

Church History

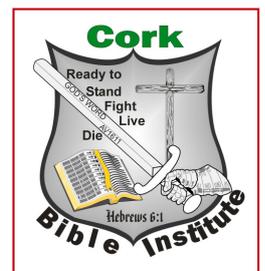
Christianity's Trek Through Time

A Bible-Believing AV1611 Study Guide



Student Edition

Cork Bible Institute



By Craig Ledbetter
Pastor of the **Bible Baptist Church of Ballincollig**
Unit B, Innishmore, Enterprise Business Park,
Ballincollig, Cork, Ireland
Tel: ++353-21-487-1234
E-Mail: biblebc@gmail.com
Web: www.biblebc.com
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Course Requirements

I. Course Description

- A. This course is an extensive exploration of the effect of Christ on this world through his people, and the counter-offensive of Satan against it.
- B. We will look into the lives of hundreds of key people, and movements that are direct outgrowths of the teachings of Jesus the Messiah, as well as false doctrines and false movements that fought against the Gospel.

II. Course Objectives - After successful completion of this course students should have:

- A. A good working knowledge of the people and events that constitute Church History, as opposed to just History in general;
- B. Some familiarity with different struggles between the Christian, and the world, the flesh and the devil;
- C. An awareness of the need for strong Biblical; living and believing as opposed to just following along with your birth-religion, and with the general flow of history;
- D. A general structure to Church History that goes beyond just names and dates and events;
- E. Awareness of how Christians HAVE to learn the lessons of history, and once again seek to turn our world upside down;

III. Required Textbooks

- A. **King James Bible.**
- B. **Christianity Through the Centuries**, by Earl Cairns

IV. Additional Recommended Reading Materials

- A. Philip Schaff's , **History of the Christian Church**
- B. **The History of the New Testament Church**, Volume I and II, by Peter Ruckman

V. Course Requirements

- A. Various chapters in the textbook, **Christianity Through the Centuries**, will be assigned from time to time.
- B. The filling in of all class notes.
- C. Completion of the Study Exam at the end of the Course
- D. Class attendance and participation. It is imperative that students commit to attending the entire semester of class sessions (certainly emergencies will be recognized that might preclude attendance). You are graded also based upon your participation in class discussions.
- E. You will need to write a Research Paper on a religious movement of your interest. Approximately 2,000 words minimum (4 pages).
- F. Due date: All course materials are due on _____.

VI. Grading Summary

- A. Attendance and Participation 15%
- B. Class Notes 15%
- C. Research Paper 25%
- D. Section Quizzes 20%
- E. Final Exam 25%

Introduction - Why study Church History?

I. Introduction to Church History

- A. The only thing that man learns from history is that _____.
- B. The Christian today is ignorant of his or her heritage
1. What happened between Acts 28 and today?
 2. Where did some of the things we do in church come from? Bible principles vs. traditions/opinions ... cultural differences ...
- C. The knowledge of church history is second only to a knowledge of your _____
- D. Secular history ignores the facts of _____. Therefore general history is tainted, biased and incomplete without God's view on things. Some historians pretend some things never happened, because of their misunderstanding of what the Church is.
- E. Church History shows the Hand of God preserving:
1. His Word
 2. His Church
 3. His People ... the Jews/Israel
- F. Church History is for _____
1. To see your heritage
 2. To see how your Christian ancestors faced their problems – very different than secular
 3. Church history is the focal point of all history ... “_____”.
 4. To show the signs of degeneration that can happen within any church or movement.
- G. In church history we will find the three greatest threats and enemies to the Word of God (Col 2:8; 1Tim 6:20):
1. _____.
 2. _____.
 3. _____.

H. The Bible speaks to 3 classes of people (1 Cor. 10:32):

1. **The _____** - The first 2000 years of history God dealt with the Gentiles from Adam to the call of Abraham. Speaks directly or indirectly to Individuals
2. **The _____** - (Israel the wife of God -Hos. 2:2; 16-23) The second 2000 years of history God dealt with a nation (Israel) consisting of the Jews from the call of Abraham to their rejection of Jesus Christ as their Messiah (Reject. the Trinity). Speaks through individuals and the Scriptures.
3. **The _____** - (Bride of Christ - Jn. 3:29; Rev. 21.2; Eph. 5) The third 2000 years of history, which we are presently in, God is dealing with the Church. The Church is made up of saved Gentiles and Jews. Christ is the Bridegroom (Head) and the Church is the Bride (Body of Christ). “The church” remained a mystery until revealed to Paul -Eph. 3:1-10
4. Each have a particular place in the plan of God.

II. Church & Baptist Continuity / Perpetuity

A. What It is NOT

1. **IT IS NOT** ... Apostolic succession - as claimed by the popes.
2. **IT IS NOT** ... An identifiable unbroken chain of churches.
3. **IT IS NOT** ... The Perpetuity - of the name "Baptist".

B. Biblical proof of the continuity

1. **This command becomes meaningless if the church doesn't exist.** *Matthew 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the _____: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.*
2. **Command given to all apostles individually and corporately, as a body ... it has to exist. (Mt 28:19,20)**
3. **Ordinance to the church ... Baptism, and the Lord's supper expect us to be here until He comes (1Cor 11:25-26; 12:13)**
4. **Why would He promise/prophesy something and let it disappear or not make it happen?** (*Eph 2:19-22*)
5. **Instructions on the church ... pastors, deacons, members.** *1 Timothy 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth*
6. **How can you bring glory when there is no church?** *Ephesians 3:21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*
7. **Christ expects it to be here when He comes.** *Ephesians 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*
8. **Who would preserve the word? Individuals & the church. Keep each other in balance.**
 - a. *Psalms 12:6,7 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*
 - b. *Psalms 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*
9. **Promised to preserve his saints and Israel (OT & NT).**
 - a. *Psalms 37:28 For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.*
 - b. *Colossians 1:4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,*
 - c. *Deuteronomy 30:1 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,*

C. "MARKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH" ("Trail of Blood" J.M. Carroll)

1. **Its Head and Founder** ... _____. He is the law-giver; the Church is only the executive.
 - a. *Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*
 - b. *Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*
2. **Its only rule of faith and practice** ... _____. (2 Tim. 3:15-17) *That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*
3. **Its name** ... "_____" "_____." (Matt. 16:18; Rev. 1:20; 22:16)
 - a. Not "fellowship" or "group" etc
 - b. *Revelation 1:20 ... The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.*
 - c. *Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. ...*
4. **Its polity** ... _____ ... all members equal. (Matt. 20:24-28; Matt. 23:5-12)
 - a. *Matthew 20:26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; (not in name or title, but in deed.)*

5. **Its members** ... Only _____ people. (Eph. 2:21; 1 Peter 2:5)
 - a. *Ephesians 2:21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:*
 - b. *1 Peter 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*
6. **Its ordinances** ... Believers' Baptism, The Lord's Supper, and loving the brethren (Matt. 28:19-20)
7. **Its officers** ... _____ and _____. (1 Tim. 3:1-16)
8. **Its work** ... Getting folks saved, baptizing them (with a baptism that meets all the requirements of God's Word), teaching them (“to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you”). (Matt. 28:16-20)
9. **Its financial plan – voluntary giving**
 - a. *2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*
 - b. *“Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel,” (1 Cor. 9:14)*
10. **Its weapons of warfare** ... _____, not carnal. (2 Cor. 10:4; Eph. 6:10-20)
11. **Its independence** ... Separation of Church and State. *Matthew 22:21 Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.*
12. **In any town there are many different churches--all claiming to be the true church. You can take the marks, or teachings, of the different churches and find the ones which have these marks, or doctrines, taught in God's Word. These are the true churches, that are following the doctrines and principles of a New Testament church.**
13. **Quotes from “Trail of Blood”:**
 - a. *J.M. Carroll* found much church history--most of it seemed to be about the Catholics and Protestants. The history of Baptists, he discovered, was written in blood. They were the hated people of the Dark Ages. Their preachers and people were put into prison and untold numbers were put to death. The world has never seen anything to compare with the suffering, the persecutions, heaped upon believers by the Catholic Hierarchy during the Dark Ages. The Pope was the world's dictator. This is why the Ana-Baptists, before the Reformation, called the Pope **The Anti-Christ**.
 - b. Their history is written in the legal documents and papers of those ages. It is through these records that the “TRAIL OF BLOOD” winds its way as you find such statements ...
 - 1) “At Zurich, after many disputations between Zuinglius and the Ana-Baptists, the Senate made an Act, that if any presume to re-baptize those who were baptized before (i.e. as infants) they should be drowned. At Vienna many Ana-Baptists were tied together in chains that one drew the other after him into the river, wherein they were all suffocated (drowned).” (*Vida Supra*, p. 61)
 - 2) “In the year of our Lord 1539 two Ana-Baptists were burned beyond Southwark, and a little before them 5 Dutch Ana-Baptists were burned in Smithfield,” (Fuller, *Church History*.)
 - 3) “In 1160 a company of Paulicians (Baptists) entered Oxford. Henry II ordered them to be branded on the forehead with hot irons, publicly whipped them through the streets of the city, to have their garments cut short at the girdles, and be turned into the open country. The villages were not to afford them any shelter or food and they perished a lingering death from cold and hunger.” (Moore, *Earlier and Later Nonconformity in Oxford*, p. 12.)
 - c. **The old Chronicler Stowe**, A.D. 1533, relates: “The 25th of May--in St. Paul's Church, London--examined 19 men and 6 women. Fourteen of them were condemned; a man and a woman were burned at Smithfield, the other twelve of them were sent to towns there to be burned.”
 - d. **Froude, the English historian**, says of these Ana-Baptist martyrs ...
 - 1) “The details are all gone, their names are gone. Scarcely the facts seem worth mentioning. For them no Europe was agitated, no court was ordered in mourning, no papal hearts trembled with indignation. At their death the world looked on complacent, indifferent or exulting. Yet here, out of 25 poor men and women were found 14, who by no terror of stake or torture could be tempted to say they believed what they did not believe. History has for them no word of praise, yet they, too, were not giving their blood in vain. Their lives might have been as useless as the lives of most of us. In their death they assisted to pay the purchase of English freedom.”
 - 2) Likewise, in writings of their enemies as well as friends, Dr. Carroll found, their history and that

their trail through the ages was indeed bloody:

- e. **Cardinal Hosius** (Catholic, 1524), President of the Council of Trent: "Were it not that the baptists have been grievously tormented and cut off with the knife during the past twelve hundred years, they would swarm in greater number than all the Reformers." (Hosius, *Letters, Apud Opera*, pp. 112, 113.)
- f. **Sir Isaac Newton**: "The Baptists are the only body of known Christians that have never _____ with Rome."
- g. **Mosheim** (Lutheran): "Before the rise of Luther and Calvin, there lay secreted in almost all the countries of Europe persons who adhered _____ to the principles of modern Dutch Baptists."
- h. **Edinburg Cyclopedia (Presbyterian):**
 - 1) "It must have already occurred to our readers that the Baptists are the same sect of Christians that were formerly described as Ana-Baptists. Indeed this seems to have been their leading principle from the time of Tertullian to the present time."
 - 2) Tertullian was born just fifty years after the death of the Apostle John.

Biblical Doctrine

I. **Doctrine** - 1 Tim. 4:6;13,16

- A. What Is Doctrine? A doctrine is simply _____.
- B. 56 times in Bible: 6 in O.T. and 50 in N.T.. Mentioned 8 times in 1 Timothy and 4 times in 2 Timothy. The qualifications of a good minister and Christian is the fact that they KNOW sound doctrine.
- C. You cannot grow as a Christian if you do not know basic doctrine. All false doctrine is truth misplaced
- D. Deut. 32:1, 2 - That's what doctrine should do! - 1st mention (Job 11:4; Pro. 4:2 -later)

II. **Why is doctrine so important?**

- A. Doctrine is the primary reason for the inspiration of the scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and it should be the objective of any serious Bible study. A sincere Bible student will always ask, " _____ " (Rom. 4:3) not "What does my church teach?" or "What is the standard interpretation?"
- B. **Jesus taught Doctrine. Disciples learn it.**
 - 1. Matt. 7:24-29 ... Has been teaching starting at 5:3
 - 2. Mk. 1:22, 27 ... creates authoritative teaching
 - 3. Mk. 4:2 ... used parables to teach doctrine
 - 4. John 7:15 ... Taught God's doctrine
 - 5. John 18:19-21 ... His doctrinal teaching well known
- C. **Disciples taught it** - Christians learned it.
 - 1. Acts 2:42 steadfast in _____
 - 2. Acts 4:5-14; 5:17,18; 28 " _____ " Jerusalem with it!
- D. **Learning Doctrine Causes _____** - Acts 13:12
- E. **So that you will not be lead astray by false doctrine.**
 - 1. Eph. 4:11-15 - children are easily lead astray - Pro. 4:1,2
 - 2. According to the Apostle Paul, we need to give attendance (attention) to DOCTRINE (1 Tim. 4:13), or we will end up with "doctrines of devils" (1 Tim. 4:1). Also see Isaiah 8:20.
 - 3. **False doctrines** - Romans 16:17 -beguiled 2 Cor.11:1-3; 13-15
 - a. **Doctrine of Men** -Mark 7:1-7; Col. 2:20-22 **Traditions**
 - b. **Doctrine of Vanities** - Jer. 10:8 Idols
 - c. **Doctrine of Devils** - 1 Tim. 4:1 Demonic practice; Mass;
 - d. **Doctrine of Balaam** - Rev. 2:14 compromise - integrate
 - e. **Doctrine of Nicolaitanes** - Rev. 2:15 Nico=conquer; lamanes=laymen; **Religious hierarchy**

4. How do we know what is good doctrine?

- a. Learn the Bible inside and out - 2 Tim. 3:16
- b. This is how you build your knowledge: Isa. 28:9-13 (a little at a time)
- c. Example: Paul's dispensation Col. 1:25-27; Eph. 3:1-8; Gal. 2:1-9; Acts 15:12-17
- d. Test what you think you understand. **You ought to test if it's good doctrine** - 1 Jn. 4:1-6; Rev. 2:2
 - 1) We are held accountable to learn and use the knowledge we have.
 - a) **Rightly dividing the truth ... Romans 6:17** - You believed the doctrine of salvation if you were saved.
 - b) Compare Matt. 24:13 versus Eph. 2:8,9 - there is a contradiction there if you don't rightly divide the truth! ... Salvation: endure to the end or. believe by faith?
 - 2) **2 Tim. 4:3,4** - man will not endure sound doctrine - *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*
 - 3) **2 Tim. 2:15** - Study to shew thyself... are you? Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15).
- e. Prove what you believe – be able to debate and reason out the truth to others, convincing them
- f. Change what you believe when it is shown to be wrong – always be teachable
- g. Stand firm on the great and simple truths that you have learned (2Cor 11:3; gal 1:6-0, ect)

F. If you don't learn Doctrine, then you are unskillful in the word.

- 1. Hebrews 5:11-14; Not babies but knowledgeable
- 2. 2 Tim. 2:2 - you are to be able to teach it once you know it!
- 3. Titus 1:9 – exhort ... means excite and encourage & convince!

The Biblical Church

Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22,23

I. Pictures of the church:

- A. _____ (Farming) (1 Cor.3:9-11)
- B. _____ (Eph. 2:19-22)
- C. _____ (Eph 1:23)
- D. The _____, His Wife (Eph. 5:25; Rev. 19:7)

II. Not a physical building or denomination

- A. Eph. 2:1-23 - if you are saved ____ are part of the church
- B. The Bible does not recognize any particular church or particular head of a church on the earth as the one and only “church”. The church concept is a pattern to follow in all local churches
- C. Local church and pastor = a picture of the invisible concept
- D. There are both an Invisible Church, and Visible ChurchES.

III. The Arguments - when did the Church start?

- A. Matt. 16:18; 18:17 - The Blueprint & Corner Stone is laid, which is Christ, not Peter
- B. Christ’s Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem John 12:12-19 ... groundbreaking ceremony
- C. Acts 1 & 2 - The foundation - the apostles, with Jesus being the cornerstone
- D. Eph. 3:1-6 - The building framed and fashioned, brick by brick (us) as revealed to Paul
- E. So... When did it start ?
 - 1. During Christ’s earthy ministry? _____.
 - 2. At Calvary? _____.
 - 3. At Pentecost? _____.
 - 4. Rom. 16:7; 1 Cor. 15:3; Gal. 1:13

IV. What you need for a good Building

- A. Blueprints, solid foundation & corner stone- Jesus Christ
- B. The Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-11) Death, Burial & Resurrection
- C. 1 Pet. 2:4-6 - we are lively stones
- D. 1 Ki. 6:7 - Solomon's Temple, quiet in building (us, now)
- E. Acts 4:11 - Jews reject "the Stone"

V. Quality Materials for the foundation of the Church

- A. Continuing with Jesus from Baptism of John - Acts 1:21,22
- B. Seen Jesus - Acts 4:33; 1 Cor. 9:1; 15:7-9
- C. No healing duds - Acts 5:16
- D. Mighty signs & wonders - Acts 2:43; 5:12; Rom. 15:16-19
- E. Signs - Mark 16:14-18; 2 Cor. 12:12
- F. Works greater than Jesus - John 14:11-13
- G. Try apostles - Rev. 2:2
- H. False apostles - 2 Cor. 11:13,14
- I. Knew Judas would betray - John 6:70, 71
- J. Why? To fulfill scripture - John 17:12-Psa. 109:7,8; 69:25
- K. Judas was a dead stone in a living church
- L. Lost church members - surprise in heaven
- M. Why did the apostles fill Judas' place in Acts 1?
 - 1. Jesus chose Judas after prayer - Luke 6:12,13 – so his office was vital
 - 2. Jesus chose 12 apostles, not 11 – so, Matt.19:28 needs fulfillment. *And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (Mat 19:28).*
 - 3. Peter however, got ahead of the will of God, and His timing for a replacement Apostle

VI. Christian History is not a straight course

- A. The first believers didn't have the New Testament, didn't know they had a church, and didn't know they were "Christians".
- B. They were circumcised, Sabbath observing, temple attending, pork abstaining Jews who were waiting for God to show them what they were supposed to do, following orders from 1:4.
- C. Believers were called Christians first at Antioch ... Acts 11:26
- D. They met regularly at the temple at first Acts 2:46, 47; 3:1
- E. There were going to be some growing pains, and some wrestling with old and new concepts

The Local Church - Where Christians Meet

I. What is the local church?

- A. It is a part of the ____ of Christ that meets together locally to serve God - 1 Cor. 1:2
- B. It is not a special building
 - 1. The "Church" met in the _____ at first - Acts 3:1-11
 - 2. Then, went on to meet in _____ - Rom.16:5; 1 Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15; Phil. 2
- C. There were churches in many towns

II. What is the purpose of the local church?

- A. _____ - Acts 1:8
 - 1. **Witness of What?** - 1 Cor. 15:1-17
 - 2. **Witness to whom?** - Acts 1:8
- B. _____ - 1 Cor. 14:12; Matt. 28:18-20 (FEED MY SHEEP)
 - 1. New Christians are "babes" - 1 Pet. 2:2

CHURCH HISTORY

The Local Church - Where Christians Meet

2. The church should teach them - Heb. 5:12-14
3. They should teach doctrine - Heb. 5:12-14

C. _____ – worship of the Lord Jesus Christ

1. We worship the Father AND the Son
2. We were created to please Him (Rev 4:11)
3. We come together to lift Jesus up

III. How do you get into this (local) church? - Mat. 28:18-20

A. No one is a member of a church just because they attend. Acts 9:19-28

B. The following are the rules for anybody who wants to join with a local Bible-believing Baptist Church:

1. You must be _____ and be able to prove it (John 3:1-7). You should be able to give a clear public testimony of your salvation.
2. Then, you have to be _____ by immersion.
3. You have to be in _____ in the meetings (Acts 9:28; Heb 10:25)
4. Then you have to _____.
5. _____ by those already in membership.
6. The church body will then give you their right hand of fellowship as a member in good standing, rejoicing that the Lord has added to the church (Acts 2:47)!

IV. What are the ordinances given to the Church?

- A. _____ (Acts 2:41) - Baptism is vital to mark the commitment of a new believer to Christ, and to living separated from the old life and religions of their past.
- B. _____ (“the breaking of _____,” Acts 2:42) – is meant to remind us of the high price Christ had to pay for our forgiveness! A church can remember this event as often as they want, but usually it happens about every one or two months.
- C. **Loving** _____ (Jn 15:17). This may sound a bit unusual, but Christ commanded the people of a church to love the people of that church. By doing this, God keeps us humble, and godly as a people!

V. The similarities between Universal & Local church

- A. Christ is the head of both - Eph. 5:23
- B. Christ loved and died for both - Eph. 5:25
- C. Christ has washed both spotless - Eph. 5:26,27

VI. The word “church” has five applications in the Bible:

- A. The _____ Church - Israel - Acts 7:38 (1 Chr. 13:2) (assembly, and congregation).
 1. *1 Chronicles 13:2 And David said unto all the congregation of Israel ...*
 2. Acts 7:37,38; Ex. 12:3, 6, (Assembly & Congregation over 350x in O.T.); Heb. 2:12 versus Ps. 22:22 - Moses is called a shepherd (pastor) in charge of a flock Is. 63:11
 3. The first picture of a church in the O.T. is Noah and his family. They are called “out” of a world system that is under condemnation and wrath of God (Gen. 7). This gives you a definition of the term church. A local church that is not called out (negative) to be ISOLATED (negative) and SEPARATED (negative) from the world system in which it finds itself is not a Biblical organization.
- B. General, _____ concept of the Church - The body of Christ on earth (Eph.1:22,23; 5:27)
- C. _____ of Christians (Rev. 1-3). This is the most common usage (see Rom. 16: 1,4,5 16; Acts 15:3,4,22,41; 19:32,39,41; 1 Cor. 4:17; 6:4; 7:17; 11:16; 14:4,5,12,19,23).
- D. _____ assemblies - Acts 19:37 (includes fraternities, Clubs, Masons, Elks, Lions) (assembly-adunare)
- E. A glorified church in _____ - Eph. 5:27; Heb 12:22,23 (sinlessly perfect)

VII. Seven main “churches-denominations” figured in church history:

- A. The Greek Orthodox Church - from Catholic Church
- B. The Roman Catholic Church
- C. The Lutheran Church

CHURCH HISTORY

The Local Church - Where Christians Meet

- D. The Anglican (Episcopal) Church - Congregationalist, Reformed, some Puritans
- E. The Presbyterian Church - John Knox
- F. The Methodist Church - Wesleyan & Nazarene's, Assemblies of God, Pentecostals, Church of God
- G. The Baptist Church – Annabaptists, Mennonites, Amish, Dunkers, Stundists

VIII. The unbroken line: Apostle John to Today

- A. All of these attempted to be Bible Believing Christians: 33-1995 A.D.
 - 1. Bible believing believers and Martyrs: 70-313 A.D.
 - 2. _____: 250-600 A.D. (later changed into Priscillianists, a cult)
 - 3. _____: 250-600 A.D. (Waldenses & Fratricelli later)
 - 4. _____: 490-1000 A.D. (Arians, etc.)
 - 5. Euchites & Messalines: 300-800 A.D. (Bulgarians, Manichaeans)
 - 6. _____: 300-800 A.D. (New Manicha., Vaudois, Walden.)
 - 7. _____: 600-1200 A.D. (Bulgarians, Manichaeans, Nestorians, Lyonists, Berengerians)
 - 8. Bogomiles: 800-1200 A.D. (Waldenses, Albigenses, Cathari, Picards, Beghards, Boghards, Sandalati)
 - 9. Cathari: 1200-1500 A.D. (Albigenses, Waldenses, New Manichaeans, Henricians, Petrobrusians, Lollards, Hussites)
 - 10. _____: 1200-Now A.D. (Baptists, Anabaptists, Cathari)
 - 11. _____: 1400-1700 A.D. (Baptists, Protestants, radicals, Hussites, Brethren, Mennonites)
 - 12. _____: 1520-Now A.D. (Lutherans, Calvinists, Puritans, Evangelische)
 - 13. _____: 1500-Now A.D. (Separatists, Dispensationalists, Fundamentalists, Norrisites, Ruckmanites)
- B. They are not perfect in their doctrine at all. You will find fault, and disagreement amongst them all, but that is good, and helps keep doctrine pure, and false doctrine manifest

A Biblical Outline of Church History

I. The History of the World

- A. One day = _____ (2 Peter 3:8)
- B. Outlined in Creation (Gen. 1, 2)
 1. Life comes after the fourth day - Gen 1:19,20 - 4,000 years to Christ's Death
 2. Rest comes after the sixth day - Gen. 1:31- 2:3 - 2,000 years before Millenium
 3. Church Age = 2,000 years
 4. Millennium is the last "day" of time in THIS heaven before the new heaven and earth

II. Revelation 1:11; 19-20

- A. v. 19 - Past, present & future - the whole book of Revelation and...
- B. _____ - 7 churches in Asia.
- C. _____ - 7 churches in tribulation.
- D. _____ - a picture of 7 distinct church ages.

III. This book (v. 11) is written to all churches (not individuals in the church).

- A. Angels are appearances that represent: individual people, countries, churches, etc before God.
- B. The dates I will give you for the chart will often overlap.

IV. Apostasy

- A. **Def:** an abandonment of what one has voluntarily professed; total desertion from one's faith and principles; defection, revolt; fall away from obedience to God. (Webster).
- B. **Apostasy** (Scofield): "falling away" (def.: 2 Tim 4:3,4) ... is the act of professed Christians who deliberately reject revealed truth. Specifically to (1) The Deity of Christ, (2) redemption through His atoning & redeeming sacrifice (1 Jn. 4:1-3; 2 Pet.2:1).
 1. It differs from error which may be the result of ignorance (Acts 19:1-6) or heresy which may be due to the snare of Satan (2 Tim. 2:25,26).
 2. Apostates depart from the faith but not from the outward profession of Christianity.
 3. Apostate teachers include: 2 Tim.4:3,4; 2 Pet. 2:1-19; Jude.

C. Church history must deal with local church apostasy first and then denominations second.

D. Causes of Apostasy

1. Christians lean toward the use of heathen vocabulary. e/g. Ignatius - Catholic
2. Desire to sit in authority over the Word of God - scholarship - Dr. Jehudi - Jer. 36
3. Christians alter the Word of God to defend it (1 Jn. 3:9)
4. Refusal to accept the O.T. literally - Augustine
5. Emphasis on ritual, organization & culture - Cyprian
6. Christians alter the Word of God to defend it – usually because of embarrassment
7. The ecumenical movements – the desire of people to bring everyone together, instead of contending for the faith in the Bible

E. Cycles of Apostasy – 1

1. _____ - Evangelism
2. _____ – Education ... DO NOT GO BEYOND THIS STEP ...
3. _____ - Science, Philosophy
4. _____ - Compromise (Ecumenism, Romanism, Communism)
 - a. Paganism - Original condition before #1 (Eph. 2:12)
 - b. Apostasy = integration; synthesis, enlightenment; higher criticism.
 - c. Paganism = atheism or communism; satanism or Catholicism
 - d. Culture = rationalism, high academic standards, high cultural standards; refinement; enriched curriculum.

F. Cycles of Apostasy – 2

1. a _____ - i.e., John Wesley
2. a _____ - Evangelization of the American west ... DO NOT GO BEYOND THIS STEP ...
3. a _____ - Methodist colleges, Wesleyans & Nazarenes
4. a _____ - “United” Methodist church, ecumenism
5. _____ - No salvation messages, just piles and piles of things

G. Each period has a revival & then apostasy step, or steps

H. **Do NOT ever go beyond step** _____ - limit (Matt. 28:19; 2 Tim. 2:15)

I. What marks a true Bible Believer throughout history is the literal belief of the Bible and the practice and application of Bible truth.

J. **ONLY TWO LINES OF SCRIPTURE:** Truth and Non-Truth (has 80% truth) Christ - Antichrist; Faith & Works; Bible text; Church (Christ's body)

Alexandria ... Corrupt Bible Line:

The Apocrypha (200-300 B.C.)
 Philo (20 B.C. - 50 A.D.)
 Clement of Alexandria (150-215)
 Origen of Alexandria (184-254)
 The Septuigent (100-300 AD)
 Eusebius of Caeserea (260-340)
 Vaticanus B. (331)
 Sinaiticus (codex Aleph) (331)
 Jerome (382)
 Alexandrius (Codex A) (450)
 Codex Ephraem (450))
 Douay (1592)
 Brian Walton (1657)
 John Mill (1707)
 Griesbach (1774)
 Carl Lachman (1842)
 Tregelles (1857)
 Tischendorf (1870)
 Alford (1861 and 1872)
 Wescott and Hort (1881)
 Eberhard Nestle (1898)
 All the “new” bibles

Antioch ... Preserved Bible Line:

O.T. preserved in Massoretic or traditional Hebrew
 New Testament (30-90 A.D.)
 Syrian MS of Asia Minor, Peshita (100-200)
 Old Latin & Old Syriac of the Originals (100-200)
 Papyrus reading of Receptus (150-400)
 Uncial readings of Receptus (Codices) (500-1500)
 Gothic Bible of Ulfilas (310)
 Latin Bibles of Waldensians (1100-1300)
 Latin Bibles of Albigenses (1300-1500)
 Latin Bibles of Lollards (1382-1550)
 Martin Luther's German Bible (1522-1534)
 Russian, French, Norwegian, Spanish, Italian, Bulg.
 Swiss, Swed., Czech, Romanian (1540-1900)
 Wycliff (1382), Tyndale (1525), Erasmus (1522)
 Coverdale (1535), Matthews (1537)
 The Receptus of 1516; Beza's Receptus (1565)
 Stephanus Receptus (1550)
 Colinaeus Receptus (1550)
 Elzivirs Receptus (1624)
 King James Authorized Version (1611)

V. The Seven Church Periods of Church History

A. For ease, we will use the bible to help us develop a frame work to interpret Church History

B. That framework is laid out very neatly in revelation 2 and 3

C. What is presented are Christ’s evaluation of seven churches of that day, but those seven churches easily represent all the varies “kinds” of churches, and states of churches today, as well as representing seven periods of time during the history of the church.

D. We will divide up Church History in the order of the churches as laid out in revelation chapters 2 and 3:

1. **Ephesus** (____ - ____ AD) – the Hard Working Church, that left their first love
2. **Smyrna** (____ - ____ AD) – the Persecuted Church that became bitter
3. **Pergamos** (____ - ____ AD) – The Worldly Church that compromised almost everything
4. **Thyatira** (____ - ____ AD) – the Pagan Church, that replaced God with idols
5. **Sardis** (____ - ____ AD) – the Church with a Few Names, that started back towards God
6. **Philadelphia** (____ - ____ AD) – the Revived Church, that was faithful
7. **Laodicea** (____ - Present) – the Lukewarm Church, that only cared about itself