

Medieval Church History (500 – 1500 AD)

June, 2017

Introduction

Why Study Church History?

- The “Third Testament” – The Record of God’s Work in the Midst of His People
 - Both faithful and unfaithful people
- Intriguing / Useful – Real People facing real problems
 - Some Similar, Some Different than what we face today
- Connection with an Extended Church Family (**Hebrews 11, 12:1**)

Bounding the Scope

- Time – Discussion will focus on 500 AD to ~1500 AD
- Geography – Discussion will focus on Western Europe
- This is a survey level discussion
 - Condensed a 17 lecture curriculum (already an overview) to ~10 discussions
 - Your favorite crusade, king, church father, or doctrinal dispute may not be covered in detail (or, unfortunately, at all)!

*Hebrews 12:1, 2a - Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith ...*



Ancient Church History “Quiz”

For all questions unless otherwise stated consider the time period to be ~100 – 500 AD

The majority of Christian converts during the first half of this period were concentrated in:

- a. Western Europe
- b. Asia Minor (modern day Turkey), the Middle East, and Northern Africa

Two Roman Emperors noted for severe persecution of Christians during the mid 3rd and early 4th century were:

- a. Decius and Diocletian
- b. Augustus and Marcus Aurelius

Two Roman Emperors noted for promoting Christianity within the Roman Empire during the 4th Century were:

- a. Septimius Severus and Julian the Apostate
- b. Constantine and Theodosius

Gnostics believed in salvation by:

- a. Faith
- b. Knowledge
- c. Works

There is no evidence of the modern-day New Testament canon (list of the books of the New Testament) having been written down before 500 AD. (True / False)



Ancient Church History “Quiz”

Donatists believed that:

- a. Salvation came through knowledge
- b. Jesus was hierarchically subordinate to the Father
- c. Clergy who had surrendered or burned scriptures during persecutions were irredeemable and could not legitimately perform sacraments

Arius and Arians believed that:

- a. Salvation came through knowledge
- b. Jesus was hierarchically subordinate to and created by the Father
- c. Clergy who had surrendered or burned scriptures during persecutions were irredeemable and could not legitimately perform sacraments

The main substantial modification to the Nicene Creed that emerged from the Council at Constantinople in 381 concerned further doctrinal detail about:

- a. God the Father
- b. Jesus, the son
- c. The Holy Ghost

At the Council of Ephesus in 431 Augustine’s position on salvation by the grace of God triumphed over Pelagius’ position that a man has the ability to overcome sin. (True / False)

Most historians consider 476 AD as the official date of the fall of the *entire* Roman Empire. (True / False)

None of the barbarians who overran the western Roman Empire in the 5th century had any exposure to Christianity and when they heard about it they were immediately hostile to it. (True / False)



Penny for Your Thoughts

Shout out a list of people, places, things, and events that you associate with the Medieval period. Don't limit yourself - they need not be church-related nor necessarily even real!

"Since it is so likely that children will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage." - C.S. Lewis



What are the thoughts when you hear the phrase "Medieval Church"?

"The history of the Western Church in the Middle Ages is the history of the most elaborate and thoroughly integrated system of religious thought and practice the world has ever known." – R.W. Southern

"the whole form of divine worship in general use in the present day [1540's] is nothing but mere corruption." – J. Calvin

Topics



- Introduction

- Transitioning from “Ancient” to “Medieval”

- The Byzantine Empire and Eastern Orthodoxy

THE MEDIEVAL WESTERN CHURCH

- Spread of Christianity

- Early Medieval Learning & Theology

- Monasticism

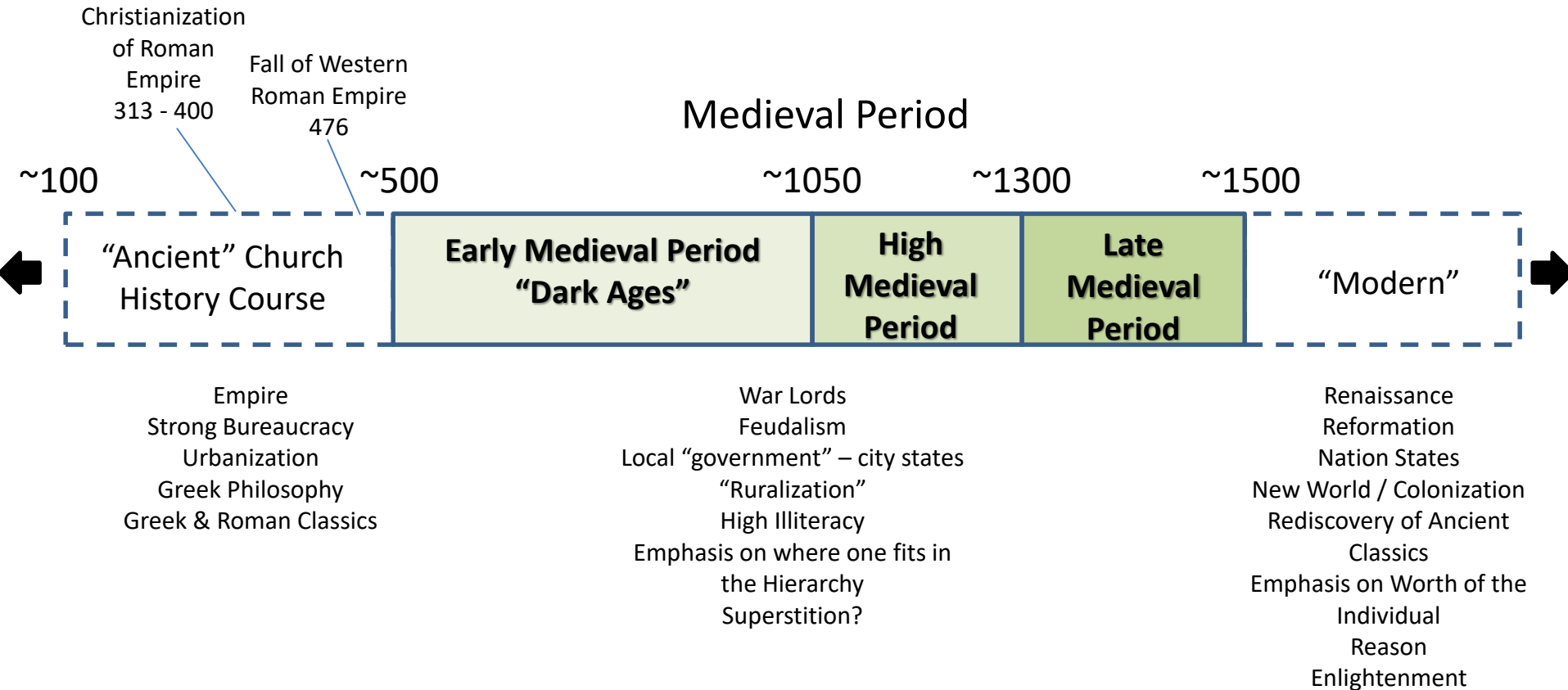
- Church and State

- The Sacramental System & Medieval Doctrine

- The Papacy


- Sneak Previews of The Reformation


Medieval* Period - Context




* - "Medieval" and "Middle Ages" will be used interchangeably

Medieval Timeline 500 - 1050

II Council at Constantinople 553 

III Council at Constantinople 680 

Council at Nicaea 787 

IV Council at Constantinople 869

Photian Schism

Radbertus & Ratramnus

Vladimir baptized – beginning of Christianization of Russia 988

Cyril & Methodius missions to Moravia

Charlemagne

John of Damascus

Gregory I

Augustine of Canterbury

Isidore of Seville

Bede

Alcuin

Gottschalk

Alfred

Jerome (347-420)
Augustine of Hippo (354-430)
Leo I (390-461)

Benedict

Boethius

Columba

600

700

800

900

1000

1050

Early Medieval Period “Dark Ages”

Justinian I

Hagia Sophia

Muhammed

Rapid Expansion of Islam



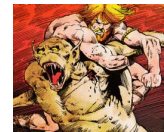
Tours

Vikings



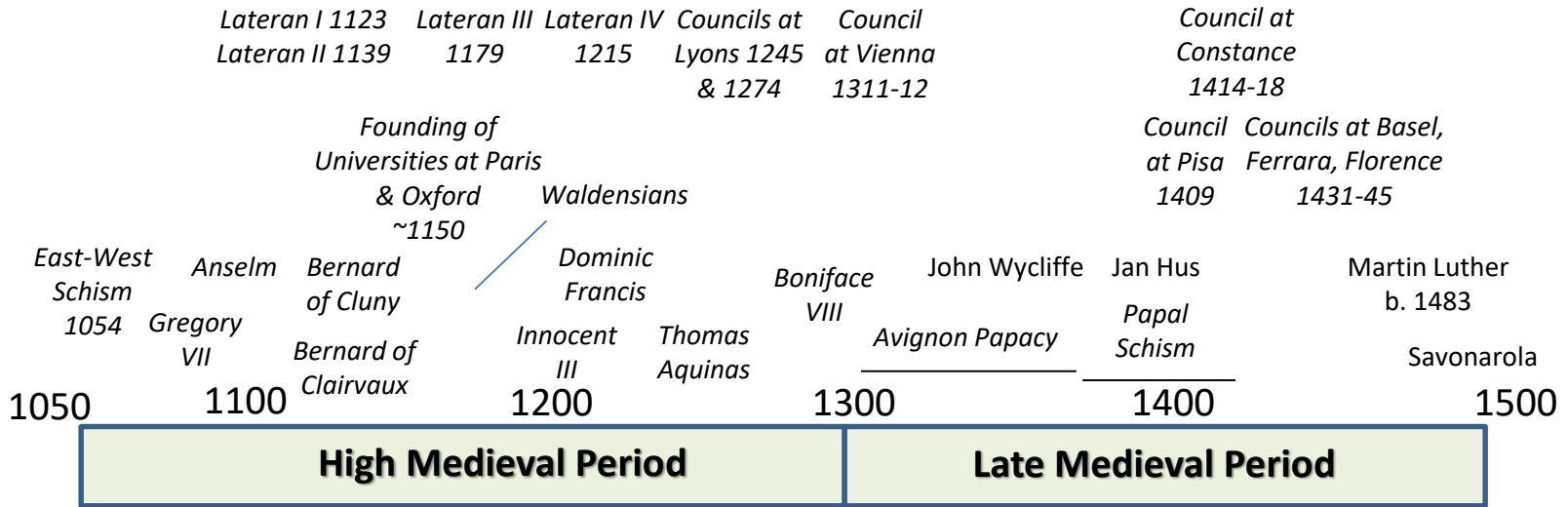
Vikings capture Paris

Beowulf Manuscript



Arthur?
Clovis

Medieval Timeline 1050 - 1500



Norman Conquest of England

Brother Cadfael
Ellis Peters



Crusaders take Jerusalem
1099

The Middle Eastern Crusades

Fall of Jerusalem
1187

Latin Occupation of Constantinople
1204



Henry II & Thomas Becket
Magna Carta

Dante Alighieri

The Black Death



Geoffrey Chaucer

Hundred Years War
Agincourt



Joan of Arc



Fall of Constantinople

Christopher Columbus



Back-up Slides

Kings, Emperors, Popes 500 AD – 1000 AD

	500	600	700	800	900	1000
ENGLAND		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various from Anglo-Saxon "Heptarchy" - Kent - East Saxons (Essex) - South Saxons (Sussex) - East Anglia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Northumbria (Bernicia & Deira) - Mercia - West Saxons (Wessex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offa (Mercia) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alfred (Wessex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edward the Elder Aethelstan the Glorious Edmund I Eadred Eadwig Edgar the Peaceable Edward the Martyr Aethelred the Unready
HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charlemagne - Louis the Pius - Charles the Bald - Charles the Fat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Henry - Otto I - Otto II - Otto III 	
FRANCE					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hugh Capet - Robert II 	
POPES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Symmachus - Hormisdas - John - Vigilius - Pelagius II - Gregory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (Gregory) - Honorius - Sergius 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gregory II - Gregory III - Zacharias - Stephen II - Adrian - Leo III 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (Leo III) - Nicholas I 		

Lists not exhaustive – some filtered for importance

Kings, Emperors, Popes 1000 AD – 1500 AD

	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500
ENGLAND	(Aethelred the Unready) Svein Forkbeard Edmund Ironside Cnut Harold Harefoot Harthacnut	Harold / William I Edward the Confessor William II	Henry I Stephen Henry II Richard I Lionheart	John Henry III Edward I Edward II	Edward III Richard II Henry IV Henry V	Henry VI Edward IV / Henry VI Richard III Henry VII
HRE	- (Otto III) - Henry II - Conrad II - Henry III - Henry IV	- (Henry IV) - Henry V - House of Hohenstaufen	- Otto IV - Frederick II - Houses of Staufen & Hohenstaufen			- House of Habsburg
FRANCE	- (Robert II) - Henry I - Philip I	- (Philip I) - Louis VI - Louis VII - Philip II Augustus	- (Philip II Augustus) - Louis VIII - Louis IX - Philip III - Philip IV	- (Philip IV) - Philip V - Charles IV	- Philip VI - John II - Charles V - Charles VI	- (Charles VI) - Charles VII - Louis XI - Charles VIII
POPES	- Leo IX - Victor II - Stephen IX - Nicholas II - Alexander II - Gregory VII - Urban VI	- Paschal II - Calixtus II - Alexander III - Innocent III	- (Innocent III) - Gregory IX - Celestine V - Boniface VIII	(Boniface VIII)- Benedict XI Clement V John XXII Benedict XII Clement VI Innocent VI Urban V	- Gregory XI - Urban VI - Clement VII - Boniface IX - Benedict XIII	- (Benedict XIII) - Innocent VII - Gregory XII - Alexander V - John XXIII - Martin V - Eugene IV - Nicholas V

Lists not exhaustive – some filtered for importance

Theology – The Western Church Councils

Council	Year	Pope	Context	Issues & Decisions
Lateran I	1123	Callistus II	Lay investiture of clergy is an issue throughout the Middle Ages. We looked at the conflict from 1075-1085 between Pope Gregory VII who took a strong stand against lay investiture and Emperor Henry IV who appointed his own Archbishop of Milan.	<p>Confirmed Concordat of Worms between Papacy and Empire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spiritual authority can emanate only from the church but emperor can decide contested elections. Role of clergy man as landed magnate is subservient to the emperor. - Abolished claim of emperors to interfere in papal elections
Lateran II	1139	Honorius II	Late 11 th century reformers seek to outlaw wives and concubines for priests, deacons, and sub-deacons to prevent impurity. Previously priests were allowed to marry so this encounters heavy resistance. Enforcement by Popes Alexander II and Gregory VII is equally enthusiastic. The issue results in appearance of “neo-Donatism”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condemns and represses marriage and concubinage for priests, deacons, sub-deacons, monks, nuns - Fixes period and duration of Truce of God - Prohibits jousts or tournaments that jeopardize life - Excommunication of laymen who refuse to pay tithes to bishops
Lateran III	1179	Alexander III	Conducted at the conclusion of a schism led by anti-pope Callistus III. Much of the council was focused on recovering from the schism and preventing future schisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determined method of Papal election by Cardinals only requiring 2/3 vote - Condemned Waldensian heresy - Forbids extraction of money for performance of the sacraments (especially marriage and burial) - Forbids clerics to receive women in their houses - Rules relating to asylums for lepers

Theology – The Western Church Councils

Council	Year	Pope	Context	Issues & Decisions
Lateran IV (The Great Council)	1215	Innocent III	Pope Innocent presents dozens of canons to a large gathering of leadership in the church for approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dogma of Transubstantiation - Exhortation to Greeks to reunite with the Roman Church - Proclamation of Papal Primacy (then Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem) - Annual councils to be held for reform of clerical morals - Forbids establishments of new monastic orders (too great diversity breeds confusion in the Church) - Forbids judicial trial by water or hot iron - Confession to priest and Communion minimally once per year - Legal procedures for charges brought against clergy



Modern day aerial view of Archbasilica of St. John Lateran and Palace in Rome

Theology – The Western Church Councils

Council	Year	Pope	Context	Issues & Decisions
Lyons I	1245	Innocent IV	Emperor Frederick II carried on a long conflict with the popes. He was excommunicated by Gregory IX for not crusading despite a severe fever affecting a large portion of Frederick's army. Later he made a crusade against the wishes of the Pope and briefly crowned himself King of Jerusalem. Conflict continued between Emperor and Pope over political issues in Italy and other matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Declared Emperor Frederick II deposed. Little effect as many secular lords backed the emperor and the Pope had no means to enforce - Obligated the Cistercian monastic order to pay tithes - Decided Cardinals should wear red hats
Lyons II	1274	Gregory X	Council occurs shortly after the end of the Latin occupation of Constantinople. Two important medieval church figures die during the council. St. Thomas Aquinas on the way and St. Bonaventure in Lyons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attempted to achieve union of two churches – east and west. Short term agreements but nothing permanent (ambassadors of Greek clergy were present) - Cardinals shall not leave the conclave for a papal election until a pope is elected
Vienna	1311-1312	Clement V (Avignon)	Charges of heresy against the order of the Knights Templars were under investigation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Against the advice of the committee examining evidence and under pressure from the French king suppression of the Knights Templars is declared - King of France is absolved for his actions against Boniface VIII and the Church
Constance	1414-1418	Gregory XII (Rome) John XXIII (Pisan) Benedict XIII (Avignon)	A council of Pisa (1409) had attempted to restore the unity of the Western Church under one pope. It failed resulting in three popes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of Great Western Schism – Martin V emerges as single Pope - Council has authority over Pope (never receives papal confirmation) - Writings of Wycliffe declared heretical - Condemnation and execution of John Hus