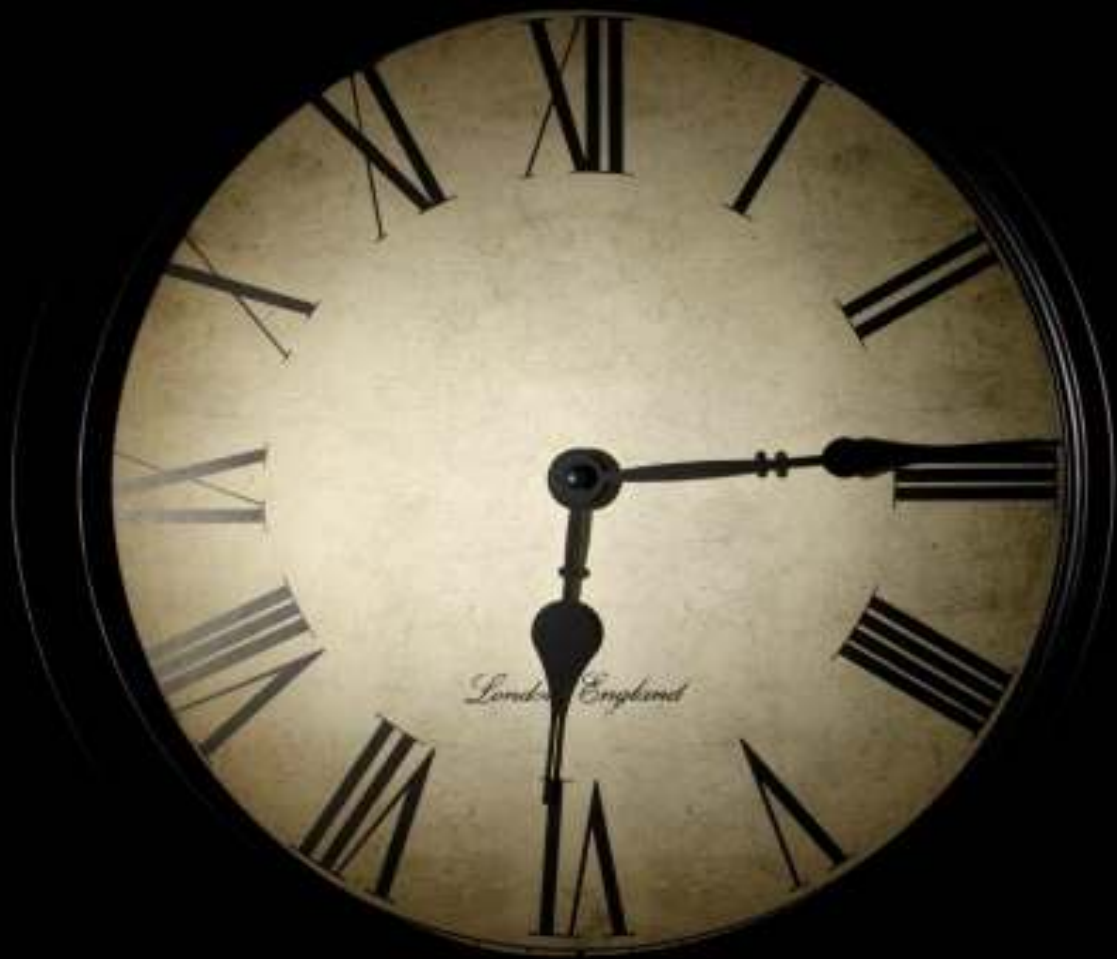


School of Ministry 

Church History



Part 1 – The Church Wins the World From inception to 400 AD

Lesson 1 Introduction to Church History

- a) Relevance of church history
- b) Initial success in Acts
- c) The historical context of the early church
 - i. Factors helping the gospel
 - Political
 - Religious
 - Roman world in ferment: climate of search for reality
 - Judaism preparing the way
 - ii. Factors hindering spread of gospel
 - Political
 - Religious
 - Roman world
 - Judaism
- d) Description of the early church
 - i. Success
 - ii. Conflict
 - Physical Battle: persecution
 - Mental Battle: heresy
 - Spiritual battles: other religions

Lesson 2

The Physical Battle: Persecution

a) Reasons for persecution

- i. Jewish intolerance
- ii. Pagan hatred

b) Grounds for Conviction

- i. Hatred of human race
- ii. Atheism
- iii. Confession of name of Christian

c) History of Persecutions

d) Problems raised by persecutions

- i. Cult of the martyr
- ii. The lapsed

e) The Church's answer to persecution: the Apologists

f) Conclusion to persecution

- i. Conversion of Constantine
- ii. Consequences of persecution period

Lesson 3 The Mental Battle: Heresy

- a) Introduction
- b) The Heresy of Gnosticism
- c) The Heresy of Marcion
- d) The reply to Gnosticism
 - i. Open claim to apostolocity - view of Scripture
 - ii. Priority of faith over knowledge
 - iii. Person of Christ
 - iv. Unity in Godhead
- e) Benefits from the response to Gnosticism
 - i. Canon (= rod, ruler) of Scripture
 - ii. Creeds
 - iii. Councils
- f) Continuing problems
 - i. Disunity
 - ii. Ongoing battles
 - iii. (Arius)

But - by AD 400, the church had conquered the world!

For further discussion:

- a) From the "Glossary of Terms" write out and become familiar with the definitions of:
 - Apologies
 - Arianism
 - Canon
 - Docetism
 - Dualism
 - Ebionism
 - Gnosticism
 - Judaism
 - Marcionism
- b) Explain what was the difference between the views of Arius and Athanasius concerning Jesus' true nature.
- c) What analogies are used to help us understand the nature of the Trinity?

Part 2 – The World Captures the Church 400 to 1500 AD

Lesson 4 Changes in the Life & Organization of the Church

a) How the First Christians Worshipped

- i. Early Jewish influence: synagogues
- ii. Paul's emphasis: 1Cor - AD 55

b) Early church government

Elders, deacons, apostles, prophets, teachers

c) Worship becomes more formal

- i. 1Clement (c.96 AD)
- ii. Ignatius (c.115 AD)
- iii. Correspondence between Pliny & Trajan (112 AD)
- iv. Apology by Justin (AD 150)
- v. Origen (254 AD)

d) Development of ministry

- i. 1Clement - continues 2-fold ministry of bishops/deacons
 - Emphasis on authority: apostolic delegation
 - apostolic succession.
 - Leaders described as priests for first time.
- ii. Ignatius
 - 3-fold ministry - bishop / presbyter / deacon
- iii. Established pattern of 3-fold ministry

e) Magical view of Sacraments

- i. Eucharist – sacrifice; Minister – priest
 - "Medicine of immortality" (Ignatius);
 - see also Justin "Apology 1" + Sacramentary of Serapion
- ii. Baptism – baptismal regeneration
 - Infant baptism + baptism when dying

f) Conclusion

Established religion + nominal membership

For further discussion:

a) How did church services change over the first couple of hundred years of church history? How did the leadership style and structure of the church in this time period?

As the church began to change significantly in its life and organization, increasingly deviating from the church of the Bible, various protest movements began to emerge. In the following lectures we consider two of them: Montanism and Monasticism.

Lesson 5

Protests Against the Trends: Montanism

a) Trend toward liberalism

- Some gnosticism: license because body = irrelevant
- Division re: lapsed - Pope Callistus (217-222) = liberal; a trend into 3rd century

b) Trend toward establishmentarianism

- Ecclesiasticism becomes Constantine's day

c) Protests (1) – Donatists

- Does unworthiness of minister affect validity of his ministry?
= challenge to sacramental theology

d) Protests (2) – Novatianism

- Feud between Callistus & Hippolytus
- Same issue: Novation declared himself Pope too

e) Protests (3) – Montanism

- Montanus: enthusiastic young Christian; started as prophet AD172 in Asia Minor with 2 prophetesses (Prisca & Maximilla) becomes revival of prophecy / Pentecostalism (vs dead establishment).
- Rediscovery of gifts; emphasis on return of Christ; zealous re: holiness becomes asceticism, fasting, no 2nd marriages, no forgiveness for deadly sin after baptism
- Tertullian: most famous convert
- Total emphasis on prophecy & ecstatic vision becomes no place for teaching; women prominent (bishops & priests); unwilling to regulate gifts.
- Opposed by established church becomes excommunication
- Fanatics more than heretics (orthodox but zealous) - but the established bishops were justified by the fact that Montanism went wrong:
- Weird ideas: found a place in Phrygia which they renamed Jerusalem expecting Jesus' imminent return there
- Maximilla prophesied: "After me there will be no prophecy, but the End."

Lesson 6

Protests Against the Trends: Monasticism

a) Introduction

b) Reasons for rise of Monasticism

c) Beginnings: asceticism

d) Hermits: began with solitary individuals

- St Anthony
- Simon Stylite

e) Monks: organized communities

- St Pachomius
- Basil the Great
- St Benedict

f) The Religion of the Monks

g) Excesses

- Celibacy

h) Conclusion

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms":

Donatists, Montanists, Novationists, Asceticism, Hermits, Monasticism

b) What were the distinctive features of these various groups? What was good and what was bad about what they believed and practiced?

Lesson 7

The Dark Ages: Augustine, Roman Empire, Papalism, Islam

Many have called the next period of history The Dark Ages. We shall consider some of the most significant people and movements: Augustine, Roman Empire, Papalism, Islam

a) Introduction: fall of Rome - AD 410

- Catastrophe as Barbarians destroyed; Romans left Britain to defend Rome - Jules/Angles/Saxons destroyed Christianity in Britain.
- People thought this was end of civilization. A mystery to church - for Rome succeeded as a pagan Empire but fell as a Christian one.
- Augustine thought this through ‡ conclusion: "It was the best thing that could have happened"

b) Life of Augustine

- Early life
- Conversion
- Writings : Confessions & City of God
- Conflict with Pelagius

c) History of Papacy

- Up to Leo the Great (440-461)
- To Gregory the Great (590-604)
- To Charlemagne & Leo III (795-816)
- History of False Decretals (up to end of 9th century)

d) Identification with Roman Empire

- Misunderstanding of Augustine
- Origin of Christendom

e) Islam

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Pelagianism; Semi-Pelagianism; Reformed Theology

b) What were the respective roles of the Pope and the Holy Roman Emperors?

c) What did Pelagius teach? How did Augustine refute these ideas?

Lesson 8

The Middle Ages: Crusades, Inquisitions, Beginnings of Change

The Middle Ages were characterized by terrible atrocities and some significant signs of hope. We look at the: Crusades, and the Inquisitions, and the indications of great changes ahead.

- a) The ascendancy of the Pope - Hildebrand
- b) The Crusades
- c) The Inquisition
- d) Signs of life
 - Bernard of Clairveaux
 - St Francis of Assisi

Lesson 9

The Middle Ages (continued)

- Paulicans
 - Bogomils
 - Cathars
 - Waldensians
 - John Wycliffe
 - Jan Hus
- e) The Renaissance

For further discussion:

- a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Crusades; Inquisition; Waldensians; Eastern Orthodoxy; Lollards; Renaissance
- b) What were the strengths and weaknesses of the various "Radical" movements considered in the lecture? What were the main convictions that motivated John Wycliffe?

Part 3 – The Reformation 16th Century

Lesson 10 The Reformation in Germany: Luther

a) Background to the Reformation

- Religious, Intellectual, Political, Social

b) Luther's early life

c) The abuses he decried

- indulgences
- 95 theses
- Luther's bonfire

Lesson 11 Luther (continued)

d) The principles he stood for

e) The Lutheran Church

f) Limitations of Luther

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Evangelical, Indulgences, Mass, Reformation, Reformed Theology, Sacrament

b) What was the turning point in Luther's religious experience? What were the main things he objected to in the practices of the Roman Catholic Church of his day?

Lesson 12

The Reformation in Switzerland & France

a) Zwingli's life

- Religious motivations: humanism
- Conversion to Protestantism
- Death

b) Zwingli's reforms

- Ministry in Zurich
- Theological issues
 - fasting
 - celibacy
 - mass
 - scripture
 - Church / state relationship

Lesson 13

Switzerland & France (continued)

c) Calvin's early life

- Training
- Conversion

d) Calvin's reforms

- Ministry in Geneva
- Theological issues: systematizer of Reformed Theology – “Institutes of the Christian Religion”
- Church organization
 - Presbyterian church government
- Church / state

Lesson 14

Switzerland & France (continued)

e) Reformation in France: Huguenots

- Catherine de Medici
- St Bartholomew's Day Massacre – 24 August 1572

Private Study Assignments

a) Review the following definitions of terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Evangelical, Indulgences, Mass, Reformation, Reformed Theology, Sacrament. Then write out the definition of the following: Huguenots

b) What do we know about church / state relations in Switzerland during the Reformation? What was the significance of Calvin's "Institutes"? What structures of church government did Calvin put in place, and how does this compare with what we noted about changes in church leadership structures in the early centuries of the church?

Lesson 15

The Reformation in Scotland & England

a) Preconditions in Scotland

- Lollards
- Patrick Hamilton
- George Wishart

b) Scotland: John Knox

- Early life: Geneva
- Return to Scotland
- Return of Mary leads to civil war
- Effects of Reformation on Scotland

Lesson 16

Scotland & England (continued)

c) England: Henry VIII

- domestic problem
- international pressures
- the demise of Cardinal Wolsey
- the break with Rome
- Act of Supremacy
- lack of real change

d) William Tyndale

Lesson 17 **Scotland & England (continued)**

e) Edward VI

- Archbishop Cranmer: Book of Common Prayer

f) Mary Tudor

- Martyrs: Ridley, Latimer, Cranmer
- John Foxe

g) Elizabeth I

- The 39 Articles
- The Spanish Armada

h) Conclusion to Reformation in England

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Puritans, Lollards

b) Which English kings and queens were Protestant, which were Catholic, and which were unclear? How did the Reformation in Scotland under John Knox differ from what was going on in England?

Lesson 18

The Counter-Reformation

In this lecture we consider the response to the Reformation as the Roman Catholic Church fought back in the Counter Reformation. This important period largely settled the issue of which geographical areas would be predominantly Catholic or Protestant for centuries to come.

a) Stopping the spread

- Roman Catholic church seeks to reform from within

b) Ignatius Loyola

- The Jesuits
- The Inquisition

Lesson 19

The Counter-Reformation (continued)

c) The Council of Trent

- Decisions re doctrines
 - 7 sacraments
 - Authority = Tradition + Bible (i.e., Latin Vulgate and Apocrypha)
 - Indulgences , prayer to saints / relics
 - Justification by Faith + works
 - Papal infallibility
- Practical matters
 - Accountability for priests and bishops
 - Seminaries and training
 - Book bans

d) Recovery of Roman Catholicism

- Holding the line in Europe
- Reclaiming Protestant territory in Europe
- Missionary zeal taking Catholicism to the nations

For further discussion:

- Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Counter Reformation, Inquisition, Jesuits, Mass
- How did the Roman Catholic Church try to reform itself from within? What was decided at the Council of Trent? How did some Catholics try to use force to destroy the Protestant Reformation?

Lesson 20 The Radicals

There were those among the Protestants who wanted to take the Reformation much further than the major Reformers ever envisaged. In this lecture we take a look at the Radicals.

a) Anabaptists and the Separation of Church and State

b) A History of the Radicals

- Zurich in the 1520's
- Munster: John of Leyden
- Menno Simons: Mennonites
- Bruderhof: the brethren. Communalism
- Jakob Hutter: Hutterites

Lesson 21 The Radicals (continued)

c) Distinctive beliefs of characteristically Anabaptist groups

- Restoration of the Church

Congregationalism

Lay apostolate

- Regeneration and baptism
- Separation of Church and State
 - Pacifism
- Personal faith
 - Self-discipline
 - Love
 - Take up your cross
 - Challenged by the reformers: salvation by faith alone
- Missionary vision

For further discussion:

a) Review the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Evangelical, Indulgences, Mass, Reformation, Reformed Theology, Sacrament, Puritans, Huguenots, Counter Reformation, Inquisition, Jesuits. Then write out the definitions of this term from the "Glossary of Terms": Anabaptists

b) Which modern churches would trace their roots back to the Anabaptists? What were the main common points of belief and practice between the various groups of Anabaptists? How did the Anabaptists' view of church /State relations differ from other branches of the Reformation churches?

Part 4 – The Modern Church 17th to 20th Centuries

Lesson 22 The 17th Century: Puritans & Pilgrims

a) England:

- Different groups in the English Church
 - Anglicans
 - Puritans (Purify the Church of England of all Roman Catholic tendencies)
 - Salvation entirely by grace
 - Regulative authority of the Bible
 - State and Church: Society to be reformed as a unified whole
 - Covenants
 - Independents
- Political pressures in England
 - James I
 - Charles I
 - Oliver Cromwell
 - Charles II
 - James II
 - William & Mary
- Significant characters & movements
 - John Bunyan
 - George Fox & Quakers
 - William Penn

b) Scottish Covenanters

Lesson 23 Scottish Covenanters

c) The New World

Lesson 24

The New World

- Pilgrim Fathers fleeing James I
 - Mayflower: 1620
- The Puritan Migration fleeing Charles I
 - Massachusetts Bay Colony: 1630
 - John Winthrop: "A city set on a hill"
 - Roger Williams
- Freedom of religion = freedom to create all kinds of new religion!

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Evangelical, Independents, Pilgrim Fathers, Puritans, Reformed Theology.

b) What were the Puritans trying to do in Europe? Why did some of them decide to leave Europe? What was their plan in coming to North America?

Lesson 25

The 18th Century: Reason, Revival & Revivalism

a) The Age of Reason

- Reason in Science: the world as a machine governed by natural laws
 - Copernicus
 - Galileo
 - Isaac Newton (law of gravity)
 - Descartes
 - Francis Bacon: the only things that are true are the things you can prove by observation
- Reason in Religion
 - Revised views of God
 - Theism: God created the world and controls it
 - Deism: God created the world but can't control it
 - Atheism: God did not create the world because there is no God
 - Revised views of man
 - Since Augustine: Man is a sinner and as a fallen creature needs grace
 - Enlightenment: Man is good and as rational creature can make good choices
- Reason in Society
 - Laws governing human nature, society and political institutions, economics
- Behavioral consequences in society

b) Revival – in Europe

Lesson 26

Revival in Europe

- Count von Zinzendorf
 - Moravians
- George Whitfield
 - Oxford University – Holy Club
 - Travels to North America and throughout British Isles
 - Calvinistic Methodist Connexion
 - Conflicts with Wesley:
 - Wesley believed in an Arminian view of man
 - Wesley believed in perfectionism
- John & Charles Wesley
 - Family background: mother Suzannah
 - Early attempts to earn salvation: Oxford (“Methodists”) and Missions
 - Salvation: “My heart was strangely warmed”
 - Preaching
 - Methodist societies (cells) and horseback circuit preachers
 - Hymns (written by Charles – about 7000) to teach people true doctrine

c) Revival in North America

Lesson 27

Revival in North America

- Jonathan Edwards (1703 – 58)
 - The Great Awakening
 - Northampton Massachusetts
 - “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”
 - Ejected from his church
 - Writings and ministering to native Indians

d) Revivalism

- Charles Finney (1792 – 1875)
 - Revolutionary ideas about who can preach and interpret scripture
 - Arminia
 - Methods to draw a response: Camp meetings / altar calls / emotionalism
 - Revival is a matter of human activity rather than divine sovereignty

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the “Glossary of Terms”: Arminianism, Evangelical, Independents, Liberalism, Methodists, Pelagianism, Renaissance, Theism

b) What was the basic point of the Age of Reason? In what ways did John Wesley differ from George Whitfield? Was Jonathan Edwards more like Wesley or Whitfield? In what ways did Jonathan Edwards differ from Charles Finney?

Lesson 28

The 19th Century: Missionaries & Modernism

a) The Intellectual Climate

- Reason
 - Darwin
 - Marx
 - Theological liberalism
- Romanticism

Lesson 29

The Missionary Movement

b) The Missionary Movement

- William Carey
- Henry Martyn
- David Livingstone
- Hudson Taylor

c) Social programs

- Slavery (William Wilberforce)
- Working conditions (Lord Shaftesbury)
- Prisons (Elizabeth Fry)
- Education

d) Church movements

- Charles Spurgeon
- Dispensationalism
- Salvation Army
- Brethren
- Fragmentation

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Deism, Evangelical, Liberalism, Renaissance, Theism

b) What were the main forces opposed to Christianity in the nineteenth century? In what ways did these forces infiltrate part of the church? What advances did the church make in the nineteenth century?

Lesson 30

The 20th Century: Restoration or Retrogression?

a) Liberalism

- Benevolence of God
- Divine spark in every man
- Jesus Christ is our perfect teacher and example
- All religions are forms of the same religion
- The Bible is human reflection rather than divine revelation

b) Fundamentalism

- Inspiration and infallibility of Scripture
- Deity of Christ
- Virgin Birth and miracles
- Christ's penal death for our sins
- Physical resurrection and personal return of Christ

Lesson 31

20th Century (continued)

c) Pentecostalism + Charismatic movement

d) Global evangelism

e) New Age and Post-modernism

For further discussion:

a) Write out the definitions of these terms from the "Glossary of Terms": Deism, Evangelical, Liberalism, Renaissance, Theism

b) What were the main forces opposed to Christianity in the twentieth century? In what ways did these forces infiltrate part of the church? What advances did the church make in the twentieth century?

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

To accompany this series of lectures we are providing a glossary of terms so that you will be able to understand the various movements and issues that we cover. With each lecture we include a list of terms that you should familiarize yourself with in order to appreciate the significance of the events we are dealing with.

Anabaptists Radical protestants believing in believers baptism by immersion, but also wanting separation of church and state, with tendencies toward independence, pacifism, as well as being the forefathers of much modern evangelicalism.

Apollinarianism The teaching of Apollinarius that Jesus had a human body and a divine soul - so he wasn't really a man in the true sense

Arminianism Followers of Arminius who emphasized free will in opposition to Calvin's views of God's sovereignty.

Asceticism The practice of severe self-discipline as a means of attaining spirituality (Often rooted in a dualistic view of the evil of the body in contrast with the spirit)

Adoptionism The idea that Jesus was a man who was adopted into the Godhead by the descent of the Holy Spirit at his baptism.

Apologies Logical presentations in defense of the gospel against heresy

Antinomianism [nomos = law] A rejection of the requirements of God's law

Arianism The heresy of Arius that Jesus is not fully God (created, but not begotten; like God, but not the same as God)

Calvinism See "Reformed Theology". The theology of Calvin, Augustine (and Paul!)

Canon [= rod, ruler] The books of the Bible by which alone all is to be measured

Counter-

Reformation The attempt by the Roman Catholic Church to halt the Reformation by reforming the church from within (Protestants believed the R.C. church was beyond reformation, so they pulled out and started new churches)

Crusades Armed attempts to capture Jerusalem from Islamic control

Deism Belief in God - as a Prime Cause of the world, but not as being involved in the running of the world (Compare with "Theism")

Docetism [Dokeo = to seem] The idea that Jesus as Son of God was really a spirit who only appeared to have a physical body. He was divine, but only seemed to be human.

Donatists Those who believe that the validity of a sacrament depends on the worthiness of the minister rather than the authority of his office.

Dualism Setting two principles in opposition to one another (usually spirit vs. matter)

Eastern

Orthodoxy The segment of the church based in Constantinople which broke away from the rest of the church in the 11th century after centuries of disputing that the Bishop of Rome (as Peter's successor and Pope) had ultimate authority in the church.

Ebionism A sect with Jewish roots having an "adoptionist" view of the person of Christ

Evangelical Faith based on the foundational teachings of Scripture - particularly emphasizing the inerrancy of Scripture and the Reformation doctrines of salvation by grace. (contra "Evangelism" which is the act of proclaiming those truths).

Gnosticism [Gnosis = knowledge] A speculative philosophy with a dualistic view of the superiority of the mind /spirit, as distinct from the inferior material realm. Such matters could only be understood by special revelation (gnosis).

Hermits Individuals who, in their asceticism, isolate themselves from the world

Huguenots French Protestants

Independents Protestants who had no hope for the established church, who separated to form other denominations

Indulgences Certificates promising release from purgatory, sold by the Pope's representatives

Inquisition The use of force to compel compliance to a creed

Jesuits A monastic order ("The Society of Jesus") founded by Ignatius Loyola to ruthlessly resist the spread of Protestantism by any means

Judaism The religion of the Jews which had developed by the time of Christ as a distortion of the true teachings of the Old Testament.

Judaizers A Jewish Christian sect requiring that Gentiles conform to the Jewish ceremonial law (particularly circumcision) in order to be Christians.

Lapsed Those who denied the faith during persecution and then later repented when persecution was over.

Legalism Either a dependence on earning salvation by keeping the law, or a reliance on man-made laws in addition to Scripture. To require obedience to God's word is not legalism so long as it is understood that obedience does not merit salvation and is only possible by grace.

Liberalism The view that theological truths cannot be accepted on the basis of authority alone (e.g. the inerrancy of the Bible), but must be subject to reason and experience. It tends to accommodate scientific theories like evolution and deny the supernatural dimension of the Bible.

License A disregard for moral law (sometimes from gnostic roots believing that actions in the body are irrelevant to spirituality)

Lollards Street preachers [Lollard = mumbler] sent out by John Wycliffe (14th c.)

Marcionism Separation between the inferior God of wrath in the OT and the God of love revealed in Jesus in the NT. This resulted in a dualistic view of law / grace

Mass The Roman Catholic practice of communion in which the bread and wine are believed to again become the body and blood of Christ ("Transubstantiation"): a repeat sacrifice rather than a memorial of a prior sacrifice.

Methodists Followers of John Wesley - named after the group at Oxford University who earned that nickname for their methodical approach to religious duties.

Monarchianism [monarchia = unity] Attempts to defend the unity of God against views of the Trinity which states that there are three Gods in one Godhead.

- **a) Dynamic monarchianism (or adoptionism).** Taught by Theodotus and Paul of Samosata. As there can only be one God, Jesus must be a mere man.
- **b) Modalistic monarchianism.** Taught by Sabellius. The view that there is only one God who appears in various modes (as a man in Jesus - so God died for a while on the cross).

Monasticism Organized communities established to pursue asceticism in isolation from the world

Montanism A group of followers of Montanus who emphasized the charismatic dimension to excess.

Nestorianism The teaching of Nestorius that the human and divine natures of Christ were somehow separate and distinct, where orthodox theology maintained that Jesus was both fully human and fully divine in an essential union

Novatianism The teaching of Novatian that the lapsed and others who had committed mortal sins had no place in the true church.

Pelagianism The teachings of Pelagius denying original sin and advocating that man has sufficient goodness in himself to choose what is right and the free will to make that choice

- **[Semi-Pelagianism** acknowledges that man needs grace in order to be saved, but denies that this grace is irresistible or prior to man making an initial decision]

Pietism A mystical group formed under the influence of Spener, later developed by Count von Zinzendorf and the Moravians, emphasizing the Christian life in its inner experiential dimension. The subjective predominates over the objective or the institutional.

Pilgrim Fathers A mixture of Puritans and Independents who left Europe under persecution in the 1620's, with a vision to establish a pure church in the religious freedom in the New World.

Puritans Members of the Anglican Church striving for purity in the church - doctrinal, ecclesiastical and behavioral.

Reformation The Protestant breach with the Roman Catholic Church, following Luther's lead in restoring biblical truth (particularly "justification by faith") as the foundation of the true church. The crucial questions were: How is a person saved? Where does religious authority lie? What is the church?

Reformed theology The view that salvation is all of grace: given the truth of man's depravity, salvation is only possible on the basis of God's sovereignty.

Renaissance The rediscovery of the culture of the ancients (particularly the Greeks)

Sabellianism See "Monarchianism"

Sacrament A religious ceremony believed to be an outward symbol of an inward means of grace.

Syncretism The attempt to combine and blend features of different religions

Theism The belief that God both created and controls the world (Compare with "Deism")

Waldensians Followers of Peter Waldo (12th c.) who taught and worshipped in their own language (not Latin, Greek or Hebrew).

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