Russian alphabet from Russian spoken language, called *Slavonic* while they were converting Russia.
  - ii. The new language called the ***Cyrillic Script***
- B. The millennium change.
  - i. Many believed Christ would return on the eve of the year 1000, and the world would end, or there would be a "thousand-year reign".
  - ii. On **12/31/999** a large crowd gathered in Rome outside the Papal Palace to wait for Christ's return, and the end of the world.
  - iii. Nothing happened, so the Pope blessed the crowd and sent everyone home.
  - iv. Since Christ did not return in the year 1000, some people began to raise theological questions. Was all the rhetoric they'd been hearing, true?
  - v. Questions! Questions! Questions!
- C. **Symeon The New Theologian.** (949-1022)
  - i. An exceptional student and thinker
  - ii. "Opened the floodgates" to questioning the doctrine and beliefs of the Italian Roman Catholic church.
  - iii. Openly criticized the Catholic Church, but was not a reformer. He is the man credited with beginning to peck a hole in the great "dam" of the Catholic Church.
  - iv. Posed the question of whether or not Catholics had a rightful claim to the power they wielded.
  - v. **Was the first person in history to say, "Every human being needs to have an interpersonal relationship with Jesus Christ".** This was historic because all people were forced to go through the priest, bishops, pope to get to God.
  - vi. Was branded as a heretic by Catholic authorities.
  - vii. **Said, "Among thousands and ten thousands you will hardly find one who is a Christian in both word and deed".**
  - viii. Listed Three Great Offences in the Catholic church of his time.
    - 1. Decline of celibacy

2. Rise of Simony (*Simony*: purchasing power with money. Church authorities bought their positions in the Catholic Church. Word comes from *Simon the Sorcerer* in Acts 8 who offered to buy the Apostle's power.)
  3. Holy Bones period. Many travels were made to Turkish and Moslem lands to gather relics. Worship and veneration of relics. Unscriptural Theology of unscriptural Sainthood was well established by now.
- ix. **There was open, public wide-spread sexual abuse during this period.**
1. Popes opened brothels in the Papal palace and in churches.
  2. Clergy openly and publically sexually assaulted women daily. Clergy watched worshippers come in, and pick out the ones they liked and assaulted them in the sanctuary in broad daylight.
  3. Prostitutes were bought from the contribution.
  4. The news from this period looks like a page out of any large city's newspaper.
- D. Pope Gregory VII "Hildebrand"
- i. Created **The Papal Dictates in 1075** which states: "*The Pope may absolve subjects of obedience to unjust men, he may depose Emperors. Only the Pope may use the Imperial Insignia. He alone may call ecumenical councils. The Roman church has never erred, nor ever shall to all eternity. Every duly ordained Pope undoubtedly becomes a saint*".
  - ii. **So Hildebrand is the first catholic authority to call the Catholic Church infallible.**
  - iii. Infallibility had been a point of contention between the East and West for 700 years already.
- E. Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109) (Archbishop of Canterbury, Monk, teacher)
- i. Greatly influenced by Symeon the Theologian.
  - ii. Entirely accepted the teachings of the Catholic Church.
  - iii. Also taught that anyone could become a Christian on his own. (Independent reason vs. Catholic tradition)
  - iv. Taught that all beliefs must be backed by reasoning, evidence, and proof.
  - v. Tried but could not prove the doctrine perpetual virginity of Mary through the Bible.
  - vi. Challenged himself to try and come to the conclusion of every doctrine of Catholicism without the Bible.
  - vii. **Began the works-based theology of Catholicism and started the Crusades.**
    1. Topic of Satan and God's role in the fall was at question.
    2. Anselm taught that Satan stole mankind from God and now God must retake man by force.
    3. Then taught that God hasn't/won't take back man because we were not worth taking back.
    4. Then taught that *our work might win our God back*.
    5. Then taught that re-capturing Jerusalem would please God greatly.
    6. This led to the **beginning of the Crusades**.
- F. Pope Urban II (1042-1099) The "Jerusalem fever" age
- i. Organized a meeting in 1095 in France that thousands of people attended.
  - ii. Said, "Let those who were brigons, become soldiers of Christ!"
  - iii. Was influenced by Anselm and offered to retake the Holy Lands through Holy War, to win God's love back.
  - iv. Glamorized all the warriors through his speech about the "heroic crusades".
  - v. Called the Crusades an opportunity to "see the holy lands up close and personal".
  - vi. Said that if a warrior died in battle, he would go directly to heaven.
  - vii. This speech is known as one of most influential in history.
- G. Peter The Hermit (1050-1115) (A Monk)
- i. Said he had a letter from God that guaranteed success in Crusades

- ii. Without Papal permission he “helped” Urban start the Crusades by gathering this new army. (Urban II did not authorize this, and therefore did not support him.)
- iii. Initially **organized 20,000 men, women, and children**. (Think: renegades, mob frenzy)
  - 1. Army grew to **40,000**
  - 2. Attacked Belgrade and pillaged it.
  - 3. Constantinople saw this renegade army and would not join Peter The Hermit
  - 4. Attacked Turkish-controlled Nicea and killed many.
  - 5. Niceans were Moslem, but they allowed Christians to live, so Peter the Hermit is responsible for killing Christians in the city of Nicea!
  - 6. The Turks called their army while Peter the Hermit was still here and killed all 40,000.
  - 7. Not considered the first Crusade, however.

#### H. First official Crusade under Pope Urban II c. 1100

- i. Besieged Nicea and other sites.
- ii. Came to Antioch worn out and found a great walled city and besieged the city for eight months by starvation.
- iii. They successfully took Antioch
- iv. Turkish reinforcements came while the Crusaders were in the city. Crusaders thought all was lost since they had no food or supplies.
- v. A man named Peter claimed to have found the “holy lance” that pierced Christ, in a church in Antioch.
- vi. The Crusaders were rallied around the idea of the holy lance, “*Christ died for you, so are you willing to die for him?*”
- vii. The Crusaders won the battle against these Turkish reinforcements and Antioch was back in Christian control. (had been 450 years)
- viii. The first Crusade then went to Jerusalem July, 1099
  - 1. To reclaim, protect, and liberate
  - 2. The Christian relics were intact since the Muslims respected & protected all this when they took Jerusalem since they revere Christ as a prophet
  - 3. Entered Jerusalem on a Friday, and killed every Moslem in the Mosque, destroyed all Moslem holy relics.
  - 4. Justified the war based on **Augustine’s words** that all unbelievers should be killed.

#### I. Second Crusade 1144 -Major failure

- i. To retaliate for the 1<sup>st</sup> Crusade, Muslims took Edessa with great bloodshed
- ii. Muslim military leader **Saladin** retook Jerusalem in 1187
- iii. Bernard of Clairvaux led a group to recapture Jerusalem (again) in 1187
- iv. Most Crusaders were killed by the Muslims.
- v. **Saladin** offered Christians freedom for 10 pence
- vi. The reigning Pope had a heart attack and died when he heard that the Crusade was a failure.
- vii. The next Pope called the next Crusade
- viii. Italian Rome thought they had won back God’s love by trying to retake Jerusalem. When they failed, the religious leaders went back to the theological drawing board again to try and figure out why they lost this Crusade.

#### J. Third Crusade against Saladin – Major failure.

- i. This Crusade is the one all the movies are based on.
- ii. The Pope called on the European forces: *Emperor Frederick Barbarossa* in Rome, *King Phillip* in France, and *Richard the Lionheart* in England.
- iii. Emperor Frederick Barbarossa drowns en route to Jerusalem, here’s how: The army had run out of drinking water. They found a lake and Barbarossa suddenly ran into the lake and

somehow drowned. Barbarossa's son put his father's corpse in a barrel of vinegar to try and preserve him like a pickle.

- iv. Emperor Frederick Barbarossa's forces gave up at this point, returned home and left the French and English to lead. (It appears that Barbarossa's men didn't want a pickle for a General.)
- v. This Crusade failed and Jerusalem stayed in Muslim control
- vi. No further attempts were made.

## XI. OTHER POPES AND THE PUSH FOR EVANGELISM

### A. Pope Innocent III (1192-1202) Coined the term "Vicar of Christ".

- i. Named himself Innocent. He believed he was!
- ii. Declared *himself* the: "***Vicar of Christ, successor of Peter, the Lord's anointed Pharos's God, set between God & man, lower than God, but higher than man.***" (This Pope had no self esteem problems did he!)
- iii. **Innocent III first established the official doctrine of Transubstantiation in an ecumenical council in 1215** using Matthew 26:26 as basis.
- iv. Transubstantiation is the idea that the bread actually becomes the flesh of Christ and the wine becomes the actual blood of Christ.
- v. The council of Trent in 1551 actually gave the title, "the doctrine of Transubstantiation".
- vi. **Council of Trent 1551 decided:** (1545-1563) under Paul III
  - 1. Doctrine of Transubstantiation solidified
  - 2. **Instituted confession to a priest** *only way* to gain God's forgiveness as official church doctrine. ("Auricular Confession")
  - 3. One large Papal Mass must be done annually in addition to weekly Mass.
  - 4. Forbid clergy to wear green (no one knows where this came from)
  - 5. Muslims and Jews must wear a badge in any Christian occupied lands.
  - 6. **The Apocryphal writings made part of Holy Scripture.** (Deuterocanonical – Canonical, or also, "Second Canon".) When Jerome wrote his Latin Vulgate in AD 400 he rejected the Apocrypha but his patrons forced him to put it in anyway.
- vii. Innocent III also invented the idea that if a man rejects the Pope, he rejects God.

### B. Boniface VIII c.1235-1303

- i. Over the past 100 years, the Papacy had completely discredited itself through debauchery. (Waging war for material gain, corruption.)
- ii. For two years at the end of 1200, there was no Pope
- iii. A Franciscan Monk named Peter Moron demanded that Rome, Italy elect a Pope or suffer divine vengeance.
- iv. Peter Moron was elected as Pope. He was embarrassingly incompetent, and quit the position.
- v. The next Pope was Boniface VIII tried to regain credibility that Peter Moron had destroyed.

Keep in mind that there were "good" Popes, too.  
However they were the exception in the history of the church. Most Popes were like the ones described

## XII. NEW MONASTIC ORDERS AND THE PUSH FOR EVANGELISM

### A. The Franciscans

- i. Founded by French preacher Francis of Assisi
- ii. **Very peaceful group.**
- iii. Rejected idea of seclusion, taught public service to others
- iv. First man ever to claim to have received the stigmata. **Stigmata:** Etymology: Latin stigmat-, stigma mark, brand, from Greek, from stizein to tattoo Date: circa 1593 1 a archaic : a scar left by a hot iron : brand b: a mark of shame or discredit : stain <bore the stigma of cowardice> c: an identifying mark or characteristic ; specifically : a specific diagnostic sign of a disease 2 astigmata plural : **bodily marks or pains resembling the wounds of the crucified Jesus and sometimes accompanying religious ecstasy** b: petechia. (Jesus bled from five spots, and if you get Stigmata, YOU will bleed from the same five spots, not counting the side where the spear pierced Him)

### B. The Dominicans and the Inquisition

- i. Founded by French preacher, Dominic
- ii. **Extremely violent group**
- iii. Rejected the non-evangelistic ideology within Catholicism. Focused on forced-evangelism.
- iv. Made his mission to win the heretical sect, *Catheters* back to Catholicism.
- v. **Catheters refused to repent so the Dominicans murdered them all.**
- vi. The Dominicans zealous defense of truth impressed the current Pope Innocent.
- vii. Pope Innocent gave Dominicans authorization to torture heretics.
- viii. **This brought about THE INQUISITION.**

## XIII. THE INQUISITION (1231-1731) 500 years.

### A. General Background

- i. The **Dominicans** and **Pope Innocent III** are responsible for the **Inquisition**.
- ii. Wherever the Inquisitors went, they encouraged people to make confidential accusations against heretics. They took accusations as proof of guilt.
- iii. Inquisitors targeted anyone practicing New Testament Christianity
- iv. Rome, Italy encouraged the accusations.
- v. The Inquisition became official Papal edict in 1252
- vi. Sometimes you might get a secret trial by the Dominicans.
  1. If you repented, they'd let you live, but they took all your property.
  2. If you didn't repent, you were tortured until you confessed.
  3. If you still refused to repent, you were burned at the stake.
  4. What ever happened, you always lost all your property.
  5. The confiscated money and property was taken by the church.
- vii. Historians state that untold tens of thousands were murdered by the Catholic hierarchy over a period of 500 years during the Inquisition.
- viii. Giovanni Pietro Carafa became Pope in 1555. He is known as the Father of the **Roman Inquisition**. He issued a canon that established the Jewish Ghetto in Rome, the Cum nimis absurdum. All Jews in Rome were forced to wear yellow hats and shawls. The Ghetto was locked at night and a curfew imposed. Cafara is known as one of the most brutal men in the history of the world.

## XIV. SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS (1225-1274)

- A. General Background: A Dominican Monk. Philosopher, theologian. Wrote the "Manual of Theology". Influenced Western thought immensely in natural theology, ethics, natural law and political theory. Considered by Italy to be the Church's greatest theologian and philosopher. Lit the fire of intellectualism in the Middle Ages.

- i. In 1274 was sent to Constantinople to convince them to fall under the Roman, Italian authority.
- ii. On the way to Constantinople, he was killed in a low-speed donkey accident.

- iii. After his death, his Bishop declared him a heretic.
- iv. After his death, Oxford and Paris Universities banned his teachings.
- v. Another Friar went to Aquinas's defense in front of the Pope, and the Pope said to the Friar, *"Because of what you have said, I forbid you to speak for the rest of your life."*
- vi. Within fifty years, the Catholic Church named Aquinas a saint.

## XV. RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION PERIOD 1300-1650 (A Time for change)

- A. General background: "Floodgates" of questioning Catholicism broken wide open, the millennium came and went, Symeon the Theologian and Anselm and **the demise of Catholicism**.
- B. Points leading up to the Reformation.
  - i. Weakening and corruption in the Papacy caused people (Symeon, Anselm) to question Catholic theology.
  - ii. Millennium came and went and nothing happened.
  - iii. Crusade failures caused people to ask why God didn't love them and help them to win.
  - iv. Inquisition caused many more to question papacy and Catholicism and drove them back to studying the Bible.
- C. Rise of **universities** came from all this new thinking, and questioning.
  - i. Lighting the fire of intellectualism.
  - ii. All universities were controlled and funded by Catholicism, but the Pope could not micro-manage the student body, so many anti-Catholic ideas were taught.
  - iii. Tried to teach students to think for themselves
  - iv. Self-thinking, reasoning individuals were a major irritant for the Catholic hierarchy.
  - v. By 1400 Universities all over Europe
- D. **John Wycliffe** (1329-1384) Student at Oxford University. Englishman
  - i. **Considered the most influential change agent** because of his education.
  - ii. Said, *"Any catholic authority is based on credibility through morality."*
    - The decrees of an immoral Pope had no weight at all.
  - iii. Said, the head of the world-wide church was Christ ALONE.
  - iv. Labeled the Papacy The Anti-Christ of the Bible. (The great falling away) and a product of Satan.
  - v. Said, the church is NOT the authority of what a Christian is.
  - vi. Said, Bible is God's only revelation and authority.
  - vii. **Fought against Divine Illumination.** Divine Illumination is the idea that no one can understand Scripture themselves and that God gave that ability ONLY to the church.
  - viii. Wycliffe challenged people to read and study the Bible, even though the vast majority of people couldn't read.
  - ix. **Wycliffe wrote the Bible in English and was labeled an anarchist by the church. The church said any Bible written outside the church would be twisted and heretical.**
    - **Wycliffe answered:** *"Condemn the Word of God in any language as heresy, and you call God a heretic!"*
  - x. Wycliffe was a part of a religious group called the Lollards
  - xi. Wycliffe directly attacked the catholic doctrine of Transubstantiation. He said, there was no way that the church could turn the bread and wine in the flesh and blood of Christ.
    - Said, *"That ear [of wheat] you reap today will be God tomorrow!"*
  - xii. Wycliffe was declared a heretic.
  - xiii. A Bohemian princess married to the English king encouraged Bohemian students to come to Oxford to study. So they did and they learned about Wycliffe.
- E. **John Hus** of Constance, Bohemia. (1372-1415) Student at Oxford.
  - i. Very intelligent man (Hi IQ) like Wycliffe
  - ii. Known by the people as a very moral man.
  - iii. Dedicated to learning and was compared to Thomas Aquinas.

- iv. Excommunicated in 1414 for continuing Wycliffe's ideas.
- v. Denied the Papacy and the idea of the Vicar of Christ. He said it was unbiblical.
- vi. **Council of Constance** was four years long
  - 1. 50,000 in attendance
  - 2. Hus asked the Pope be demoted to Bishop because he was unpopular, sexually immoral, dishonest, and a mass - murderer.
  - 3. The Pope was demoted to Bishop of Tusculum!
  - 4. Hus burned at the stake after being promised safety while at this Council.
  - 5. This made learning even more popular.
  - 6. All those who knew and liked Hus in many different countries were driven to go to school and learn what Wycliffe and Hus learned.
- vii. After the Catholics murdered Hus, they dug up Wycliffe's bones, burned them and threw them into a river. (I guess they really showed him! ☺)

## Important historical note: Gutenberg invented the printing press in 1452.

### XVI. FALL OF CONSTANTINOPLE 1453

- A. **Background:** Ottoman army attacks Constantinople, a very well fortified city. Rome knew that the Mohammedans were marching to Constantinople. Constantinople sent cries for help, but Rome *ignored them*. Some scholars believe that Rome, Italy ignored Constantinople's pleas for help because Constantinople had been their rival for one thousand years and didn't care if the city fell. With Constantinople gone, Rome could finally have all authority they had been trying to get. So Rome secretly wished for the destruction of Constantinople. It was hard for Rome Italy to call themselves the universal church (lit. *Catholic*) when another city was claiming the same thing.
- B. The Siege on Constantinople
  - i. 1453 21 year-old Turkish Sultan Mehmed II gathered 400 ships, 200,000 soldiers
  - ii. 53 days of siege, and conquered Constantinople
  - iii. **Gunpowder first used here.**
  - iv. Turks did not find the riches they were promised, in Constantinople.
  - v. Upon not finding the riches they were promised, the Turks were furious and sacked Constantinople. Witnesses state that the Turks killed *everyone* in Constantinople and mountains of corpses were piled high all over the city.
    - 1. Nuns and girls pulled by their hair from churches.
    - 2. Men groaning
    - 3. Women screaming and raped.
  - vi. Mehmed II rebuilt the main church into the main Mosque of the newly named city, "Istanbul".
    - 1. He mounted the church pulpit and declared, "*There is no god but Allah, and Mohammed is his messenger.*"
    - 2. Istanbul becomes the Capital of Islam and the Ottoman Empire for 600 years.
    - 3. In 1453 the Papacy tried to retake Istanbul but failed.
    - 4. Rome had total power of the Christian world.

### XVII. THE RENAISSANCE (1300'S) 100 YEARS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

- A. **Background:** The desire to learn exploded. Universities continued to be built everywhere. **Many people wanted to learn Greek** in order to study the manuscripts of the New Testament
- B. Two truths became evident upon studying Greek:
  - i. **Jerome's Latin Vulgate** which had been the standard Bible for ONE THOUSAND YEARS was a horrible translation. The rest of the world then realized where the Catholic Church found basis for their heretical doctrines.

- ii. The Catholic Church was overtly ignoring all New Testament teachings, anyway so it didn't really matter that the Vulgate was full of mistakes.
  1. **Dr Petrillo studied with four Catholic priests in 2008. The priest that was leading his part of the discussion stated that there are 384 Catholic doctrines that are not found in the New Testament. They come from the *Apocrypha* and *sacred tradition* also called *The Magisterium*. They fully believe that all 384 doctrines were given by God. [See HERE](#)**
    - a. The Magisterium is a combination of writings: church Fathers, councils, and many other unscriptural opinions.
  2. It is only Catholicism that believes that the Apocrypha is inspired. The Apocrypha does not have the earmarks of inspiration and so falls outside the Canon. The Apocrypha was not included in the Canon in 100 AD by neither God's people nor the church Fathers because it lacks any inspiration.
  3. **Lorenzo Valla** (1406-1457) proved the Bibles that Constantine donated were forgeries and therefore invalid. He also discovered that numerous other vital Catholic texts that Catholic theology and law has been based on were false. **For example**, the Apostle's Creed was not even close to coming from the Apostles and came hundreds of years later, and therefore cannot be binding on man, and is therefore invalid.

#### C. The printing Press 1452 (Johann Gutenberg)

- i. The first book to be printed was the Bible
- ii. By 1502 ninety-two different versions of the Bible existed.
- iii. By 1470 you could get Bibles in Dutch, Spanish, German, and Italian.
- iv. The only English Bible was Wycliffe's which was still illegal.

#### D. Pope Innocent VIII 1484

- i. Launched Anti-Witch campaigns.
- ii. Allowed church officials involved in the witch hunt to keep the wealth of the condemned. So an identified Witch could be burned at the stake and their property became yours!
- iii. Pope Innocent VIII held a wedding ceremony for his illegitimate son at the VATICAN. The bride's mother was Pope Innocent VIII's illegitimate DAUGHTER!
- iv. Gave authority to Spaniards Ferdinand and Isabella to enforce a church reformation in Spain. Spain had been under Islamic control FOR 700 YEARS. Spain expelled hundreds of thousands of Mohammedans, and Jews if they wouldn't convert.
- v. Gave Spaniards Ferdinand and Isabella authority to begin the Spanish Inquisition. Jews, Moslems, and back-sliding Christians were burned at the stake. Tens of thousands were killed.
- vi. **Started the sales of INDULGENCES** due to over taxation. An Indulgence is being forgiven of a sin on earth so that you wouldn't have to suffer now for the sin.
  1. The sale of indulgences sky-rocketed.
  2. Pope Innocent VIII created meaningless ecclesiastical jobs and sold them off and indulgences paid for them.
  3. **If you owned an official church indulgence, you could sin and not be worried about God's punishment since the Pope forgave you already!**

#### E. Pope Alexander VI "Rodrigo Borgia" 1492. "The straw that broke the Camel's back"

- i. Part of the **notorious Borgia family** that was a major scourge on Renaissance Italy.
- ii. The Borgia family was wickedly unscrupulous. They are famous for poisoning people with Cantarella, which is a variant of Arsenic.
- iii. Obtained the papacy through a bribe. (Simony)
- iv. Pope Alexander VI actually poisoned people himself, and his son accidentally poisoned him!

- v. FAMOUS FOR: Staged sex shows at the Vatican, feasts with Prostitutes, starting wars, arresting church officials and took their wealth. He had a 19 year-old girlfriend, and he tortured those who criticized him.
  - vi. Contracted syphilis.
  - vii. Borgia's wickedness inspired the author Nicolò Machiavelli to write his famous book, "*The Prince*", and inspired Mario Puzo to make the movie, "*The Godfather*".
  - viii. The Borgias truly changed world history in a horrible way.
- F. Erasmus of Rotterdam. (1466-1636) Greek Scholar, Christian Philosopher
- i. Disgusted and fed up with Pope Alexander VI, and the Papacy in general
  - ii. Tried to reform Catholicism.
  - iii. Wrote a tract with unprecedented irreverence against Pope Alexander VI that attacked indulgences, pilgrimages, relics, Latin held Masses, doctrine of Penance.
  - iv. Found major blunders in the Vulgate especially the difference between the doctrine of Penance and Repentance. **The Bible does NOT support the doctrine of *doing Penance*, but supports *Repentance*.**
    - 1. Do Penance: Something a man **must do** to make the wrong doing, right.
    - 2. Repentance: Stop doing evil, and do good.
  - v. Said, "*I want the Bible to be read by the farmer, the tailor, the mason, the prostitute, the pimp, the traveler, and the Turk. Do you think the Scriptures are only fit for the perfumed?*" (The perfumed: The Catholic hierarchy in the elaborate robes using incense.)
  - vi. **Erasmus wrote the *Textus Receptus***, which is the Greek that the KJV is based on. Remember, Christ quotes more often from the OT Masoretic Text than from any other group of texts. The Majority Text is related to the Textus Receptus.
- G. The building of St. Peter's Cathedral under Pope Julius VI 1506
- i. The new home of the corpse of "Saint Peter", who never went to Rome, Italy at all.
  - ii. The most amazing structure of the Renaissance.
  - iii. **To finance the Cathedral, the Pope used two money-making methods:**
    - 1. **Auricular Confession**: The *necessary* confession of sin to a Catholic Priest who had the authority to forgive the sin immediately.
      - a. Thomas Aquinas said, "*A Priest might happen to share in a sin committed by his subjects. For example, by carnal knowledge of a woman who is his subject.*" -Summa Theologica. Aquinas is saying that the priest may have had sex with the woman who is confessing her sin of having sex with him. According to Auricular Confession, the priest could forgive the woman, and himself at the same time, and this all counted! Sometimes the priest took money to "speed up" the forgiving process.
    - 2. **Indulgences**: Indulgences cover sin. Imagine this scene: You are standing out in the street: A Dominican friar is in the street preaching and he has a Papal Bull stamped with the Popes coat of arms that is born beside him on a velvet cushion. He has indulgences for sale. He's offering forgiveness to anyone who can contribute to the St. Peter's Cathedral building fund. The price was twenty-five guilders for princes, down to a half gilder for paupers.
      - a. So the *forgiveness* was on a sliding scale.
      - b. It's been said.... "*The Bible may say the wages of sin is death, but the gift of life costs no more than 1% of your annual income.*"
      - c. The "get out of Purgatory free" cards: You could buy for yourself or others, **including the dead.**
      - d. The Friars used to stand and cry, "*Listen, the wailing voices of your dead relatives and friends implore you! 'Have mercy! Have mercy! We are in*

wretched agonies!’ ‘And you can redeem us for a pittance. But you don’t want to!’”

- e. Some Friars also said, “*You could have violated the Blessed Virgin Mary, and can buy an indulgence for it.*”
- f. They also said, “***When a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs.***”
- g. The Italian nation was thus SOAKED for all they had for hundreds of years.
- h. People during this period were seriously poor. They still paid for the indulgences. People saw religion as an intolerable burden. However those who took Catholicism seriously were happy within the framework of Catholicism. They were willing to look beyond the wickedness of the church hierarchy and be happy with the seven sacraments and they believed that through those sacraments true spirituality would be achieved.
- iv. Then the people started to “connect the dots” that this is **not** what Jesus built and died for. They didn’t see anything happening with the money they gave the church hierarchy. Especially since they could now read the Bible for themselves.
- v. Major changes were about to happen....

## **XVIII. THE EVE OF THE REFORMATION 1517 and MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)**

- A. **Background:** “Reformation” does not denote any desire by the Reformers to create a new denomination. All church leaders who were Reformers tried to REFORM the Catholic Church back to a Biblical base. This was a noble idea but impossible since reforming an already broken ideology back to its beginning broken state is futile.
- B. **A Catholic Friar**, teacher/preacher at the chapel of Wittenberg, Germany named **Martin Luther** had overheard the other friars saying “*When a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs*”. He was immediately disgusted at the indulgence scam. Some of his parishioners were being taken by this scam. He prepared a list of 95 theses (complaints) on indulgences and nailed it to the church door at the chapel of Wittenberg.
- C. **Facts about Luther**
  - i. Rose quickly in the Catholic ranks due to sharpness of mind.
  - ii. Literally beat himself over sins.
  - iii. Luther was convinced that men could never be loved by God, could never be forgiven.
  - iv. Realized Paul’s writing was talking about righteousness that was a gift stemming from faith.
  - v. Realized that God GIVES righteousness as a gift to man, and began to preach this.
  - vi. The Catholic hierarchy condemned Luther and tried to arrest him, but they failed.
  - vii. The Catholic hierarchy Compared Luther to the convicted heretic John Hus. This was supposed to humiliate Luther, but Luther agreed with them!
  - viii. Luther said the Bible must overrule the church.
- D. **Facts about the 95 Theses:**
  - i. Denied Pope could release people from Purgatory.
  - ii. If he could forgive them, Luther said, “*Why didn’t he free them all out of charity instead of plucking individuals for money?*”
  - iii. What about love for people and humanity?
  - iv. Catholic hierarchy & indulgences were an assault on the Grace of God.
  - v. Luther was summoned to Rome Italy to discuss his 95 theses.
  - vi. Indulgences suffered – infuriated Rome since they were losing money because of Luther.
  - vii. The Papal Invoice began to debate his theses and called Luther’s theses direct contradictions of the **official church doctrine**.
  - viii. Luther and Phillip Melanson teamed up and wrote more about the heresy of the Catholic Church, mainly indulgences, but also: The Sacraments, Subjection to Human Authority, Corruption of the Papacy, and Monastic Vows. He found abuses on all fronts.

- ix. Then Luther was called to *Diet of Worms* in 1521 after the Catholic hierarchy read Luther's 95 theses and began their hunt for him (Diet = "Assembly", Worms = City in Germany on the Rhine river).

E. **Diet of Worms.** Means, "an assembly at the city of Worms, Germany". Worms is pronounced, "vairms"

- i. Luther was able to avoid being tried in Rome, Italy.
- ii. If Luther had gone, he would've been burned at the stake, like Hus, and he and his German compatriots knew that!
- iii. Attendance of this assembly would normally mean immediate arrest and execution.
- iv. Luther attended because he was **promised** he would be able to meet with 50 top scholars in the Catholic hierarchy to discuss his theses and other issues.
- v. But once in the assembly, the interrogator stepped up without any scholars and said that he'd only ask him two questions.
  - 1. Are these books yours? Luther answered, "Yes"
  - 2. Do you recant? Luther appealed for more time and was granted till noon the next day.
- vi. The next day, twice the witnesses were in attendance.
- vii. Luther was never given the opportunity to debate with scholars. This meeting had one purpose: to catch and burn Luther at the stake.
- viii. In the assembly, the interrogator said that he'd only ask him two questions, again.
  - 1. Are these books yours? Luther answered, "**Yes**"
  - 2. Do you recant? Luther answered, "**NO**" (Luther had separated his books into three stacks based on their topics.)
  - 3. Luther did admit that he was overly harsh speaking about false teachers.
- ix. Luther was expelled and condemned.
- x. After this he prayed aloud: "*Here I stand I can do no other. Lord have mercy. Amen.*"
- xi. Scholars do not know why Luther wasn't arrested immediately. But.....
- xii. **On his way back to his residence, on the street, an extremely wealthy and devoutly Catholic German Count named "Fredrick the Wise" kidnapped Luther after the meeting and before Luther was arrested and taken to Rome.** This saved Luther's life. The count hid Luther in his castle under the name "George" the same name of another person living in Fredrick's castle.
  - 1. Interesting fact about Fredrick The Wise: The Count (he thought) owned many relics:
    - a. He owned hay from the manger.
    - b. He owned the bib that the baby Jesus wore.
    - c. He had bread from the last supper.
    - d. He owned a branch from the burning bush (hopefully not still burning).
    - e. He had one of the children King Herod had murdered.
    - f. He owned milk from the Blessed Virgin.
- xiii. **After the Diet of Worms, the Catholic hierarchy called in the Italian guard (the army) and took revenge against the German people. Up to 100,000 of Luther's parishioners and supporters were executed– mostly peasants.**

F. Luther in hiding

- i. Luther called the castle hideout "My Patmos".
- ii. Luther translated the New Testament into German while in the castle, and so the Germanic peoples now had a Bible. This broke Germany off from Rome, Italy completely and permanently.
- iii. The original first edition of the translation is still in the desk Luther used, in the Castle.
- iv. A new pattern was set for Protestant Bibles because the Apocrypha was NOT INCLUDED.

- v. A Catholic Scholar lamented during this period, “Tailors and shoemakers, even women and other simple idiots were debating texts with Priests and monks, because of Luther.”
- vi. **Luther died in 1546 of natural causes peacefully** in Warburg, Germany. Last sermon delivered in Eislaben, 1546.
- vii. There is no written nor any traditions in Germany or in the Luther family that state that Luther recanted on his deathbed. In fact, the records state that while close to death, Luther said he was thankful that his faith in Christ would get him to heaven.

G. **A very compelling account:** Dr. Petrillo the author of this outline visited Heidelberg, Germany ten years ago and met a descendant of Martin Luther. Mary “Luther” was 94 years old. She said, one day she was walking by the Lord’s church (church of Christ in Heidelberg) and heard the most beautiful singing she had ever heard coming out of the church building. She stood outside listening. After the service, the preacher invited her to come in, and Mary declined. The next service, Mary was there again standing and listening to the singing. After the service the preacher again invited her in and she again declined and said that she’d just like to stand by the door. This happened a third time, and she agreed to come in. The preacher asked her if she’d like to study the Bible but she declined. She declined three times and then eventually she agreed to study. Mary was convinced and convicted of the truth and recognized that what she had learned in the Lutheran church growing up was not true to the Bible. She then made a decision to be baptized into Christ for the remission of her sins, to be saved. That afternoon, Mary told her mother the decision she had made. Mary’s mother was at the building way in advance ready to block Mary from coming into the building, begging, pleading, and crying loudly for her not to do this. The reason for her mother’s emotions was because Mary was the very first person in the Luther family to leave the Lutheran church. But Mary went by her mother and into the baptistery. Mary said that even under the water, she could hear her mother crying and screaming and begging her not to do this. Mary was committed to it however. Mary became an incredibly devoted Christian, become a Bible class teacher, and even converted some of her other relatives.

## XIX. ASH WEDNESDAY 3/12/1522

- A. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1522 a Swiss printer was caught eating eggs & sausage on **Ash Wednesday**. He had broken Lent! When the city council heard about this and investigated, he did what every good member of the church does; he blamed his preacher for it! 😊
  - i. The man said, my preacher *Ulrich Zwingli* told me that there is no law over Christians but the Bible. And that the Bible places no restrictions on food.
  - ii. The council was outraged and summoned Zwingli for a public debate along with the Bishop’s deputy and some scholars.
  - iii. Zwingli said: *“God does not desire our decrees or doctrines if they do not originate with him.”*
  - iv. The council ruled in favor of Zwingli!
- B. Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) Swiss Preacher and teacher
  - i. Leader of Reformation movement in Switzerland
  - ii. Education: University of Vienna, University of Basel
  - iii. **Preached against instruments in worship service since they are not part of the Scriptural pattern.**
  - iv. Ulrich’s sermons were short and simple.
  - v. Communion was brought to each person to make it more personal.
  - vi. **Called the Bible the precise blueprint for life, even silence in Scripture “speaks” and is authoritative and binding upon man.** This contrasts Luther’s idea. Luther taught the Bible is a general idea for our lives and that those things not forbidden are acceptable. (Luther’s idea is not Scriptural, unfortunately)
  - vii. Ulrich disagreed with the Catholic doctrine of Transubstantiation. (Luther thought Transubstantiation Okay.)

- viii. Mass was traditionally done with the priest with his back to the congregation, and Ulrich faced the congregation.
- ix. History states regarding the Swiss town, “Catholicism lost one more city.”.

## XX. THE REFORMATION MOVEMENT CONT'D. c.1500

- A. **Background:** In the period of 1530's, 40's, there were one thousand reformation groups meeting in France underground (barns, abandoned Catholic churches, etc.).
- B. **John Calvin** (1509-1564) French Preacher, Lawyer, Teacher
  - i. Broke from the Catholic church in 1520, went to Basel, Switzerland
  - ii. Worked in the Scotland and France regions
  - iii. Writer of Apologetics, and the book, “Institutions of the Religion of the Church” and many other books.
  - iv. Was influenced heavily by Augustinian teaching which lead to Calvin's creation of unscriptural doctrines:
    - 1. Predestination
    - 2. Faith Alone
    - 3. Absolute Sovereignty
    - 4. Built on Original Sin
  - v. **The main tenants of Calvinism (T.U.L.I.P.)**
    - 1. Total Hereditary Depravity
    - 2. Unconditional Election
    - 3. Limited Atonement
    - 4. Irresistible Grace
    - 5. Perseverance of the Saints
  - vi. Calvin went to the extreme with Predestination so that he made it mean that God micromanages the world and all humans' lives. And God determined before we were created whether or not we'd be saved. So Calvin taught that we all follow “scripts” that have been written for us.
  - vii. EVERY DENOMINATION in the world now teaches Calvinism in some form. (my words)
- C. **John Knox** (1510-1572) Scottish Preacher, Teacher, founder of Presbyterianism.
  - i. Leader of the Reformation movement in Scotland – major change agent.
  - ii. Influenced by John Calvin.
  - iii. Considered founder of Presbyterian denomination.
  - iv. Imprisoned in Catholic France, Exiled from England.
  - v. Preached right from the Bible and was arrested for that and made a slave awhile in the French galleys.
  - vi. Called church members, *Presbyters*.
  - vii. Knox brought in idea of church autonomy (self-governing) but did not teach the Biblical model of the Elderships, Deacons, etc...
  - viii. Brought in idea of meetings of groups of churches called, “National Synods”. Church decisions were made at these meetings, and the men would bring back those decisions to their home congregations.

## XXI. REFORMATION FLOODGATES OPENED EVEN WIDER

- A. Similarities of eight Reformation period change agents
  - i. All were devout Catholics, and all closely connected to the Catholic Church (All priests, monks, or otherwise.)
  - ii. Had access to the Bible and studied.
  - iii. Educated in Catholic universities, and totally involved in Roman Catholicism.
  - iv. Came to realization that Catholicism is not Biblically based.
  - v. Were NOT interested in creating new denominations, just trying to correct Catholicism.

- vi. All were rejected and persecuted because the Catholic Church unwilling to change anything.
- vii. All saw differences in the Bible compared to church doctrine.
- viii. Most were executed by the Catholic hierarchy.

*History shows no evidence that Luther recanted on his deathbed.*

B. Catholic Clergy-Laity relationships.

- i. The Catholic **Clergy-laity relationship** developed to copy the pattern of the Old Testament where priests separated themselves from the rest of their Jewish people, to keep the laity ignorant.
  - To keep people ignorant you must believe only the education system educated people could be illuminated to understand the Bible, like the Pope.
  - Not done out of ugliness, but done to create religious uniformity.
  - Like giving knives to children
  - This kept a dependence and reliance to the priests.
  - During the Renaissance period revival time of the all intellectualism in every topic.

C. Conrad Grebel and the Anabaptists. (c. 1498-1526)

- i. **Definition “Anabaptist”** means “a re-Baptizer”. A Protestant sectarian of a radical movement arising in the 16th century and advocating the baptism and church membership of adult believers only, nonresistance, and the separation of church and state.
- ii. Son of a prominent Swiss merchant and councilman was a co-founder of the Swiss Brethren movement and is often called the "Father of Anabaptists".
- iii. Education: University of Basel, of Vienna
- iv. Heavily influenced by Zwingli
- v. Said if the seven sacraments are not through the church, then must be through faith and not through some mystical sacramental concept that the Catholic hierarchy teaches.
- vi. Pointed out the necessity of ADULT BAPTISM, and that **only adults** are fit to be baptized.
- vii. Grebel performed the **first known adult baptism associated with the Reformation**.
- viii. Zwingli argued against Grebel
- ix. Grebel was against Catholicism, Luther, and Zwingli.
- x. Many Anabaptists were murdered by the Catholic hierarchy by drowning while exclaiming, “Well, if you want to be baptized, we’ll baptize you!”. But they forgot half of the Baptism; coming back up out of the water.
- xi. First preacher who did NOT attempt to reform the Catholic Church.

D. Other Anabaptists

- i. Michael Sattler. (1490-1527) Monk who left Catholicism to become an Anabaptist, married a former nun, as did Luther. Denied all Catholic doctrines including the sacraments.
  - In May, 1527, Sattler was arrested by Roman Catholic authorities, along with his wife and several other Anabaptists. He was tried and sentenced to be executed as a heretic. As part of his execution, his tongue was cut out, and red hot tongs were used to tear two pieces of flesh from his body. He was then taken outside the city by wagon, and the tongs were used on him five more times. After that, he was burned at the stake. The other men in the group were executed by sword, and the women, including Sattler’s wife Margaretha, were **executed by drowning**.
- ii. Menno Simmons (1496-1561) Founder of the **Mennonite** movement.

XXII. PROTESTANTISM (1517- current)

- A. **Definition “Protestantism”:** a. Any of a group of German princes and cities presenting a defense of freedom of conscience against an edict of the **Diet of Spire** (Assembly of German Rulers) in 1529 intended to suppress the Lutheran movement which reaffirmed the edict of the Diet of Worms in 1521, banning Luther's documents. b: a member of any of several church denominations denying the universal authority of the Pope and **affirming the Reformation principles of justification by faith alone**, the priesthood of all believers, and the primacy of the Bible as the only source of revealed truth ; broadly : a Christian not of a Catholic or Eastern church.
- B. Notes on Protestantism (“The Bible is the Final Authority”)

- i. Emperor **Charles V** (an Ardent Catholic) controlled France and Italy tried to recapture all “protestors” to come back to Catholicism.
  - ii. Technically the Protestation movement began when Luther nailed his theses to the church door in 1517, but this is a protest of edicts of Charles V. The official document is called “*The Protestation*”.
  - iii. Luther, Zwingli, and the like, *protested* and gave a name to the movement.
  - iv. Three major tenants of Protestantism:
    1. Supremacy of the Bible
    2. Justification by Faith Alone
    3. Universal Priesthood of Believers
  - v. This is the first time in church history men are putting final authority of God’s word (all 66 Books.)
  - vi. **MAJOR PROBLEM TO OVERCOME:** All spiritual people had been pampered for centuries since the Catholic Church answered all their questions for them, and told them exactly what to think. These people did not have the skill to think on their own. As they studied the Word, there arose major disagreements since they did not know or understand what they were reading. Questions they had to overcome: 1) What does the Bible say?; 2) Does that mean we have to do it, too?
- C. The Catholic response to this rebellion of Protestantism. (Hundreds of thousands of Catholics were leaving the church.)
- i. **Juan de Valdes** (Spain 1509-1541) Liked some Protestant ideas and wanted to reform the Catholic Church.
  - ii. **Ignatius Loyola** (1491-1556) Parallels with Luther regarding penance, salvation. Difference between Loyola and Luther: Luther came fighting Catholicism, and Loyola came as a devout Catholic.
    1. Loyola said, “*If something is white and the church says it’s black, we ought to believe it to be black.*” Taught unwavering faith to Catholic hierarchy.
    2. Loyola believed that God empowered the Roman Italian Catholic church to bring truth to people.
    3. Loyola said he had visions from God. He went to Jerusalem to convert people.
    4. **Loyola founded the Jesuits movement.** (“Society of Jesus”) The Jesuits have a loyalty to the Pope that is absolute and unconditional.
      - a. The Jesuits are responsible for **St. Bartholomew’s Massacre (1557)**, which was the persecution of the “Huguenots” (another word for Protestants) in which **seventy-thousand** men, women, and children were murdered. (70,000!)
      - b. Pope Pius urged their extermination.
      - c. The Protestant’s earnest piety and pure lives were in striking contrast to the scandalous lives of the Roman clergy.
      - d. The mother of the French king **Catherine de Medici** was a willing tool of the Pope in this massacre. She gave the order to attack.

### **XXIII. COUNCIL OF TRENT (1546)** [Establishment of the doctrine of sacred tradition and the issue of spiritual authority.]

- A. **General background.** After the Franco-German war of 1538, The Pope decreed that all Catholic territories unite against Protestant England. English King Henry VIII (A Catholic) passed the “**Six Articles**” which reasserted primary Catholic beliefs, and executed all who denied this. In this time frame, Rome called another council to debate the **definition of “Authority”** as the Catholic hierarchy defined it, and as the non-Catholic world defined it. Also during this time, Giovanni Pietro Carafa was leading some of the most brutal Inquisitions ever. Carafa would later become Pope Paul IV. The **council of Trent** established the Catholic doctrine of **sacred tradition**. There

are six “articles”. Since Transubstantiation is not Biblically supported, this council stated that if a man denied Transubstantiation, he would endure death by fire. **The main focus of this council was Catholic authority.**

**B. Council of Trent** established and reaffirmed:

- i. Risky Declaration of **Sacred Tradition** made at the Council: The Bible is NOT the only source of religious truth. The apostles didn’t write everything down; they also transferred doctrine down by word of mouth, and this sacred unwritten tradition is as valid as the Bible. So they claimed there are actually **TWO basis of authorities**. (Similar to the Jewish *Talmud* or *Mishna* which Christ denounced in the New Testament!)
- ii. **Protestants said:** It’s blasphemous tyranny for the church to trump or veto the Bible.
- iii. **Catholics said:** It’s blasphemous tyranny and anarchy for the Bible to trump the Catholic hierarchy.
- iv. Protestants defended the Bible as the only authority and used many Scriptures to prove this.
- v. The Council also gave the Catholic Church **authority to veto** any interpretation that contradicted official Catholic hierarchical doctrine.
  1. They vetoed the idea of justification by faith which tore the entire book of Romans out of the Bible.
  2. They reaffirmed the seven sacraments:
    - a. Baptism
    - b. Penance (Confession to a Catholic Priest)
    - c. Eucharist
    - d. Confirmation
    - e. Marriage
    - f. Holy Orders
    - g. Extreme Unction (Blessing by a Priest on one’s deathbed)
  3. They reaffirmed Augustine’s doctrine of original sin

**C. They declared the Apocrypha books as Scripture (Douay-Rheims).** This created even more conflict with the Protestant movement since the Protestants did not accept the Apocrypha.

**D. IMPORTANT FIGURES OF THIS ERA.**

- i. **Henry the Eighth** (1491-1597) and his book: “*An Assertion of the Seven Sacraments*”  
General background: Henry the Eighth King of England, and lord of Ireland, second monarch of the house of Tudor. A great Scholar, educated on the Catholic Sacraments, a great friend and hero of the Catholic Church, brutally suppressed the Protestant reformation in England. The Catholic Church awarded Henry the Eighth the title, “*Defender of the Faith*”. The letters “FD” are still on British coins today. Henry VIII wrote a book “*An Assertion of the Seven Sacraments*” as a counter to Luther’s book, “*Babylonian Captivity*”.
- ii. **King James VI of Scotland** (1566-1625) King of the Scots  
General Background: Authorized a new Bible translation called, the 1611 Authorized Version, also known as the King James Version. This Bible had more scholars and textual specialists working together than any other Bible in the world. There were more cross-checks employed in the KJV, as well. The Old Testament is written from the Masoretic text, and the New Testament is written from the Textus Receptus. The KJV is an excellent Version also because Christ quoted more often from the Masoretic text than from the Septuagint. <http://www.gotquestions.org/Masoretic-Text.html>
- iii. **Galileo Galilei** (1564-1642) Italian Catholic physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher. Galileo played a major role in the Scientific Revolution. Was persecuted and haunted by the Catholic Church. The Catholic hierarchy eventually killed Galileo under home arrest in his old age. A tragic account: Galileo Galilei, who proved the Polish scientist **Copernicus’** theory that the Earth moved around the Sun, not the other way around. The Catholic hierarchy put Galileo on trial for the essay he wrote for this. In his trial 1633,

Galileo tried to explain that there are figures or literary devices and that not all passages should be taken literally. Galileo was suffering with a sickness but the Catholics yanked him from Florence to Rome for the trial. They interrogated him and then put him in prison (house arrest) for the rest of his life. **It took the Catholic Church until 1992 to admit that the Earth moves around the Sun!** The Denver Post wrote an article 12/2008 that said that Galileo has gone from Heretic to Hero. It said, "The Vatican is recasting the most famous victim of its Inquisition as a man of faith just in time for the four-hundredth anniversary of Galileo's telescope and the UN designated national year of Astronomy next year. Pope Benedict XVI paid tribute to the Italian Astronomer and Physicist Sunday, saying he and other scientists have helped the faithful better understand and contemplate with gratitude the Lord's work." Reference:

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/galileo/galileoaccount.html>

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/galileo/scripture.html>

iv. **John Smyth** (1570-1612) Founder of the Baptist denomination. A Separatist.

- **General Background:** Renounced some key Protestant doctrines, was a separatist, supported free thinking and the idea that people should attend services because they want to, and that we should choose to become Christians instead of being born into a religion. Smyth also rejected infant Baptism, Calvinism.

#### XXIV. **THIRTY YEARS WAR (1618-1648) The Edict of Restitution.**

- A. **General Background:** All religious wars during the Reformation movement (for 100 years) were started by Roman Catholic Kings urged on by the current Pope and Frederick II. The Roman Catholic Kings were always the aggressor. The Thirty Years War is an important war because the Protestant cause won. **Gustavus Adolphus II**, King of Sweden entered this war (1632-1648) and helped win it. Catholic hierarchy took the stance that all Lutherans and Calvinists must be expelled from Catholic lands. Even though the Thirty Years War appears as a religious war, it was more correctly fought for unification of the Catholic state and to make church and state, one entity. Historians count this war as the last "religious war".
- B. **End of the Reformation movement mid to late 17<sup>th</sup> century.**
- i. The Catholic hierarchy failed to stamp out Protestantism
  - ii. The division was and always shall be, permanent.
  - iii. The idea that mankind is able to read and understand the Bible remained, but still many still struggled with the question of, what does it mean.

#### XXV. **THE MODERN ERA "The Age of Reason (1650-1730)**

- A. **General Background:** The beginning of Protestant Creeds. Protestants failed to reform Catholicism.
- B. Influential men of the modern era.
- i. **Isaac Newton. Sir Isaac Newton**, [1642 – 1727] Was an English physicist, mathematician, astronomer, natural philosopher, alchemist, and theologian and **one of the most influential men in human history**. His *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, published in 1687, is by itself considered to be among the most influential books in the history of science, laying the groundwork for most of classical mechanics. In this work, Newton described universal gravitation and the three laws of motion which dominated the scientific view of the physical universe for the next three centuries. Newton showed that the motions of objects on Earth and of celestial bodies are governed by the same set of natural laws by demonstrating the consistency between Kepler's laws of planetary motion and his theory of gravitation, thus removing the last doubts about heliocentric and advancing the scientific revolution.
    1. Newton's research led him to believe in a rational Creator.

*"I defy the Pope, and all his laws; and if God spares my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plow to know more of the Scriptures than thou dost!"*

- William Tyndale, 1522

2. From there, Newton reasoned, if order is in the Universe, God would want order in church. (This pattern of order of the worship assembly is very well laid out in the Bible, of course.)
- ii. **John Locke** (1632-1704). An English philosopher. Locke is considered the first of the British empiricists, but is equally important to social contract theory. His ideas had enormous influence on the development of epistemology and political philosophy, and he is widely regarded as one of the most influential Enlightenment thinkers, classical republicans, and contributors to liberal theory. His writings influenced Voltaire and Rousseau, many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, as well as the American revolutionaries. This **influence is reflected in the American Declaration of Independence**. Locke's theory of mind is often cited as the origin for modern conceptions of identity and "the self", figuring prominently in the later works of philosophers such as David Hume, Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Immanuel Kant. Locke was the first philosopher to define the self through a continuity of "consciousness". He also postulated that the mind was a "blank slate" or "tabula rasa"; that is, **contrary to Christian philosophy**, Locke maintained that people are born without innate ideas, and that knowledge is instead determined only by experience derived by sense perception.
  1. Wrote "*Treatise on Civil Government*"
  2. Said that the government was not designed by God to stay in permanent power. If a government goes astray, it must be removed.
- iii. **François-Marie Arouet, pen name: Voltaire** (1694 – 1778), was a French Enlightenment writer, essayist, and philosopher known for his wit, philosophical sport and defense of civil liberties, including both freedom of religion and free trade. Voltaire was a prolific writer and produced works in almost every literary form, authoring plays, poetry, novels, essays, historical and scientific works, more than 20,000 letters and more than 2,000 books and pamphlets. He was an outspoken supporter of social reform, despite strict censorship laws and harsh penalties for those who broke them. A satirical polemicist, he **frequently made use of his works to criticize Catholic Church dogma** and the French institutions of his day. Voltaire was one of several Enlightenment figures (along with Montesquieu, John Locke, Thomas Hobbes and Jean-Jacques Rousseau) whose works and ideas influenced important thinkers of both the American and French Revolutions.
  1. Ridiculed Christianity
  2. Is probably the greatest reason that 1<sup>st</sup> century Christianity has not taken hold in France. On All Saints Day, 11/1/1755, Lisbon, Portugal suffered a severe earthquake that killed 200,000 people. Voltaire capitalized on this event and used it to discredit God.

**XXVI. TARGET AMERICA. EARLY RELIGION IN THE USA.** By 1771, there were 18 denominations in the USA according to a woodcut shown in class. Population: 22,000. Catholicism had not yet come to the USA. US Independence and the Bill of Rights. (1776) The colonists in the new world won their freedom from King George III. We wanted freedom from the Anglican Church. The new church formed here was the Presbyterian denomination. Simple 1st century Christianity was established by this time in the US as well.

- **Dayton Keese, Restoration Revival** (Lubbock: Sunset Institute Press, 2008) states on page 286, "The transition to clarity the minds of men from tradition to Truth, from false doctrines to pure faith, from human speculations to heaven-given Scripture (John 17:7-17; Ephesians 3:3-5) was not easy! There was a cobweb of confusion that had to be removed from many minds (Calvinism; Universalism; Mourner's Bench; Getting an experience; Men voting to determine one's worthiness to be a member in some church; infant church membership; Faith only; Submission to creeds for manmade disciplines—**None of which can be found in the New Testament.**) Some of those transition steps are a sobering and heartening story."

#### A. IMPORTANT FIGURES.

- i. **Jonathan Edwards** (1703 – 1758). Was a colonial American **Congregational preacher**, theologian, and **missionary to Native Americans**. Edwards "is widely acknowledged to be America's most important and original philosophical theologian." His work is very broad in scope,

but he is often associated with his defense of Calvinist theology, the metaphysics of theological determinism, and the Puritan heritage. His famous sermon "*Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*," is credited for starting the First Great Awakening. Edwards is widely known for his books *Religious Affections* and *The Freedom of the Will*. He died from a smallpox inoculation shortly after beginning the presidency at the College of New Jersey (later to be named Princeton University). Edwards is widely regarded as America's greatest theologian.

- Edwards saw much spiritual and religious apathy in Europe and wanted to change that.
- ii. **George Whitefield** (1714 - 1770), also known as George Whitfield, was an Anglican itinerant minister who helped spread the Great Awakening in Great Britain and, especially, in the British North American colonies.
  - Whitefield said that Anglicans are not Christians, so he came to the U.S..
- iii. **Pilgrims, or Pilgrim Fathers**, is a name commonly applied to the early settlers of the Plymouth Colony in present-day Plymouth, Massachusetts. Their leadership came from a religious congregation who had fled a volatile political environment in the East Midlands. The colony, established in 1620, became the second successful English settlement (after the founding of Jamestown, Virginia in 1607) in what was to become the United States of America. The Pilgrims' story has become a central theme of the history and culture of the United States.
  1. Came out of the church of England to US in 1620
  2. Friendly with the Native Americans
  3. Had "*great hope of expanding the Gospel of the Kingdom of Christ to the remotest parts of the world.*"
- iv. **The Puritans**. A Puritan of 16th and 17th century England was an associate of any number of religious groups advocating for more "purity" of worship and doctrine, as well as personal and group piety. Puritans felt that the English Reformation had not gone far enough, and that the Church of England was tolerant of practices which they associated with the Church of Rome. The word "Puritan" was originally an alternate term for "Cathar" and was a pejorative term used to characterize them as extremists similar to the Cathari of France. The Puritans sometimes cooperated with Presbyterians, who put forth a number of proposals for "further reformation" in order to keep the Church of England more closely in line with the Reformed Churches on the Continent.
  1. Puritans and Pilgrims did not agree and did not get along well.
  2. Puritans were not friendly with the Native Americans
  3. Puritans sought to "purify" the church from the inside.
- v. **John Wesley** (1703 – 1791). Was an English Anglican cleric and Christian theologian during **the Great Awakening**. Wesley is largely credited, along with his brother Charles Wesley, with **founding the Methodist movement** which began when he took to open-air preaching in a **similar manner to George Whitefield**. In contrast to George Whitefield's Calvinism (which later led to the forming of the Calvinistic Methodists), Wesley embraced Arminianism. Methodism in both forms was a highly successful evangelical movement in the United Kingdom, which encouraged people to experience Christ personally. Wesley helped to organize and form societies throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland; small groups that developed intensive, personal accountability, discipleship and religious instruction among members. His **greatest theological achievement was his promotion of what he termed "Christian Perfection", or holiness of heart and life**. Wesley held that, in this life, Christians could come to a state in which the love of God, or perfect love, reigned supreme in their hearts. Throughout his life, Wesley remained within the Church of England and insisted that his movement was well within the bounds of the Anglican tradition. His maverick use of church policy put him at odds with many within the Church of England, though toward the end of his life he was widely respected.
  - John Wesley also claimed the miraculous gifts: healing, exorcism, raising the dead.
- vi. **Charles Wesley** (1707 – 1788). Was an English **leader of the Methodist movement**, son of Anglican clergyman and poet Samuel Wesley, the younger brother of Anglican clergyman John Wesley and Anglican clergyman Samuel Wesley (the Younger), and father of musician Samuel Wesley, and grandfather of musician Samuel Sebastian Wesley. Despite their closeness, Charles and

his brother John did not always agree on questions relating to their beliefs. In particular, Charles was strongly opposed to the idea of a breach with the Church of England into which they had been ordained. **Charles Wesley is chiefly remembered for the many hymns he wrote.**

1. Composed 6,500 Hymns to teach converts.
2. Composed some “Christmas” Hymns as well.
3. Both John and Charles tried to capitalize on the coldness of the Church of England, but neither one converted.

vii. **David Hume** (1711 – 1776). Was a Scottish philosopher, economist, historian and a key figure in the history of Western philosophy and the Scottish Enlightenment. Hume is often grouped with John Locke, George Berkeley, and a handful of others as a British Empiricist. During Hume's lifetime, he was more famous as a historian; his six-volume *History of England* was a bestseller well into the nineteenth century and the standard work on English history for many years --while his works in philosophy for which he owes current reputation was mostly unknown during his day. In the twentieth century, Hume has increasingly become a source of inspiration for those in political philosophy and economics as an early and subtle thinker in the liberal tradition, as well as an early innovator in the genre of the essay in his *Essays Moral, Political, and Literary*.

1. Hume was a “Deist” like Thomas Jefferson, and Ben Franklin. *Deism* is the belief that the miracles in the Bible aren't real. The Jeffersonian Bible is the Bible with all the miraculous passages missing. Their argument is that no rational person could believe in miracles.
2. Hume reasoned that since the universe is “imperfect”, then so is God.
3. Many countries like England, Scotland, and Wales became Atheistic because of Hume's teachings.

viii. **Hermann Samuel Reimarus** (1694-1768, Hamburg). Was a German philosopher and writer of the Enlightenment who is remembered for his Deism, the doctrine that human reason can arrive at knowledge of God and ethics from a study of nature and our own internal reality, thus eliminating the need for religions based on revelation. He denied the reality of miracles and is credited by some with initiating historians' investigation of the historical Jesus.

1. Reimarus said Jesus actually preached Judaism, not Christianity.
2. Reimarus created German skepticism and philosophy.

ix.

**Jean-Jacques Rousseau** (1712 – 1778) Swiss. Was a major philosopher, writer, and composer of the eighteenth-century Enlightenment. Jean-Jacques Rousseau is **one of the most influential thinkers during the Enlightenment** in eighteenth century Europe. His first major philosophical work, *A Discourse on the Sciences and Arts*, was the winning response to an essay contest conducted by the Academy of Dijon in 1750. In this work, **Rousseau argues that the progression of the sciences and arts has caused the corruption of virtue and morality**. This discourse won Rousseau fame and recognition, and it laid much of the philosophical groundwork for a second, longer work, *The Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*. The second discourse did not win the Academy's prize, but like the first, it was widely read and further solidified Rousseau's place as a significant intellectual figure. The central claim of the work is that **human beings are basically good by nature**, but were corrupted by the complex historical events that resulted in present day civil society. Rousseau's **praise of nature** is a theme that continues throughout his later works as well, the most significant of which include his comprehensive work on the philosophy of education, the *Emile*, and his major work on political philosophy, *The Social Contract*: both published in 1762. These works caused great controversy in France and were immediately **banned by Paris** authorities. Rousseau fled France and settled in Switzerland, but he continued to find difficulties with authorities and quarrel with friends. The end of Rousseau's life was marked in large part by his growing paranoia and his continued attempts to justify his life and his work. This is especially evident in his later books, *The Confessions*, *The Reveries of the Solitary Walker*, and *Rousseau: Judge of Jean-Jacques*.

- Rousseau is thought to have laid a foundation for future Pentecostalism, through encouraging worshippers to bring out emotions.

Notice that as we come through time, denominationalists are freeing themselves from manmade creeds and drawing closer to simple Christianity as described in the Bible.

- x. **George Lisle. (Liele, or Leile, or George Sharp)** (1752-1825) Was an African American and emancipated slave who became the founding pastor of the First African Baptist Church, in Savannah, Georgia (USA), and the first Baptist missionary in Jamaica.
1. Lisle was a free slave who was converted to the Baptist denomination by his owner to preach to other slaves.
  2. Lisle was the first Black Baptist preacher
  3. Lisle preached that all colors accepted at his church
  4. First Baptist missionary to Jamaica
  5. Helped abolish slavery.
- xi. **Sidney Rigdon** (1793 –1876) Was an important figure in the early history of the **Latter Day Saint movement**. Rigdon's influence over the early years of the movement is considered by many historians to have been nearly as strong as that of church founder Joseph Smith Jr. Sidney Rigdon was born in St. Clair Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, about 10 miles south of Pittsburgh. (The area today is known as Library). He apprenticed himself to a Baptist minister named Rev. Andrew Clark. Rigdon received his license to **preach for the Regular Baptists** in March, 1819. He moved in May to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he jointly preached with Adamson Bentley from July, 1819. He returned to Pittsburgh to accept the pastorship of the First Baptist Church there **under the recommendation of Alexander Campbell**. Rigdon and Bentley had journeyed to meet Alexander Campbell in the summer of 1821, to learn more about the Baptist who was encountering opposition to his idea that the New Testament should hold priority over the Old Testament in the Christian church. They engaged in lengthy discussions, which resulted in both men **joining in Campbell's movement (The Restoration movement – the practice of 1<sup>st</sup> century Christianity)**. Rigdon became a popular Campbellite preacher in the Pittsburgh church. However, some disaffected members were able to force his resignation in 1824. For the next two years Rigdon worked as a tanner to support his family, while preaching Campbell's **Restorationism** on Sundays in the Pittsburgh courthouse. In 1826 he was invited to become the pastor of the more liberal Baptist church in Mentor, Ohio in the Western Reserve. Many prominent early Latter Day Saint leaders, including Parley P. Pratt, Isaac Morley and Edward Partridge were members of Rigdon's congregations prior to their conversion to the Mormon Church as founded by Joseph Smith, Jr.
1. Rigdon was a farmer in Pennsylvania until the time of his father's death, and then Rigdon became a "Regular Baptist". [There were two types of Baptists at this time; General, and Regular]
    - a. General Baptists: Believed anyone could receive atonement from sin and could fall from grace (lose salvation)
    - b. Regular Baptists: Taught that one cannot lose salvation.
  2. In 1822 Alexander Campbell, the man who brought simple Christianity from Europe to the new world, wrote a letter to Rigdon asking him to help reform the Baptist church.
- xii. **Joseph Smith, Jr.** (1805 – 1844) **The founder of Mormonism**, and an important religious and political figure during the 1830s and 1840s. In 1827, Smith began to gather a religious following after announcing that an angel had shown him a set of **golden plates describing a visit of Jesus to the indigenous peoples of the Americas**. In 1830, Smith published what he said was a translation of these plates as the Book of Mormon, and the same year he organized the Church of Christ. For most of the 1830s, Smith lived in Kirtland, Ohio, which remained the headquarters of the church until the cost of building a large temple, financial collapse, and conflict with disaffected members encouraged him to gather the church to the Latter Day Saint settlement in Missouri. There, tensions between Mormons and non-Mormons escalated into the **1838 Mormon War**. Smith and his followers then settled in Nauvoo, Illinois where they began building a second temple aided by new converts from Europe. After being **accused of practicing polygamy, and of aspiring to create a theocracy**, Smith encouraged the suppression of a newspaper that had published accusations against him, leading to his assassination by a mob of non-Mormons. **Smith's followers consider him a prophet and have canonized some of his revelations as sacred texts on par with the Bible**. His legacy includes

There are  
roughly 40,000  
denominations  
today.

several religious denominations, the largest of which, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has millions of adherents.

1. Smith said God told him not to join any church, but to wait “for something better”.
2. Smith in 1823 states that Native Americans were the lost tribes of Israel that came to this continent in 600 BC
3. Smith then declared that Pre-Millennialism and Dispensationalism will reunite all tribes.
4. Smith further stated that a prophet named Moroni resurrected from the dead to give a revelation vision to Smith about the history of the tribes written on gold plates that he dug up (see above).
5. The gold plates were dug up by Smith four years later. Smith stated that the writing on the plates could only be read with magic glasses given to him by Moroni.
6. Smith called the writing on the plates the “Third Testament”.
7. The book of Mormon, from the golden plates is about 80% KJV Bible.
8. Smith influenced by Rigdon, who was influenced by Alexander Campbell and taught: baptism for the remission of sins, and the idea of an eternal reward or eternal punishment.

xiii. **Charles Grandison Finney** (1792 – 1875) Presbyterian minister who became an important figure in the **Second Great Awakening**. His influence during this period was enough that he has been called "**The Father of Modern Revivalism**". Finney was known for his innovations in preaching and religious meetings, such as having **women pray in public meetings of mixed gender, development of the "anxious seat"** (a place where those considering becoming Christians could come to receive prayer), and public censure of individuals by name in sermons and prayers. He was also known for his use of extemporaneous preaching.

1. Finney turned revivalism into a science
2. Finney was a travelling evangelist
3. Finney was a forerunner to Billy Graham, and Dwight L. Moody.

xiv. **James O'Kelly** (1735- 1826) North Carolina. Was an American clergyman during the Second (of four) Great Awakening and an important figure in the early **history of Methodism in America**. Affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church from its organization at the Christmas Conference in 1784, O'Kelly, who favored the Congregationalist system of church polity, came to **oppose the church's system of centralized Episcopal authority, which he believed infringed on the freedom of preachers**. At the 1792 General Conference of the Methodist Church he introduced a resolution that would allow clergy more freedom in determining their assignments. The resolution was defeated. In protest, O'Kelly withdrew from the denomination and with his supporters founded **the Republican Methodist Church**, later known simply as the Christian Church, or "**Connection**", which merged with the **Congregational** churches in 1931 to form the **Congregational Christian Churches**. This body, in turn, merged with the **German-American Evangelical** and Reformed Church in 1957 **to form the present United Church of Christ**.

1. O'Kelly therefore, objected to the governing board of Methodists
2. O'Kelly in 1792 presented a resolution to make churches self governing. This was rejected.
3. O'Kelly in 1794 founded the Republican Methodist Church and joined up with another preacher, Rice Haggard, and called themselves, Christians and no more denominational names.
4. O'Kelly's movement is described sometimes as “a journey out of darkness”.
5. O'Kelly movement regarded Christ as the only church head.
6. O'Kelly said the *“Bible is the only creed and is a sufficient rule of faith and practice.”* Men had always written their own creeds to explain the Bible, so this was important.
7. O'Kelly's movement was not well-received by his denominational neighbors who all had their own books of creeds and were very proud of those creeds.

8. O'Kelly's movement regarded membership as: *Christian character, or vital piety the only test of church membership.*
9. O'Kelly's movement championed the belief that *"all men have the right of private judgment and liberty of conscience as a privilege, and duty of all."*

## XXVII. "CHRISTIAN" CHURCH BEGINNINGS

A. **Important figures.** Most of the heading information gathered at [www.therestorationmovement.com](http://www.therestorationmovement.com)

- ii. **Abner Jones** (1772 – 1841), also known as Elder Abner Jones, was a minister and early church reformer in the United States.
  1. Jones established a Christian church in Vermont, New Your, New Hampshire, Maine, and in Canada.
  2. Jones made a statement: *"We mean to be New Testament Christians, without any sectarian name connected with it, without any sectarian creeds, articles, or confessions, or discipline to illuminate the Scriptures. . . . It is our design to remain free from all human laws, confederations and unscriptural combinations; and to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free."*
  3. Jones chose to interpret the Bible through cross-referencing for themselves instead of having it spelled out.
- iii. **Elias Smith, son of John J. Smith.** In 1792, Elias Smith, twenty-three years old and nearly bereft of any education (theological or otherwise), was ordained a Baptist minister. For ten years Smith preached for Baptist churches, all the while diligently improving his education through private study. As he independently studied the New Testament, he became convinced that "man-made" creeds and standardized bodies of doctrine as tests of fellowship were wrong. He thought instead that the churches should "abandon all their theological systems as tests of orthodoxy, and their overhead ecclesiastical structures as bonds of unity, and restore the simple faith and practice of the primitive church."
  1. Elias Smith was immersed for the remission of his sins by a Baptist.
  2. Elias Smith organized a church of Christ in New Hampshire in 1803
  3. He published, *"Herald of Gospel Liberty"* in 1808.
  4. Elias Smith urged adult baptism for the remission of sins.
  5. Elias Smith also believed in having *"a conversion experience"*, which led the way to Pentecostalism.
- iv. **Barton Warren Stone** (1772-1844) Was an important preacher during the Second Great Awakening of the early 19th century. He became **first a Presbyterian minister, and then was expelled for his beliefs in faith as the sole prerequisite for salvation**, after the Cane Ridge, Kentucky revival. He became **allied with Alexander Campbell, forming the Restoration Movement**. His followers were **first called "New Lights" and "Stoneites"**.
  1. Stone was ordained by the Presbyters, too, but rejected confession.
  2. Stone withdrew from Kentucky Synod of Presbyterians and formed the "Springfield Presbytery"
  3. The "Springfield Presbytery" accepted confession only as it aligned with the Bible
  4. "Springfield Presbytery" was disbanded when they realized it was not scripturally sound.
  5. "Springfield Presbytery" gave a "last will and testament" of Springfield Presbytery and they united with Haggard in 1804
  6. They believed: There is one church, one body, that the Bible is the only guide to heaven, and there is no delegated authority
  7. Stone stated that all denominations can't really lay under one umbrella because of doctrinal differences.
- v. **Thomas and Alexander Campbell.** **Thomas Campbell (1763 –1854)** was a Presbyterian minister, Born in County Down, Ireland. Thomas moved from Scotland to the US. With his son Alexander Campbell, began a religious reform movement on the American Frontier which would later be known as the Campbell-Stone movement. **Alexander Campbell (1788 –1866)** was an early leader in the Second Great Awakening of the religious movement that has been referred to as the

Restoration Movement. The Campbell wing of the movement began with the publication in Washington County, Pennsylvania, of The Declaration and Address of the Christian Association of Washington in 1809, by his Father, Thomas Campbell. In 1832 The group of reformers led by the Campbells merged with a similar group that had begun in Kentucky under the leadership of Barton W. Stone. Several American church groups trace their history to Campbell's leadership, including the Churches of Christ, the Independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

1. Thomas was a Presbyterian minister in Scotland, then moved to the US influenced by the Barton Stone.
  2. In 1809, Thomas withdrew from the Synod and formed the Christian Association of America.
  3. Alexander studied in Glasgow with independents, and started moving away from the Presbyterianism, which is the same thing his father, Thomas was doing, but Alexander didn't know about his father's changes.
  4. Alexander wrote "*Declaration and Address Christian Unity*".
  5. There were no men during this period who could out – debate Alexander. Alexander had one of the brightest minds of his time.
  6. Alexander debated with W.L. McCallaugh on Baptism. They debated on the one baptism, significance of, Jesus' commanded, Peter commanded at Pentecost at the very first ever Gospel sermon, example of Ananias.
  7. Alexander debated with Hall: Hall came to realization that Baptism is for the remission of sins.
  8. Notables who visited the Campbell's: Jeff Davis, President Garfield, Buchanan.
- vi. **Samuel Rogers** (1789-1888) has almost been forgotten. He was born in Charlotte County, Va., on November 6, 1789. His father, Ezekiel Rogers, emigrated from England and settled in Virginia. In 1793 his father moved from Virginia to Central Kentucky. His father next moved to Missouri and lived there until 1809, when he moved back to Kentucky. In 1812 Samuel Rogers married Elizabeth Irvin. The Irvin family had been reared after the **strictest sect of Presbyterianism.....** [Click here to see rest of this article.](#)
1. Known for offering worshippers to come to the "Anxiety Bench" to request prayers.
  2. Rogers stated that something would happen to let the person on the Anxiety Bench know they were forgiven. Sometimes hours passed, and nothing happened. They he said this probably happened because they weren't doing what the apostles did, so they baptized a bunch of people and said they "got relief" they were looking for.
  3. Baptized Benjamin Franklin for the remission of sins.
- vii. **Henry Clay.** Introduced Alexander Campbell to visitors. "Most imminent citizen of US". President Madison said Clay had one of the best minds on Scripture.
- viii. **Walter Scott** (1796-1864)
1. "Restoration Plea" preacher.
  2. Created a finger exercise to teach the plan of salvation.
    - a. Faith to change the heart.
    - b. Repentance to change the life.
    - c. Baptism to change the state.
    - d. Remission of sins to cleanse the guilt.
    - e. The gift of the Holy Spirit to make one a participant in the Divine Nature.
  3. The invitation was made a regular sermon feature. (per the Bible example)
  4. Scott was good at paraphrasing the Bible and making it understandable.
  5. Church history records few baptisms until Walter Scott's preaching.
  6. Alexander Campbell stated that Scott "immersed under a new idea".
  7. A fellow Scotsman said this about Walter: "*Mr. Forrester's peculiarity consisted in making the Bible his only authority and guide in matters of religion, while his young*

*friend had been brought up to regard the Presbyterian Standards as the true and authoritative exposition and summary of Bible truth. Differing as they did, they were both lovers of truth, and the frequent and close examinations which they made of the Scriptures resulted in convincing Mr. Scott that human standards in religion were, like their authors, imperfect...."*

- ix. **John Telemachus Johnson** (1788-1856) There were two groups of religious people at that time. One group had been taught by B. W. Stone, and the other had been led to see the truth by Alexander Campbell. **Those who had been taught by Stone were called "Christians,"** while those who had been taught by **Mr. Campbell were called "Disciples."** These two groups soon began to overlap in territory and in interest. They had started without any knowledge of each other; but as they both believed the same thing and practiced the same thing, they were united in faith and in the Lord, but did not recognize this union in their relation to each other. John T. Johnson was a great factor in 1833 in bringing together and getting each to recognize the unity, which already existed between the two groups. He says: "I was among the first, in cooperating with B. W. Stone, to suggest and bring about a union between the church of Christ and that large body of Baptists which had renounced all humanisms in religion." He was so impressed with the Bible teachings on unity that he made the theme of unity paramount in all of his preaching.
  1. In 1832 the Disciples of Christ movement began under Johnson.
  2. Johnson kept in contact with Campbell as well.
  3. It is said that he never attempted ornamentation in any speech that he ever made, that he was the most practical preacher in his day; he never quoted a line of poetry in any of his discourses.
  4. In 1820 he was elected to Congress, and was re elected in 1822.
  5. He was trained in the Baptist faith, and early in life received an impression that he ought to be a Christian. However, the affairs of life crowded upon him and he did not attach himself to the Baptist Church until he was thirty-three years of age. Alexander Campbell was publishing the Christian Baptist at that time. He became disturbed in his Baptist faith and determined to examine it in the light of the Bible. He says: *"My eyes were opened and a new interest awakened in Christianity."* He further adds: *"I was convinced, won over, and contended with all my might in the private circle."*
  6. He was unable to get the Baptist Church at Great Crossings to accept the New Testament as its only creed.
  7. Known as "The Evangelist of Kentucky".
- x. **Raccoon John Smith** (1784-1868) Born in East Tennessee, in what is now known as Sullivan County. He has been called the Peter Cartwright and Lorenzo Dow of the Restoration Movement. He was truly a unique character, a product of the age in which he lived. Alexander Campbell is quoted as saying: "John Smith is the only man that I ever knew who would have been spoiled by a college education." He meant that the unique character would have been so greatly modified by an education that he could not have done the work that he did. His parents were Calvinistic Baptists in faith and were rigid in their enforcement of their peculiar theories upon their children.
  1. Once ended a sermon with, *"Let's not be called Campbellites"*.
  2. Campbell and Smith eventually saw that they were teaching the same Gospel, so they united their congregations and chose a new name, the name from the book of **Romans, 16:16, "the church of Christ"**.
  3. This new church of Christ lasted twenty years before a division struck. It was about the American Christian Mission Society, and the usage of mechanical instruments in worship. (1849-1851)
  4. Stone and Campbell congregations also divided over this. Stone taught a much more liberal and unscriptural Gospel and called themselves the Disciples of Christ.
  5. The churches of Christ favored congregational independence, and voice-only music due to the Scriptural pattern.

- xi. **Tolbert Fanning** (1810–1874) was a Restoration Movement preacher and writer born in Cannon County, Tennessee. His conservative theology within that movement, often expressed in the pages of Fanning's publication, the Gospel Advocate, inspired others such as David Lipscomb, leading to the 1906 identification of the Church of Christ as a distinct religious body, 33 years after Fanning's death.
  1. Fanning made a statement about all things spiritual, "*We must have a Thus saith the Lord*" and we should not divert from that.
  2. Fanning based his preaching on statements like, "We endeavor to speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent; calling Bible things by Bible names; and doing Bible things in Bible ways. The power of God unto salvation is the Word of God and we enjoy the privilege of preaching it without addition or subtraction."
  3. Fanning encouraged many people to study their Bibles much more deeply.
- xii. **E.G. Sewell** (1830-1924) Raised a Baptist. William B. Sewell married a member of the church of Christ and attended the services frequently with his wife. **At one time he took the Lord's Supper with his wife on the first day of the week. For this he was cited to trial in the Baptist Church** and charged with violating the rules of the church. He would not retract his statement about following the New Testament in worshiping God and was forthwith excluded from the Baptist Church. Through William Sewell, Jesse L. Sewell, an older brother of Elisha, was led to study the New Testament, and Jesse L. saw the Baptist error that he was practicing and immediately turned from it and began preaching the gospel. He, too, was **excluded "for preaching faith, repentance, and baptism for the remission of sins."** Soon Isaac Sewell, another brother, and three sisters **asked that their names be removed from the Baptist roll.** By this time three of Brother Sewell's brothers were preaching the gospel and an uncle was preaching the Baptist doctrine. E. G. Sewell was nineteen years old at this time. He did not know whether his brothers were right or whether his uncle was right; so he decided in the spring of 1849 to **study the New Testament for himself.** He read the New Testament through once that year and portions of it many times. **On the fourth Lord's Day in October, 1849, E. G. Sewell was buried with his Lord in baptism.** About a year after this time he began to make public talks and rapidly developed into a strong gospel preacher. From that time on his life was filled with interesting events of his activities as a Christian.
  1. On January 1, 1870, he joined Brother D. Lipscomb as co-editor of the Gospel Advocate. He wrote regularly for the Advocate a little more than fifty years.
  2. Brother Sewell was a co-laborer with Brother Lipscomb in preaching the gospel in and around Nashville.
  3. Sewell was a scholar, and excellent preacher, and had a gentle personality which together made for a very powerful influence.
  4. Lipscomb felt driven to build a university National Bible School which was the first school to teach Bible every day.
- xiii. **Nicholas Brodie Hardeman** (1874-1965) Nicholas Brodie Hardeman was born to Dr. John Bellefont Hardeman and Nancy Jane Hardeman on May 18, 1874, near Milledgeville, McNairy County, Tennessee. He was baptized by R. P. Meeks while attending West Tennessee Christian College in 1890. In June of 1895, he graduated with a B.A. degree from this school which later became Georgie Robertson Christian College. He later received the M.S. degree from this same school. Hardeman was an excellent teacher and expected the very best from his students. If there was one thing that he disdained it was "generalities." Constantly he bemoaned what he termed "a smattering" knowledge of anything. He believed in thoroughness, no matter what the subject was. It was never enough to have a general knowledge of the contents of any subject. Although he was well versed in the American Standard Version, and most of the modern translations, Professor **Hardeman always stuck to the King James Version when quoting from the Bible.** Hardeman was a debater, not that he "picked on" anyone for a debate, but he did willingly accept a challenge. **The Hardeman-Bogard debate, conducted in Little Rock, April 19-22, 1938, is, in many respects, the greatest debate ever conducted with the Baptists.**
  1. Hardeman was baptized as an adult

2. Influenced by Meeks
  3. Founder of the college, Freed-Hardeman
  4. Began a radio broadcast
  5. Newspapers even published his sermons.
- xiv. **Marshall Keeble** (1878-1968) Marshall Keeble was born near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, December 7, 1878. He was the son of former slaves, Robert and Mittie Keeble. At the age of four, his family moved to Nashville. He was baptized by Preston Taylor in the Gay Street Christian Church in 1895. Keeble was seventeen years old. He was never educated beyond the seventh grade. His first job was working in a bucket factory six to ten hours a day at around 40¢ per hour. In 1914 he decided to give up all his business interests and preach the gospel only. He dedicated himself to evangelistic work holding gospel meetings in brush-arbors, tents, barns and church buildings. **He established over 200 congregations over the next sixty years of preaching.** Sometimes he would baptize over 100 people in a single gospel meeting. **In the 1930s he wrote to the Gospel Advocate stating that he had baptized over 15,000 people. Estimates range between 20,000 and 40,000 people as being baptized by this great gospel preacher in his life time.** He was an evangelist that was most influential among both African American and Caucasian people. His preaching took him from Florida to Washington and from California to the northeast. He made **numerous trips to Nigeria** where he had great success in evangelistic efforts. In later years, he often opened or closed college lectureships all over the country. Read one of his transcribed lectures here. He held many debates in his lifetime. In his lifetime he worked to **overcome many obstacles for African Americans**, both in education and preaching the gospel he loved. He broke many of the cultural barriers that separated black and white people. In 2000 the Christian Chronicle named Marshall Keeble the most influential preacher among churches of Christ in the decade of the 1940s. Perhaps it could be said that Marshall Keeble was the most influential preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ in the 20th century.
1. Keeble's parents were slaves
  2. Keeble had a remarkable knowledge of Scripture, an ability to read people, and a very good sense of humor. He was a dynamic and charismatic speaker.
- xv. **Roy Lanier Sr.** (1899-1981)
1. Scholarly thinker and Bible student
  2. Expounded difficult Bible topics regularly
  3. Ran the periodical, "Firm Foundations"
  4. Very popular preacher, 1940-1970
  5. Wrote book, "The Timeless Trinity"
  6. Was the first director of the Bear Valley Bible Institute in Denver, CO
- xvi. **OUTSIDE THE RESTORATION MOVEMENT.** There were powerful men who tried to break down the restoration movement. They comingled Truth with the doctrines of men.

## XXVIII. MAJOR WORLD DEVELOPMENTS

- A. Era of Biblical "high" criticism. Background: This era is focused on epistemology, which defined is learning by studying, reasoning to a conclusion, using rational and good logic. Thesis vs. Antithesis merged into a new thesis and antithesis which led to a "puffing up" of the mind of man, and man exalting himself over God.
- i. Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918) Came up with "Documentary Hypothesis" approach to the Pentateuch stating Moses didn't write these, because he thought the names of God are different throughout the book. For example, Elohim and Jehovah. He also merged Biblical truth with modern experiences so that man can pick and choose what part of the Bible may or may not work for you.
  - ii. Fredrich Schleiermacher (1768-1834) Liberal theology idea to update the Bible. He states the Bible is not a system of conduct, but was a general road map type of writing to an absolute Gospel. Schleiermacher was against the idea of doctrine. Schleiermacher is responsible for founding the modern liberal spirituality movement.

- iii. Charles Darwin (1809-1882) Darwin came up with the metaphysical idea of Evolution and survival of the fittest. He removed God from the idea, completely and ushered in man as the gods. Now the US education system has been hijacked by this ideology. Darwin himself states, *“Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely graded organic chain. And this is perhaps the most obvious and serious objection that can be urged against the ‘theory’ of evolution.”*
  - iv. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) Explained away the existence of God and the soul. He turned guilt into a psychological phenomenon that is: all internal, self induced, and we need to “just get over it”. He came up with the image of perfect man. This is redefined in each generation. It encompasses: throwing off moral restraints and choosing things for yourself that make your life the best and happiest it can be no matter what it takes.
  - v. Soren Kierkegaard (1813-1856) Existentialist into an era of Post – Modernism. Existentialism is defined by no absolute truths, and that you can only know things for yourself. Each individual’s truth is different. This exalts man, is the “if it feels good do it” thinking, and the “all about me” thinking.
  - vi. Karl Barth (1886-1968) Neo-Orthodoxy. He believed some Protestant ideas but that the Bible is fallible and is just an introduction to Jesus Christ. The Bible is not the pathway, the path is your own experience. Everyone must have an interpersonal relationship with God.
  - vii. World Council of Churches (1948) Ecumenical Movement. (Ecumenism is the blending of all “Christian” systems into one movement, no matter the doctrine.) In this council, all churches were to blend to solve all the world’s problems. This council is Probably one of the most significant developments in church history since the Protestant Reformation Movement. The idea of “I’m ok, you’re ok” was also put into a religious context.
- B. **THE EMERGING CHURCH.** A movement that has become the sign of the times in the last 3 years. This title is now used to label all the mega-churches and “community churches” we see today. Philosophy: Some post-modernism. Don’t say you know anything for sure, you can only know what you know to be true. It is somewhat like a modern day reformation period. The Emerging Church believes that it sees problems with Protestantism and now seeks to reform it, not split from it. Another key term that is being used is, **“relevance”**.
- 1. Leaders of The Emerging Church state that ALL **churches have failed to be relevant**. They say this is why people fall away. So The Emerging Church is trying to make the church applicable to people’s lives.
  - 2. This incorporates the idea of the personal experience with God
  - 3. No absolute truths; it varies from person to person and culture to culture. (For example, weddings and funerals) The Emerging Church would ask, “Are we to say we’re right and you’re wrong just because we do the same things differently?”
  - 4. The Emerging Church has changed the dictionary definition of the word “tolerance” too. It means to “bear with”. But The Emerging Church has changed it to mean “You must agree with me and my lifestyle”.
  - 5. The Emerging Church would say that every culture makes its own religious truths. (cf account of the Nuremberg trials after WWII. The Nazis said they had their own laws that clearly allowed the extermination of Jews, and Slavic peoples, and that the Allies had NO BUSINESS meddling in Germany’s affairs.)
  - 6. Any belief in absolute truth is labeled as arrogance.
  - 7. Atheism is oddly condemned, however
  - 8. The Emerging Church puts man in charge of God.
  - 9. The Emerging Church service looks something like this: everyone comes together, but then breaks off into small groups.

#### **XXIX. RESTORATION GOALS (Not Reformation, notice.)**

- A. General points:

- i. Unity in Christ based on Corinthians 1:10
  - ii. Christ is the source of the Truth – John 1:17, Colossians 2:8
  - iii. Bible final and complete authority – 2 Timothy 3:16ff
  - iv. Sectarian names eliminated – 1 Peter 4:16, Acts 4:12
  - v. Preaching only the New Testament plan of salvation – Acts 2, Hebrews 2:3, Romans 6:3-4
  - vi. Restore beauty, simplicity, and purity of Biblical worship – 2 Corinthians 11:3
- B. Where are we now?
- i. We must determine what place God's word will have in belief and practice
  - ii. We must determine if we're OK to sacrifice popularity for Scripture
  - iii. We must individually determine to live by God's blueprint.

## 2 Timothy 2:20-21

### End of church history outline

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A few years before Samuel Rogers married into the family the shackles of Presbyterianism had been broken and the Irvin family was liberated. Barton W. Stone held a revival meeting near the Irvin home, and the Irvin family became great admirers of Mr. Stone and were led by him away from the slavery of denominationalism and into the freedom that is in Christ Jesus. Later Samuel Rogers heard Mr. Stone preach and became a firm believer in the teachings of the New Testament. He became a Christian soon after his marriage.

The War of 1812 disturbed his peaceful relationship to the church. Mr. Rogers enlisted as a soldier and helped in the great war to rebuke England, the mother country, the second time. During the war he became estranged from the house of worship and became very indifferent toward the religious life. He says that "licentiousness and corruption, the natural offspring of war, had taken the place of virtue and good order in my life." Very few young men who engaged in that war held fast to the integrity of the Christian life. It may be said that such is the usual result of war. Soon after the war closed he began to turn his attention to the religious life. This was largely due to the influence of his wife and her interest in the New Testament. He soon began taking public part in the worship. He began by exhorting his brethren and sisters to live a holier life. He was impressed that he ought to do all that he could for his Lord.

He began preaching the gospel as he began the Christian life with earnestness and faith. Many were the hardships to be endured at that time, but he was glad to be counted worthy to suffer and endure for the sake of preaching the gospel to a dying people. He says: "We did not look for a salary, passage, or anything of this kind. We went without purse or scrip and often without our meals, because we had nothing to buy with, and had to swim rivers because we had no money to pay the ferryman." He was encouraged by others and was told that the Lord had a great work for him to do, and that he should be humble and prayerful in doing this work and the Lord would be with him. The encouragement of his brethren had much to do with his success. I sometimes think that older brethren in the church today do not encourage younger ones enough. I am sure that flattery has ruined many a young preacher, and that good men have refrained from giving to young preachers words of encouragement because they were afraid they would spoil them. Prudent encouragement has never worked any evil, but has helped many a soul that was almost in despair.

After preaching a few years in Kentucky, Samuel Rogers moved to Clinton County, Ohio. He began at once preaching there to his neighbors and soon gathered together a little band of Christians who met for worship in the schoolhouse. People listened attentively through his preaching, and he was called upon daily to baptize people. He says that at that time he had not learned very much of the New Testament, and especially had not learned that "baptism was an absolute condition to church membership." He, like many others at that time, gradually came into a fuller knowledge of the truth. Later his attention was called to the New Testament teaching on church membership, and he began to baptize "for the remission of sins." He was too busy that he had but little time with his family. The demands for his services were very urgent. The "calls to preach" were not made by churches, because there were no churches in that section at that time; but these calls were made by those who saw a glimmer of light and wished to be led into the fullness of the light. In after life he said that an idle preacher could not believe the gospel.

If one believes the gospel and loves the salvation of souls, there is always work for him to do. There is no excuse for a preacher's being idle. It is a crime against one's own soul to be idle when other souls are perishing for the truth of God. Samuel Rogers intensely believed this and was always busy. He established churches wherever he went. He was impressed with his mission in life, that it was not to seek pleasure, wealth or earthly fame, but it was to do good, and that one can do no better than to be preaching the gospel of Christ.

He made journeys into Missouri and preached the gospel there. He was the first to preach the gospel in St. Louis, a small town at that time. Wherever he held a meeting he established a church, and many churches in Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana were established by him. It is to be regretted that these churches have departed from the ancient order. He made tours through Virginia and Pennsylvania. He had read the Christian Baptist, published by Alexander Campbell, but up to this time had never met Mr. Campbell. While on a tour through Virginia he met him. This was in 1825. He heard him preach, and was greatly impressed with the piety and learning of Alexander Campbell. He afterwards said of Mr. Campbell that he did not "speculate or dogmatize, but pleaded with all the earnestness and confidence of an inspired man for the restoration of the ancient order of things, for apostolic doctrine and discipline." Of the first sermon that he heard Mr. Campbell preach he says: "With facts and documents completely overwhelming he demonstrated the fact that the church had apostatized from primitive faith and practice, and that the only remedy left us was in going back to the days of divinely inspired teachers and in adopting their doctrine and practice as our infallible guide." More clearly did Samuel Rogers see than ever before that human standards might be good or bad; that human teachers might be right or wrong, but that the holy men of God, who spoke as they were

moved by the Holy Spirit, could not by any possibility be wrong, and that the only safe course to follow was to teach what the inspired men taught and practice what they practiced.

Samuel Rogers had but little learning. He attended school but a few days in his early life. However, he was blessed with a strong intellect and an abiding faith in God's word. In his simple way he reached the hearts of the common people and led them closer to God. He was greatly distressed because of the division that existed among denominations. He did not see as clearly as some others the New Testament teaching on the church of God, but he did see the evils and unscripturalness of division. He reached the conclusion that men can never agree on opinions; that opinions have no binding authority, and should have none; but that in matters of faith men may be united, and that all that is needed for the accomplishment of this union is that men should lay aside their opinions and have a high regard for the plain teachings of God's word. There should be but one mind and one heart in matters of faith. He saw that so long as men cling to tradition and boldly set aside God's word there can be no union. He said: "If the day should ever come when the whole Christian world shall hold God's word in greater reverence than they do human traditions and speculations, then the whole Christian world will be one. I may be charged with a want of Christian charity, but I shall die in the opinion that nothing but a criminal contempt for God's word is at the bottom of all divisions." Such teaching as this should be emphasized today; and if we should remember nothing else that Samuel Rogers taught, the above is well worth our remembering his work upon earth.

Though he had no education, yet he had a burning zeal for the righteousness which is through faith. He loved to preach the gospel because it is God's power to save. He says it was easy for him to preach. "The story was plain and easy to tell. There was nothing to do but open my Bible and let it tell to a perishing world the way of salvation. It was not necessary to warp or twist a single word or sentence." He was baptized into Christ by Barton W. Stone, and among the hundreds that he baptized into Christ was Benjamin Franklin.

The work of preaching was something others in the family did as well. His brother, **John Rogers was one of the most noted preachers in the early days of the Restoration Movement.** He is buried at Carlisle. His sons also preached, John I. Roger and William C. Rogers. Samuel passed from this life June 23, 1877 at the age of 87. He was a great servant of the Lord.