



THE HISTORY AND IDEAS OF THE REFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

- **WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE REFORMATION?**
 - WE BEAR THE NAME OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMERS
 - THE REFORMATION LEGACY HELPS SHAPE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT WE BELIEVE TODAY
- **WHAT DOES CHRISTIAN HISTORY HAVE TO DO WITH SPIRITUALITY?**
 - A CHRISTIAN APOLOGETIC WITHOUT A HISTORICAL REFERENCE IS IMPOTENT

COURSE OUTLINE

- ❑ WEEK 1 - CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)
- ❑ WEEK 2 - CHRISTIAN HISTORY (AD 500-1500)
- ❑ WEEK 3 - CIVIL AND IDEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF THE REFORMATION
- ❑ WEEKS 4 & 5 - LUTHER AND THE GERMAN REFORMATION
- ❑ WEEK 6 - ZWINGLI AND THE ORIGINS OF THE SWISS REFORMATION
- ❑ WEEKS 7 & 8 - CALVIN AND THE PROGRESSION OF CALVINISM

COURSE OUTLINE (CONT)

- ❑ WEEK 9 - THE REFORMATION IN THE NETHERLANDS
- ❑ WEEK 10 - KNOX AND THE BEGINNING OF PRESBYTERIANISM
- ❑ WEEKS 11 & 12 - THE ENGLISH REFORMATION
- ❑ WEEK 13 - CONCLUSION AND WRAPUP



**CHRISTIAN HISTORY:
BEGINNINGS TO AD 500**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- FIRST FIVE CENTURIES MARKED BY PERSECUTION, DOCTRINAL DEFINITION, AND CHURCH EXPANSION**
- MAJOR ROMAN PERSECUTIONS:**
 - NERO (AD 64)
 - DECIAN-VALERIAN (AD 249-260)
 - DIOCLETIAN (303-324)
- EDICT OF MILAN (AD 313)**
 - ENDORSEMENT OF CHRISTIANITY BY CONSTANTINE SHORTLY FOLLOWED

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- **DEFINING CHRISTIANITY - DRIVING FORCES:**
 - GNOSTISM (1ST & 2ND CENTURIES)
 - MARCIONISM (MID 2ND CENTURY)
 - MONTANISM (LATE 2ND CENTURY)
- **RESULT OF THESE CHALLENGES:**
 - COMPILATION OF THE CANON
 - ORGANIZATION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH/APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION
 - APOSTLE'S CREED
- **DISPUTE OVER THOSE WHO DENIED THE FAITH UNDER PERSECUTION:**
 - NOVATIANS/DONANISTS - 3RD & 4TH CENTURIES

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- **BY 4TH CENTURY, FIVE MAJOR PATRIARCHATES DEVELOPED:**
 - ROME
 - CONSTANTINOPLE
 - ALEXANDRIA
 - ANTIOCH
 - JERUSALEM
- **4TH & 5TH CENTURY DISPUTES SHAPE MAJOR DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- **ARIANISM (CHALLENGE TO THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY):**
 - **ORTHODOX POSITION AFFIRMED BY COUNCIL OF NICAEA (AD 325)**
 - **RESURGENCE OF ARIANISM STIFLED BY 2ND ECUMENICAL COUNCIL (AD 381)**
 - **ATHANASIUS - “FATHER OF ORTHODOXY”**

- **NESTORIANISM (CHALLENGE TO THE DIVINE INCARNATION):**
 - **CYRIL, BISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA VS NESTORIUS, BISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE (AD 430)**
 - **COUNCIL OF CHALCEDON (4TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL) AFFIRMS ORTHODOX POSITION (AD 451)**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- **PELAGIANISM (CHALLENGE TO THE DOCTRINE OF MAN'S FALLEN STATE):**
 - **AUGUSTINE, BISHOP OF HIPPO (AD 396-430):**
 - **MANKIND IS TOTALLY CORRUPTED BY THE FALL OF ADAM**
 - **GOD SOVEREIGNLY PREDESTINES UNTO ETERNAL LIFE AND DEATH**
 - **MAN'S SALVATION IS ENTIRELY AN ACT OF GOD'S SOVEREIGNLY PREDESTINED GRACE**
 - **PELAGIUS, BRITISH MONK TEACHES IN PALESTINE (AD 413-414):**
 - **ADAM'S FALL DID NOT EXTEND TO MANKIND**
 - **ALL MEN ARE BORN AS FREE AS ADAM**
 - **IF A MAN CHOOSES TO DO RIGHT, HE MAY PERFECTLY KEEP GOD'S COMMANDS**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

□ PELAGIANISM (CONT):

- MOST OTHER LEADERS “FELL IN THE MIDDLE”:
 - CRYSTOTOM, AMBROSE (AUGUSTINE’S DISCIPLER) - MEN CAN CHOOSE GOOD BUT MUST BE AIDED BY GRACE
- COUNCIL OF EPHESUS (3RD ECUMENICAL COUNCIL) CONDEMNS PELAGIUS AND ASSOCIATES (AD 431)
- EXTENT OF MAN’S DEPRAVITY STILL CONTESTED:
 - SYNOD OF ORANGE (AD 529) HOLDS SEMI-PELAGIAN VIEW
 - ALTHOUGH ADAM’S SIN EXTENDS TO ALL, MAN’S FREE WILL IS ONLY WEAKENED AND ANY GOOD ACT MUST BE ASSISTED BY DIVINE GRACE AND MERCY
 - POINTS TO A GREAT DOCTRINAL DEBATE OF THE REFORMATION

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- GROWING DIVIDE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AND ELEVATION OF ROMAN PATRIARCHATE:**
 - DISINEGRATION OF ROMAN EMPIRE BEGINS MUCH EARLIER IN WEST THAN EAST**
 - VISGOTH CONQUEST OF ROME - AD 410**
 - ROMULUS AUGUSTULUS - LAST EMPEROR OF THE WEST (AD 476); POWER SHIFTS ENTIRELY TO CONSTANTINOPLE**
 - ABSENCE OF POWERFUL STATE LEAVES ROOM FOR BISHOP OF ROME TO EXPAND**
 - EMPHASIS ON ROME'S SPIRITUAL PREEMINANCE:**
 - LEGEND TELLS PETER AND PAUL MARTYRED IN ROME**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

□ ELEVATION OF CHURCH OF ROME (CONT):

- **STRONG INFLUENCES OF ROMAN BISHOPS:**
 - **INNOCENT I - INVOLVED IN CHURCH AFFAIRS IN ITALY, SPAIN, GAUL, ILLYRICUM, NORTH AFRICA (AD 402-417)**
 - **LEO I (AD 440-461) - INSTRUMENTAL IN RESOLUTION OF CHALCEDON**
 - **BY CHRIST'S DECREE, THE CHURCH WAS FORMULATED UPON PETER (THE ROCK) WHO INITIATED "PAPAL" SUCCESSION**
 - **SINCE PETER WAS MARTYRED IN ROME, THE ROMAN BISHOP WAS THE LOGICAL SUCCESSOR OF PETER'S "SEE"**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY (BEGINNINGS TO AD 500)

- **EXPANSION OF CHRISTENDOM:**
 - **PENETRATED EVERY SEGMENT OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE**
 - **MAINTAINED A STRONGHOLD THROUGHOUT THE BARBARIAN INFILTRATION OF EUROPE**