

## Summary for Medieval (500-1500) Church History Class

### Topic 1: Introduction (Covered Week 1)

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>Why study church history?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It continues the story of God's people</li> <li>- We can learn from how problems similar to ones we face were addressed in the past</li> <li>- Connection to the "great cloud of [Christian] witnesses" across time</li> </ul>	Hebrews 11, 12:1	
<p>Review "Quiz" to highlight some items at the dawn of the Medieval period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christianity concentrated in Asia Minor, Middle East, North Africa</li> <li>- A New Testament canon was in existence</li> <li>- "Orthodox" statements on relationship between Father and Son, the nature of Jesus, dealing with lapsed clergy and lay people, and salvation by grace had been agreed to at the church councils</li> <li>- Despite the fall of the western Roman Empire in 476, the Eastern (Byzantine) Empire survived</li> <li>- Some of the barbarians who overran the Western Empire in the 5<sup>th</sup> century had been exposed to Christianity – often Arian Christianity</li> </ul>		
<p>We discussed the Medieval Period (500-1500) by contrasting it with the relatively sophisticated society of the Roman Empire. We listed broad characteristics of the Modern Period to establish criteria for the transition to it from the Medieval Period.</p>		
<p>We took a quick walk through the Medieval Period to gain context within historical and literary events of the period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rapid expansion of Islam from early 7<sup>th</sup> to early 8<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- Viking raids into Britain &amp; mainland Europe – late 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- <i>Beowulf</i> manuscript – dated toward end of 1<sup>st</sup> Millennium</li> <li>- East West Schism - 1054</li> <li>- Middle East Crusades - ~1100 to ~1300</li> <li>- Dante's <i>Divine Comedy</i> – early 14<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- The Black Death – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- Chaucer's <i>Canterbury Tales</i> – Late 14<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- Hundred Years War (England &amp; France – early 14<sup>th</sup> to mid-15<sup>th</sup> century)</li> </ul>		

### Topic 2: Transition from Ancient to Medieval (Covered Week 2)

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>Overview of barbarians at dawn of the Medieval Ages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Franks – Clovis' conversion, France</li> <li>- Burgundians – conquered by Franks</li> <li>- Anglo-Saxons – pagans into England</li> <li>- Celts – pagans native to outer regions of modern UK</li> <li>- Visigoths – Arians reasonably tolerant of Christians, Spain</li> <li>- Ostrogoths – Arians intolerant of Christians, Italy</li> <li>- Vandals – Arians in north Africa. Conquered by Muslims</li> <li>- Lombards – pagans long term conflict with church in Rome</li> </ul>		<p><i>I characterized the Lombards as pagans. While they started out that way at least their aristocracy was converted to Arianism by the time they invaded Italy.</i></p>

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Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
Pre-Medieval influences on the Medieval Church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jerome &amp; the Latin Vulgate</li> <li>- Augustine of Hippo – Donatists, Arians, fall of Rome (the church, grace)</li> <li>- Leo the Great (papal primacy and connection to Simon Peter)</li> </ul>	Mark 6:12, I Tim 5:17, (II Maccabees 12:43-44); Ephesians 2:8,9, Psalm 46:4; Matthew 16:18	
The Nicene Creed from the Council of Constantinople <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Filioque clause</li> </ul>	Mark 1:8, John 14:26, John 20:21-22	

### *Topic 3: The Byzantine Empire and Eastern Orthodoxy (Covered Week 3)*

Key Points		Bible Verses
A historical overview of the Byzantine Empire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Justinian attempts to re-establish the old Roman empire</li> <li>- Constant conflict with Slavs, Persians, and Muslims</li> <li>- Constantinople falls to Muslims in 1453</li> </ul>		I Kings 5:5
A theological overview of the Eastern Church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The church of the seven councils</li> <li>- Focus on the unknowable, mystical</li> <li>- Tradition is the witness of the Holy Spirit</li> <li>- Deification of humanity</li> <li>- Icons</li> </ul>		Matthew 18:20
Internal Doctrinal Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monophysitism</li> <li>- Icons</li> </ul>		Exodus 20:3,4
East – West Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primacy of Rome?</li> <li>- The Filioque Issue</li> <li>- Schism in 1054</li> </ul>		John 15:26, John 20:21,22
Link to Answers in Genesis discussion of Eastern Orthodoxy from 4/12/17 <a href="https://answersingenesis.org/world-religions/eastern-orthodoxy/">https://answersingenesis.org/world-religions/eastern-orthodoxy/</a>		

### *Topic 4: The Spread of Christianity (Covered Week 4)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
Four main centers of Medieval evangelism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rome</li> <li>- England / Ireland (after they are converted)</li> <li>- Constantinople</li> <li>- Persia</li> </ul>		

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Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The conversion of Ireland – pagan to Christian evangelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Importance of Irish church in preserving classical and Christian documents (Book of Kells, Lindisfarne Gospels)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Irish missionaries to Scotland, England, continental Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Columba to modern day Scotland</li> <li>o Aidan to northern England - Lindisfarne</li> <li>o Columbanus to European mainland</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Acts 1:8	
<p>England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The re-conversion of England (from Rome and Ireland) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Importance of the Venerable Bede in capturing this story. <i>The Ecclesiastical History of England</i></li> <li>o Pope Gregory sends Augustine (of Canterbury) to evangelize the Angles (or angels)</li> <li>o Key conversions of Kings – Ethelbert (Kent), Edwin (Northumbria) – the sparrow and the banquet hall</li> <li>o War, marriages, baptisms, setbacks, syncretism</li> <li>o Irish Christians and Roman Christians settle differences at Whitby in 664 (Easter and tonsures, Rome wins)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- English (Anglo-Saxon) missionaries to mainland Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Wilfrid and Willibrord</li> <li>o Boniface and Thor's oak tree</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<p>Charlemagne and the spread of Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Charlemagne's ancestors gradually wrestle the crown of the Franks from their Merovingian predecessors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Importance of alliance with the Church, Pope, and wandering missionaries from Ireland and England to this process</li> <li>o Pepin (Charlemagne's father) crowned by Pope Stephen in 751 during first papal trip across the alps</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Charlemagne crowned Holy Roman Emperor Christmas Day 800 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Spreads Christianity through military conquest</li> <li>o Emphasizes Christian education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<p>Why did Medieval pagans and Arians convert? – All within God's sovereignty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forced</li> <li>- Societal standing / advantage</li> <li>- Power over neighboring gods</li> <li>- The Gospel &amp; conviction of sin</li> </ul> <p>Wheat and tares will be separated at the appropriate time</p>	<p>Mark 9:40,41;</p> <p>Matthew 13:30</p>	
<p>Link to article on the discovery of remains of a church on Lindisfarne. Aidan's original? (Note: You must take or decline a brief survey to enable the text of the article to appear)</p> <p><a href="http://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk/news/is-this-st-aidan-s-first-church-on-holy-island-1-8618276">http://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk/news/is-this-st-aidan-s-first-church-on-holy-island-1-8618276</a></p>		

*Topic 5: Learning and Theology (Covered Week 5)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>Boethius (480 – 524)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The liberal arts quadrivium (arithmetic, geometry, music, astronomy)</li> <li>- <u>The Consolation of Philosophy</u> Written between imprisonment and execution (likely false charge) Why do bad things happen to good people? How do we reconcile God's foreknowledge with man's free will?</li> </ul>		
<p>Dionysius the Pseudo-Areopagite (late 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> century)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Originally thought to work of Dionysius mentioned in Acts 17 Textual analysis convincingly places writing in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- Apophatic Theology</li> <li>- Hierarchies celestial and ecclesiastical As heaven has its hierarchy so should the church on earth</li> </ul>	Acts 17:34	
<p>Cassiodorus (490 – 585) &amp; Isidore of Seville (560 – 636)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cassiodorus and duty of monasteries to transcribe documents</li> <li>- Isidore's <u>Etymologies</u> Attempt to capture all knowledge of the time (medicine, God and hierarchy in heaven and earth, the church, languages and kingdoms, humankind, animals and birds, agriculture, ships, houses, clothing, domestic concerns)</li> </ul>		Multiple views on Cassiodorus' birth and death dates. He did live to an old age.
<p>Bede (The Father of English History) 672-735</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>The Ecclesiastical History of England</u> History of Christianity in England focusing on Anglo-Saxon conversion Refutation of Pelagius (man capable of becoming sin free) Many stories of relics and relic related miracles</li> <li>- Sources for Cuthbert's letter on Bede's death Previous letters in support of sainthood for others Scripture Benedict's Rule</li> </ul>	Hebrews 10:31, 12:6	
<p>Carolingian Renaissance (Charlemagne lived 747 – 814)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education for Church and Government Emphasis on standardization (e.g., for Latin) Education targeted broadly but especially for clergy</li> <li>- The Palace School at Aachen Alcuin of York is headmaster Scholars from across the continent learn and teach there</li> </ul>	Proverbs 2:6	
<p>Radbertus and Ratramnus (9<sup>th</sup> century)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Eucharist debate Radbertus – Real presence of Christ's body and blood Ratramnus – Spiritual presence of Christ's body and blood</li> <li>- 1050 Ratramnus' position (spiritual presence) is condemned</li> <li>- 1215 Catholic church officially adopts transubstantiation (real presence)</li> </ul>	Matthew 26:26	

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*Topic 6: Monasticism (Covered Week 6)*

<b>Key Points</b>	<b>Bible Verses</b>	<b>Post Class updates, answers to questions</b>
Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why monasticism?</li> <li>- Pre-medieval monastics               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Anthony of Egypt</li> <li>o The Stylites</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Characteristics of western European medieval monasticism               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Practical</li> <li>o Communal</li> <li>o In alliance with the Church</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Luke 18:22	
Benedict of Nursia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Benedictine Rule governs most western monasteries for centuries</li> <li>- Communal prayer time               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Vigils (midnight)</li> <li>o Matins, prime, tierce, sext, none, vespers, compline</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Psalms 119:62, Psalm 119:164	
French Reforms – still under Benedictine Rule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bernard of Cluny and the Cluniacs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <u>Contempt for the World</u></li> <li>o Built great churches</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Bernard of Clairvaux and the Cistercians               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Reform of both monasteries and the church</li> <li>o Medieval Augustinian – <u>On Grace and Free Will</u></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
Franciscans and Dominicans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Francis of Assisi and The Order of the Lesser Brothers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Emphasis on poverty</li> <li>o Love God, love people</li> <li>o How much poverty is enough?</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Dominic and the Dominicans (Domini Canus)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Order of preachers</li> <li>o Focus on scholarship</li> <li>o Mission to find and stamp out heresy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Matthew 22:36-39,	
Concluding Thoughts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monasticism presents good and bad</li> <li>- Let us study both and learn</li> </ul>	Titus 3:10-11	

*Topic 7: Church and State (Covered Week 7)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>Overview of 12<sup>th</sup> century western Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key players – Holy Roman Empire, Papacy, France, England</li> <li>- Characteristics of western Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Settlements, less migration</li> <li>■ A sense of nation and nationalism emerging</li> <li>■ Monastery and cathedral schools evolving into universities</li> <li>■ A well organized and powerful Church</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
Key church vs. state issue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When the king and the pope disagree, who prevails?</li> </ul>	I Samuel 26:9 Matthew 16:19 I Peter 2:13-14, 17 Matthew 28:18	
Case 1 – Gregory VII (Pope) vs. Henry IV (Emperor) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary issue lay investiture</li> <li>- Gregory excommunicates Henry and Henry does penance</li> <li>- Gregory loses backing of moderate bishops; Henry invades Rome</li> <li>- Gregory replaced by Clement III and dies in exile</li> </ul>		
Case 2 – Henry (King) and Becket (Archbishop) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary issue is jurisdiction over criminal clergy</li> <li>- Henry appoints friend and Chancellor Becket Archbishop of Canterbury anticipating a “yes” man</li> <li>- Becket takes church position against Henry when the two conflict</li> <li>- Henry laments when Becket excommunicates bishops who sided with Henry concerning the anointment of his son by the Archbishop of York</li> <li>- Henry’s overzealous knights assassinate Becket at Canterbury Cathedral</li> </ul>	Acts 5:29	
Case 3 – Boniface VIII (Pope) vs. Philip IV (King) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Boniface cites his authority to depose kings and attempts to do so to Philip when they collide over church taxation, lay investiture, and the papal bull giving Boniface this authority</li> <li>- Philip defies Boniface and convinces nobles to go to Rome where they capture and imprison Boniface who dies a prisoner</li> <li>- Shortly afterward the papacy begins a 70-year exile in Avignon, France</li> </ul>	I Chronicles 9:1	
Church and State Summary		

### *Topic 8: The Papacy (Covered Week 8)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
The Pope who can also be called the church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideal concept of the Medieval Papacy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Universal Bishop</li> <li>o Vicar through whom Peter exercises his power</li> <li>o Supreme temporal lord of the West</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
The Primitive Age (500-1050) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Characteristics of the period – influence beyond Rome is very limited. Generally secular rulers influence popes more than vice versa.</li> <li>- Gregory I – expanded Christian influence in England and Spain, writer (more known for aggregating material of others than for original material) whose influence spans the middle ages, the meaning beyond literal in reading scripture</li> <li>- Nicholas I – struggles with renegade archbishops, focus on morality and marriage, exchange with the Eastern Church</li> <li>- The dark portion of the Primitive Age – murder and mayhem rocks the papacy from the late 9<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> century</li> </ul>	II Timothy 4:21  Numbers 21:9  Mark 10:9	

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Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>The Age of Growth (1050-1300)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Characteristics of the period – transition from vicar of Peter to vicar of Christ, expanded administrative machinery and political influence, schism with the Eastern Church</li> <li>- Leo IX – Leads reform movement with Cardinal Hildebrand (future Gregory VII) and Cardinal Humbert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Clerical celibacy and effort to curtail simony</li> <li>o Very strong statements (on paper) of papal authority</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Innocent III – arguably the most powerful medieval Pope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Successful interventions with temporal rulers</li> <li>o Heads Fourth Lateran Council in 1215</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Acts 8:18</p> <p>I Corinthians 7:32-33</p>	
<p>The Age of Unrest (1300-1500)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Characteristics of the period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o War, plague, corruption, nationalism, and decline and division in the papacy</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Avignon and the Babylonian Exile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Avignon popes widely viewed as puppets of the French king</li> <li>o Pope Gregory XI returns to Rome in 1378</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The Western Schism (1379-1417) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Forces European countries to choose which pope to follow</li> <li>o Schism expands to 3 popes (Rome, Avignon, Pisa) until unity is finally restored at Constance with Pope Martin V</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Micah 3:11</p> <p>Mark 3:25</p>	
<p>Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The reach of papal power is very limited between 500 and 1000</li> <li>- Peak of Papal power is under Innocent III early in the 13<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>- Nationalism, the move to Avignon, and the Great Western Schism result in decline in papal prestige and power in the period from 1300-1500</li> </ul>		

### *Topic 9: The Sacramental System & Medieval Doctrine (Covered Week 9)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
<p>The seven sacraments of the Medieval Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baptism</li> <li>- Confirmation</li> <li>- Eucharist (Communion)</li> <li>- Penance</li> <li>- Extreme Unction</li> <li>- Ordination</li> <li>- Marriage</li> </ul>	<p>I Corinthians 11:24-25</p> <p>Mark 6:12 (Vulgate)</p> <p>James 5:14-15</p> <p>Ephesians 5:32</p>	
<p>Indulgences and the Treasury of Merit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wicked and excommunicated to hell</li> <li>- Saints to heaven, excess merit to the treasury</li> <li>- The rest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Can purchase merit from the treasury via the Pope</li> <li>o Still likely to end up in purgatory</li> <li>o To heaven through work in purgatory and posthumous indulgences and masses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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The Western Councils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lateran I – spiritual authority lies only in the church (not king)</li> <li>- Lateran II – Clerical celibacy</li> <li>- Lateran III – Papal election process, condemns Waldensians</li> <li>- Lateran IV – Papal primacy, transubstantiation, minimally annual confession to priest and eucharist</li> <li>- Lyons I – Deposed Frederick II but no force to back it up</li> <li>- Lyons II – Attempt at reunion with the Eastern Church, papal election process</li> <li>- Vienna – Suppression of the Knights Templar</li> <li>- Constance – end of the western schism, execution of Hus</li> </ul>		
Scholastic Theology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The basics – theology and philosophy (Plato then Aristotle)</li> <li>- Anselm – ontological argument for God’s existence, writings on why Christ became man and the atonement</li> <li>- Thomas of Aquino (Aquinas)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Apologetics – Summa Contra Gentiles</li> <li>o Theology – Summa Theologiae</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Romans 1:20	

*Topic 10: Previews of the Reformation (Cover Week 10)*

Key Points	Bible Verses	Post Class updates, answers to questions
Gottschalk and Florus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advocates of salvation and condemnation by grace in the 9<sup>th</sup> century</li> </ul>	Romans 8:29 and 9:21	
Peter Waldo and the Waldensians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lay preachers of the Bible despite papal prohibition</li> <li>- Humility and poverty of Christ vs. grandiosity and power of the Church</li> </ul>	Acts 5:29	
Thomas Bradwardine and John Wycliffe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Salvation by grace</li> <li>- All authority given by God and can be taken back</li> <li>- Bibles for all in their native language</li> <li>- Centrality of biblical sermon in worship service</li> </ul>	II Timothy 3:16	
Jan Hus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preaching in the native tongue</li> <li>- God alone forgives – no indulgences</li> <li>- Execution at Council of Constance</li> </ul>		
Girolamo Savonarola <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appalled by the worldliness of Florence</li> <li>- Becomes a powerful and often apocalyptic preacher</li> <li>- Disputes with the Medicis, the nobles, and the popes</li> <li>- (Somewhat desperate) attempt to run Florence as a godly city</li> </ul>	Isaiah 2:2	

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