

Church History 1

Apostles to Pre-Reformation

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Gregory, Charlemagne, Cathedrals, Crusades

Lakeside Institute of Theology

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Church History 1 (TH1)


1. Introduction to Church History
2. Apostles to Catholic Christianity
3. Persecution, Heresies & the Book
4. Emperors, Bishops, Saints & Intellectuals
5. Councils, Monks, Popes & Augustine
6. Schisms, Barbarians & Gregory the Great
7. Charlemagne, Cathedrals, Crusades & Scholastics
8. Poverty, Inquisition, Babylonian Captivity... & Final Exam



Gregory the Great – Pope Gregory 1

- Lived 540-604 AD; Pope from 590 until death.
- First pope to come from a monastic background.
- Acclaimed by John Calvin as “the last good pope.”
- Patron saint of musicians, singers, students and teachers.
- Called “Father of Christian Worship” for his revisions to the Mass & contributions to church music (*Gregorian Chant*).
- Most prolific writer of any pope to that time – over 850 letters, sermons, commentaries, and *The Rule for Pastors* – which defined the episcopal office.
- Had great passion for missions, sending missionaries to non-Christian tribes throughout Europe – most notably to Britain.
- His charitable efforts were widespread and comprehensive – especially because the government in Constantinople was not responding to humanitarian needs in the West.
- His good deeds and leadership, in the absence of political leaders, caused the people to look to the papacy for government.



 *The Barbarian Kingdoms, ca. 526. By the sixth century, the Western Roman Empire had been replaced by smaller kingdoms ruled by barbarian kings granting only nominal recognition to the Emperor.*



Charles the Great – Charlemagne

- Lived 742-814 AD; King of the Franks from 768; King of Italy from 774; Holy Roman Emperor from 800.
- Charlemagne is called the “Father of Europe” because his military conquests covered most of Western Europe.
- His father, Pepin the Short, had been High Mayor with all practical power, and he finally asked Pope Zachery to decide whether the king should be him or the powerless and useless King Childeric III. The pope ordered Pepin to take over and he was made king of the Franks-- the title then passing to his son, Charles (Charlemagne).
- A committed Christian, Charlemagne supported the papacy, as his father (Pepin the Short) had before him.
- In 800 Pope Leo asked for Charlemagne’s help against a rebellion in Rome. Charlemagne went to Rome, quelled the rebellion, and on Christmas Day of 800, Pope Leo crowned Charlemagne as Holy Roman Emperor.
- Charlemagne instituted widespread administrative reforms, including standardizing weights, measures and customs policies.
- He encouraged developments in education, the arts, culture and literacy (the *Carolingian Renaissance*).



Cathedrals

1. Early Christian (AD 33 thru 5th Century)

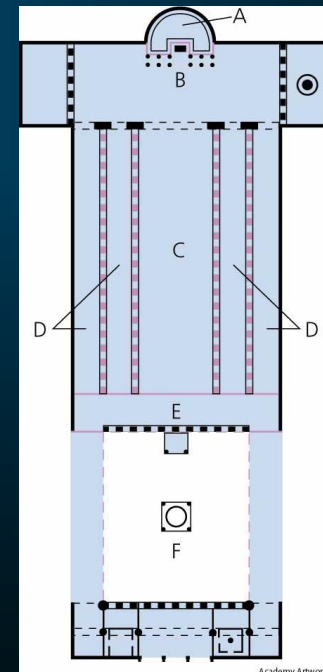
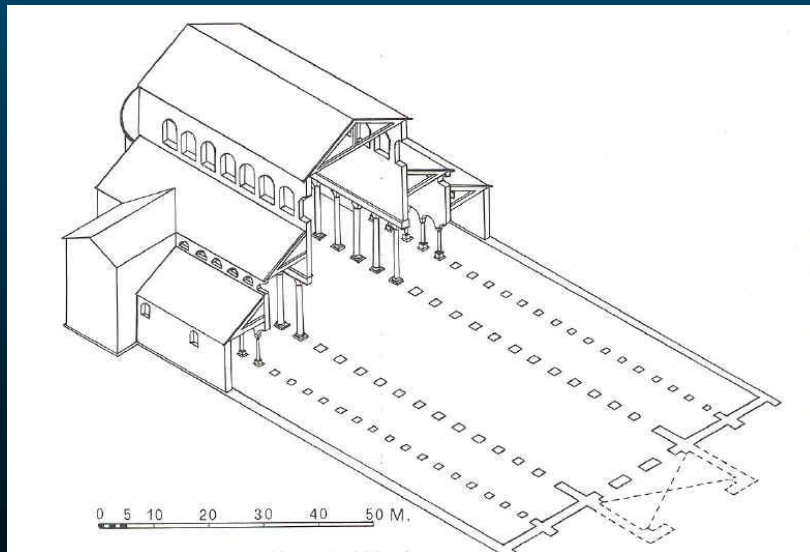
A. Synagogue worship

B. Secret house churches and catacombs

*Oldest extant house church is pre-AD 257

Roman town of Dura-Europas, in Syria.

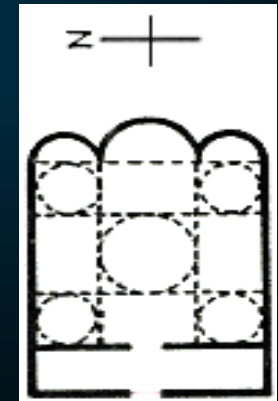
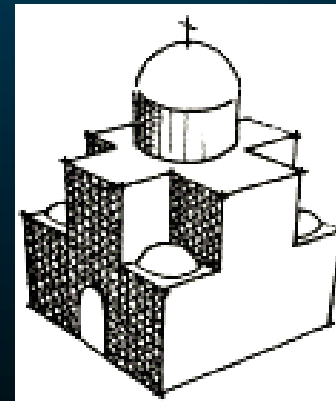
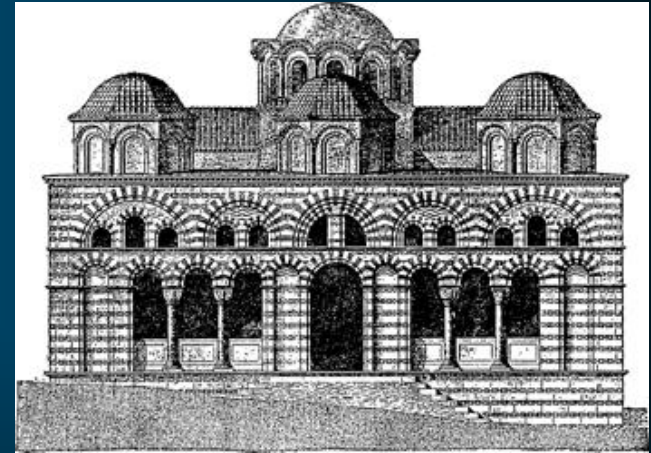
C. Basilicas (after AD 313) – modeled on simple Roman basilicas.



Cathedrals

2. Byzantine – 6th thru 15th Centuries (in the East)

Characterized by Greek Cross church plans, increased geometric complexity, complex domes on massive piers, use of brick and plaster in addition to stone.



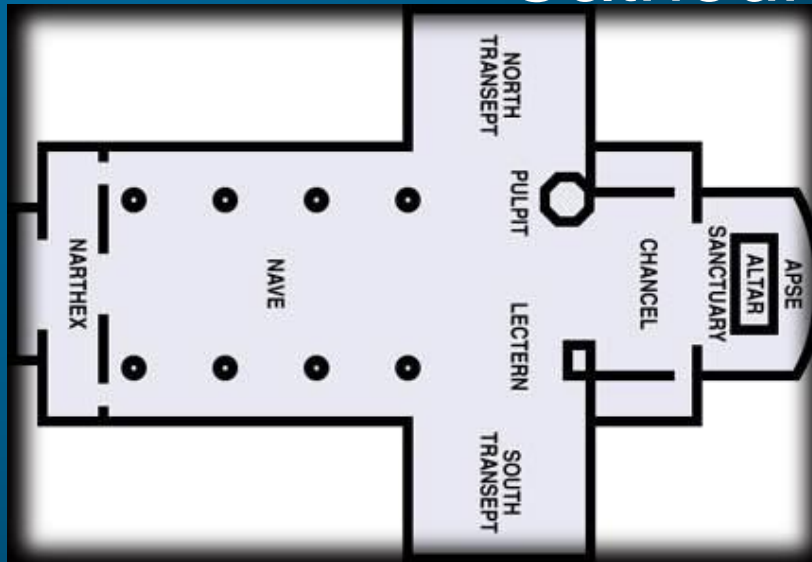








Cathedrals



3. Romanesque – 8th to 12th Centuries

Roman style, thick walls, stout columns, small windows, semi-circular arches.



Cathedrals

4. Gothic – 12th-15th Centuries

High, pointed arches; tall towers; larger windows; thinner walls; stone vaults; flying buttresses.



- The Crusades (1095-1291)

Christian Western Europe responds to pleas from Eastern Emperor in Constantinople for help against Muslims; they decide to go to war to battle Islam and free the Holy Land from Muslim control.

State of Christianity c.AD 565



State of Christianity After 1054



The Crusades (1095-1291)

- 1009 – Caliph of Egypt calls for destruction of Christian shrines.
- 1021 – Byzantine protectorate of shrines.
- 1071– Seljuk Turks defeat Byzantine army at Manzikert.
- 1095 – Byzantine Emperor Alexius I Comnenus begs for Western help against Seljuk Turks.
- 1095 – Pope Urban II calls for holy war ("*Deus vult*" or "God wills it").
- 1096 – Early Peasant Crusaders massacred.
- 1099 – 1st Crusade (French/Italian) takes Jerusalem.

The First Crusade (1096-1099)



The Crusader States (1099-1291)



What we THINK the Crusaders were like . . .



What the Crusaders were REALLY like . . .



The Crusades (1095-1291)

- 1144 – Edessa, oldest Crusader state, destroyed.
- 1146-1148 – 2nd Crusade is disastrously defeated.
- 1187 – 3rd Crusade prompted by Muslim retaking of Jerusalem (Richard I “Lionheart” of England; Emperor Frederick Barbarosa; King Philip Augustus II of France).
- 1204 – 4th Crusade leads to sack of Constantinople.
- 1212 – the Children’s Crusade.
- 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Crusades achieve nothing.
- 1155-1249 – 9th Crusade from Sweden to Finland.
- 1212 – 10th Crusade is *Reconquista*: to retake Spain from Muslims. Western Europe benefits from Muslim libraries left behind – including zero; the writings of Aristotle.
- 1291 – Last Crusaders driven from Middle East.

Reasons for the Crusades

- Response to Byzantine Emperor's request for help.
- To defend Christian Europe against further Moslem invasion.
- Hopes of reuniting the two halves of Christendom.
- To establish authority of Pope Urban II as Western leader.
- In defense of Christian holy sites and pilgrims.
- To focus energies of Western knights away from internal fighting.
- Belief in the imminent 2nd Coming, which required Jerusalem be in Christian hands.

Consequences of the Crusades

- Halt to the expansion of Islam
- Final split between Eastern & Western Christianity
- Re-establishment of trade between East & West, including developments in learning & culture
- Focus and clarification of European culture
- Launch of Western spirit of exploration
- Clarification of papal authority
- Long term enmity between Christianity and Islam