

C3 Church - Bible Foundations Class - Lesson 8

“Church History and the Last Days”

- I. The Early Church Ablaze empowered by the Holy Spirit - Mark 16:20; Acts 4:31-33, 5:12-16, 6:7, 8:4**
 - A. Some of the main events
 - 1. signs and wonders – Acts 3:1-11
 - 2. Stephen is stoned – Acts 7:54-60
 - 3. Peter imprisoned – Acts 12:1-19
 - 4. much persecution – for naming the name of Christ

- II. The Apostle Paul – a transitional figure in the first church**
 - A. Saul the Persecutor – Acts 9:1-2
 - B. Saul the converted – Acts 9:3-22
 - C. Paul the prisoner – II Corinthians 11:23-28
 - D. Paul the missionary – Three missionary campaigns
 - 1. Acts 13:1-3
 - E. The Apostle and his epistles – letters to churches and converts
 - 1. Romans
 - 2. I and II Corinthians
 - 3. Galatians
 - 4. Ephesians
 - 5. Philippians
 - 6. Colossians
 - 7. I and II Thessalonians
 - 8. I and II Timothy
 - 9. Titus
 - 10. Philemon
 - 11. Hebrews

- III. The persecution of the early church – spreads the Gospel flame-70 A.D.**
 - A. Roman armies besiege the Holy City of Jerusalem – Luke 19:41-44, 23:28-31
 - 1. The day of vengeance – Luke 21:20-23 – Luke 21:24
 - B. The church in Persecution – Roman Persecution
 - 1. Persecution spreads the Gospel message
 - 2. Persecution of Nero – 64 A.D.
 - 3. Catacombs of Rome-275 A.D.
 - 4. Diocletion burns Bibles – 303 A.D.

- IV. The Decline of the Church (Christendom)**
 - A. 30-150 A.D.
 - 1. Day of Pentecost -30 A.D.
 - 2. Persecution by Nero – 54-68 A.D.
 - 3. Martyrdom of Apostles – 44-68 A.D.
 - 4. Jerusalem destroyed – 70 A.D.
 - 5. Persecution by Domitian -81-96 A.D.
 - B. 150-300 A.D.
 - 1. Gnosticism
 - 2. Montanists – 155 A.D.

- 3. Tertullian –
- 4. Sabellius – 200 A.D.
- C. 300-400 A.D.
 - 1. Persecution by Diocletian
 - 2. Constantine's Edict of tolerance – 313 A.D.
 - 3. Council of Nicea – 325 A.D.
 - 4. Council of Constantinople – 381A.D.
- D. 400 – 500 A.D.
 - 1. Heathen worship begins
 - 2. Sacrifices, altars, priests, images, relics
 - 3. Roman Empire falls – 410 A.D.
 - 4. Pope established – 461 A.D.
- E. 500-1500 – Dark Ages
 - 1. Birth of Mohammed 570 A.D.
 - 2. Holy Wars /Crusades – 1096-1291
 - 3. Power struggle church and state
 - 4. Sale of indulgences – 1476

V. Christianity Reforms

- A. 1000-1400 A.D.
 - 1. Waldenses
 - 2. Albigenses -1170
 - 3. Renaissance Rebirth of learning – 1350-1650
 - 4. Wycliffe English Bible – 1382
- B. 1400 – 1500 A.D.
 - 1. John Huss martyred – 1415
 - 2. First printing press – 1455 – printing of the Bible
- C. 1500 – 1600 A.D.
 - 1. Protestant reformation
 - 2. Martin Luther protests -1517 – Lutheranism
 - 3. Anabaptist – 1525
 - 4. Church of England – 1534
 - 5. John Calvin – 1536 – Calvinism
 - 6. John Knox – 1560
 - 7. Presbyterians – Thomas Cartwright – 1567
- D. 1600 – 1700 A.D.
 - 1. 1st Baptist Church in England 1612
 - 2. Pilgrims 1620
 - 3. Puritans 1629
 - 4. Quakers 1647
 - 5. Mennonites 1676
- E. 1700- 1800 A.D.
 - 1. Moravians 1727
 - 2. Jonathan Edwards 1734
 - 3. George Whitfield – 1736
 - 4. Methodists – John Wesley 1784
 - a. characteristics of this era – Witness of the Spirit
Holiness, Missionaries, Circuit riders, Sunday school
- F. 1800-1900 A.D.
 - 1. Camp meetings
 - 2. Charles G. Finney -1821

3. Disciples of Christ -1830
 4. Adventists – 1844
 5. Charles H. Spurgeon – 1859
 6. D.L. Moody 1865
 7. Church of God -1894
- G. 1900 – Present
1. 1901 – Topeka Kansas – seeking fullness of the Spirit
 2. 1906 – Azusa street revival – modern day out-pouring
 3. 1914 – Formation of Pentecostal denominations
 4. 1940's - Instruction and Revelations of Gifts of the Spirit
 5. 1960's 1970's – The Jesus Movement – Pentecost spreads to mainline denominations
 6. 1970's – 1980's Praise and worship become prominent –
 7. 1990's – Intercessory prayer movement – David Cho
 8. 2000 – present – New Apostolic Formation – Denomination old wine skin – New Wine Skin = The five-fold ministry and Eldership forms of church government

VI. The End Times – The Last Days

A. Characteristics (Religious)

1. Apostasy and Worldliness – Matthew 24:12; II Thessalonians 2:3; II Timothy 4:3-4
2. False Christs and Cults - Matthew 24:11,24
3. Kingdom Expansion and renewal/revival –Matthew 24:14; Mark 13:10; Acts 2:17-18

B. The rapture of the Church –

1. The blessed hope and longing of the church – Titus 2:13
2. The “catching away” – I Thessalonians 4:13-18; 5:2; I Corinthians 15:51-52; Revelations 3:10, 4:1-2

V. Reigning in the Kingdom Age – Philippians 3:21; I Corinthians 15:49-54

A. Various Ranks and positions of authority –

1. Revelations 1:6; Is. 1:26; Jeremiah 30:21; Matthew 19:28; 25:21; Luke 19:17; I Corinthians 6:2-3

VII. Great White Throne Judgment – Revelations 20:15

A. Books opened

1. Word of God – John 12:48
2. Thoughts – Romans 2:15-16
3. Words – Matthew 12:36-37
4. Works – Revelations 20:12
5. Gospel – Mark 16:15-16, II Thessalonians 1:8-9, 2:9-12
6. Book of life – Revelations 20:12, 15

B. Second Death – Hell

1. Revelations 14:11, 20:10-15, 21:8; Mark 9:44; Jude 13

VIII. The New Jerusalem – A New Heaven and New Earth – Revelations 21:1-22:5

A. John's Vision

B. Heaven – a life of

1. Joy and happiness – Revelations 21:4
2. Continual fellowship – John 14:3
3. Peaceful rest – Rev. 14:13

4. Complete Knowledge – I Corinthians 13:12
5. Purity and Holiness – Revelations 21:27
6. Abundance – Revelations 21:6-7
7. Divine Glory – Colossians 3:4
8. Continual Worship – Revelations 7:9-17

Conclusion – From Here to Eternity – Matthew 7:13-14

Bible Foundations Class Lesson 8 Review Questions

1. What empowered the early church?
2. Why was the Apostle Paul a transitional figure?
3. What were the Epistles for?
4. What year was Jerusalem destroyed?
5. What happened during the dark ages?
6. Explain a few parts of the Christian reformation.
7. What was the big happening of the early 1900's?
8. Name a few characteristics of the Last days.
9. What is the "Kingdom Age"?
10. What is the New Jerusalem?
11. What are we going to be watching for?