

CHRONOLOGY OF CHURCH HISTORY

Ancient Church History (AD 30 – 590)

The Apostolic Age (AD 30 – 100)

26

Beginning of the public ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ

30

The crucifixion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ

Pentecost

c. 48

Apostle Paul begins his missionary journeys

64

Emperor Nero persecutes and kills Christians

90

Rise of Gnosticism

95

Emperor Domitian persecutes Christians

100

Death of Apostle John



Missionary Journeys of Apostle Paul.

Image from http://holyspiritempowers.com/?attachment_id=1935

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The Struggle for Survival

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The Struggle for Survival (AD 100 – 313)

125
Spread of
Gnosticism

155
Polycarp,
disciple of
Apostle John
is burned at
the stake

c. 155
Spread of
Montanism

180
Irenaeus,
disciple of
Polycarp, writes
Against Heresies

216
Spread of
Manicheanism

303 – 305
Emperor Diocletian
persecutes Christians



Polycarp (AD 69 – 155)
was burnt at the stake.

Image from Pastor Chris Owen's blog



Irenaeus (c.130 – 202), wrote "Against Heresies" to expose the heresy of Gnosticism. Dualism was one of the main tenets of the Gnostics. They believe that the material is evil and the spirit is good. This led them to believe that the Lord Jesus Christ could not have come in real human flesh, because the flesh is evil. Apostle John wrote against insipient Gnosticism in his epistles.

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The Growth of the Church (AD 313 – 590)

313

Edict of Milan:
Agreement to
end persecution
of Christians

325

Council
of Nicaea
condemns
Arianism



An artist's impression of the council of Nicaea.

381

First Council of
Constantinople
condemns
Apollinarianism
and Montanism

Heresies that were condemned during this and subsequent councils include:

1. *Arianism, which attacked the deity of Christ;*
2. *Apollinarianism, which attacked the humanity of Christ;*
3. *Nestorianism which taught that Christ is two separate persons, one divine and one human;*
4. *Pelagianism, which denied that original sin has corrupted man's nature and that man still has the ability to choose good or evil on his own;*
5. *Monophysitism, which taught that Christ has only one nature, either a human or a divine nature; and*
6. *Eutychianism, which claimed that Christ's human and divine natures were fused together.*

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395 – 430

Augustine,
bishop of Hippo

397

Council of
Carthage
identifies the
Canon of
Scripture

405

Jerome
completes
translations
of the Bible
into Latin

431

Council of
Ephesus condemns
Nestorianism and
Pelagianism

451

Council of
Chalcedon condemns
Apollinarianism,
Eutychianism,
Nestorianism and
Monophysitism

553

Second Council
of Constantinople
condemns
Nestorianism

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Medieval Church History (AD 590 – 1517)

The Rise of the Roman Church (AD 590 – 1054)

590

Gregory the Great becomes the first Medieval Pope



Gregory the Great (c. 540 – 604) expanded the power of the Roman bishop. Prior to this, the bishopric in Rome, Antioch and Alexandria shared power. He attributed both spiritual and temporal authority to the Bishop in Rome.

Image from <http://catholicsaints.info/pope-saint-gregory-the-great/>

680 – 692

Eastern and Western Churches drift apart

787

Second council of Nicaea condemns the veneration of icons

800

Charlemagne crowned the first Holy Roman emperor in Rome

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Medieval Church History (AD 590 – 1517)

The Supremacy of the Papacy (AD 1054 – 1309)

1054

Great Schism between the Western and Eastern Church

1097 – 1099

First Crusade to the Holy Land

1175

Peter Waldo commissions the translation of the Bible into the vernacular language

1230s

The Papal Inquisition

1251

Introduction of the Doctrine of Transubstantiation by the Roman Church



Peter Waldo (c. 1140 – c. 1205) founder of the Waldensians (c. 1170), a pre-reformation group which emphasised the importance of preaching the Word of God.



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The Decline of the Roman Church (AD 1309 – 1517)

1309 – 1378

The “Babylonian Captivity”

1378 – 1417

The Papal Schism

1382

Completion of Wycliffe Bible, a translation of the Latin Vulgate into English

1384

John Wycliffe dies of stroke

1413

John Huss writes *De Ecclesia*

1415

John Huss burnt at the stake



Papal palace in Avignon, France. For 70 years the pope resided in Avignon due to the conflict between the Papacy and the French Crown. This was also known as the “Babylonian Captivity.”

Image from Jean-Marc Rosier from <http://www.rosier.pro>



John Wycliffe (c. 1331 – 1384), also known as the morning star of the reformation.

Image from <http://global.britannica.com/biography/John-Wycliffe>



The monument in Constance, where John Huss was executed by being burnt at the stake.

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The Decline of the Roman Church (AD 1309 – 1517)

1450

Johann Gutenberg
invents the
Printing Press

1478

The Spanish
Inquisition

1492

Savonarola
preaches reform

1516

Erasmus publishes
the Greek New
Testament Text

*Girolamo Savonarola (1452 – 1498),
was an Italian pre-reformer.
The Roman Church
excommunicated, tortured and
hanged him. While being hanged,
flames were ignited beneath him
to consume his body.*



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Modern Church History (AD 1517 – Present)

The Reformation (AD 1517 – 1648)

1517
Martin Luther posts his 95 theses on the door of the castle-church in Wittenberg, Germany

1519
Ulrich Zwingli's preaching sparks Swiss reformation

1522
Luther translates the New Testament into German

1526
William Tyndale completes translation and printing of New Testament from Greek into English

1535
The Coverdale Bible – the first complete English Bible, is printed

1536
John Calvin publishes *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

1541
John Knox leads reformation in Scotland

1553 – 1558
Mary Tudor persecutes protestant Christians in England

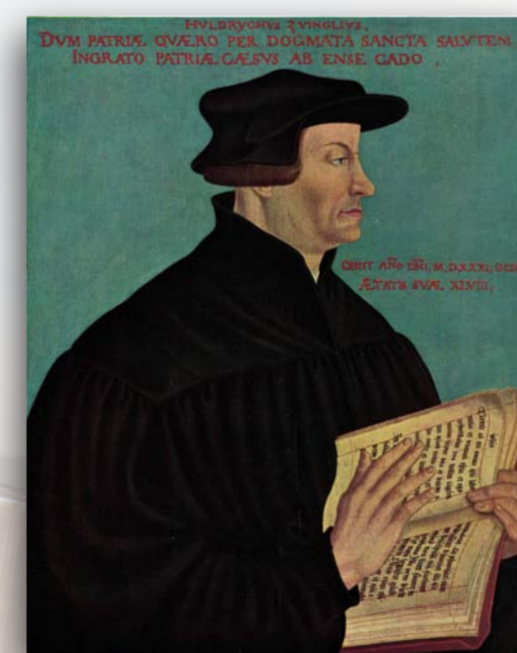


The castle-church door of Wittenberg. Wittenberg means "White Mountain". The name described the mountain of knowledge, as it was the centre of learning in the days of Martin Luther. It was then the best place in Europe to study Theology, Music and Law.



Martin Luther (1483 – 1546)

Image from <https://jpergerman.wordpress.com/2014/09/14/renaissance-and-reformation-martin-luther-sparks-the-protestant-reformation/>



Ulrich Zwingli (1484 – 1531)



John Knox (c.1513 – 1572). Thomas Randolph, the English Ambassador then, said that John Knox "is able in one hour to put more life in us than five hundred trumpets continually blasting in our ear."

Image from <http://blog.olivetree.com/tag/john-knox/>

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Modern Church History (AD 1517 – Present)

The Reformation (AD 1517 – 1648)

1545 – 1563

Council of Trent initiates Counter-Reformation

1560

Beginning of Puritanism in England

1611

King James Version published

1618 – 1619

Dutch Reformed Synod of Dort convened

1620

Pilgrims set sail on the Mayflower to America

1643 – 1652

The Westminster Assembly

1648

Westminster Confession of Faith approved and accepted by English Parliament

End of the Thirty Years' War between Roman Catholics and Protestants



Reformation Monument in Geneva. Four important reformers: William Farel, John Calvin, Theodore Beza, and John Knox.



The Westminster Assembly

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Modern Church History (AD 1517 – Present)

The Age of Revival (1648 – 1789)

1674

Birth of Isaac Watts



Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748), the father of English Hymnody.

1678

John Bunyan publishes *Pilgrim's Progress*

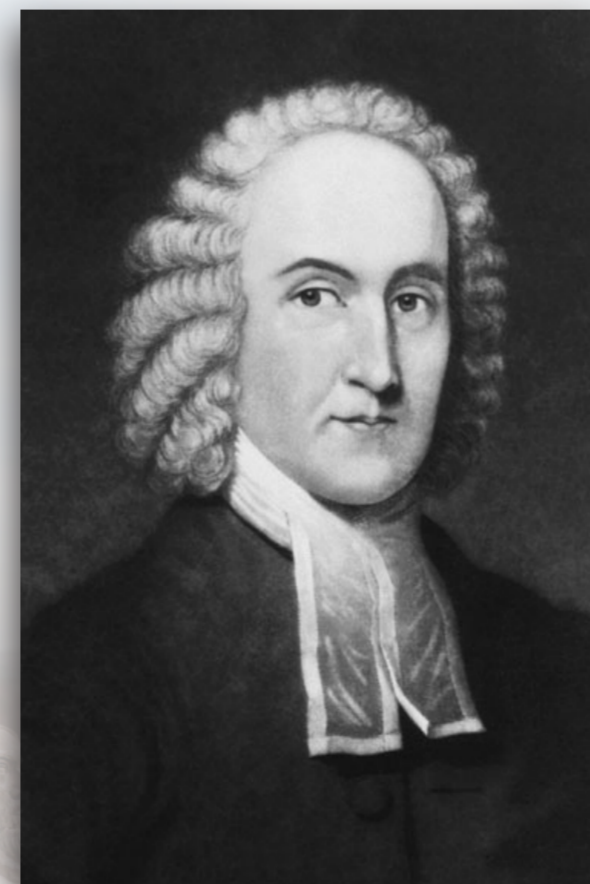


John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* has been translated to more than 200 languages and was written while he was in prison. He was imprisoned for 12 years for being a non-conformist.

Image from Puritan Belief Blog

1729

Jonathan Edwards preaches in Northampton



Jonathan Edwards (1703 – 1758), preached "Sinners in the hands of an angry God" in 1741.

Image from <http://areuserious.org/?p=193>

1739

The Great Awakening in America led by George Whitefield

1764

John Newton writes "Amazing Grace"

1780

Robert Raikes develops "Sunday School"



George Whitefield (1714 – 1770) open air preaching during the First Great Awakening.

Image from <http://www.examiner.com/article/the-great-awakening-and-anti-intellectualism-america>

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The Age of Missions (1789 – 1914)

1790

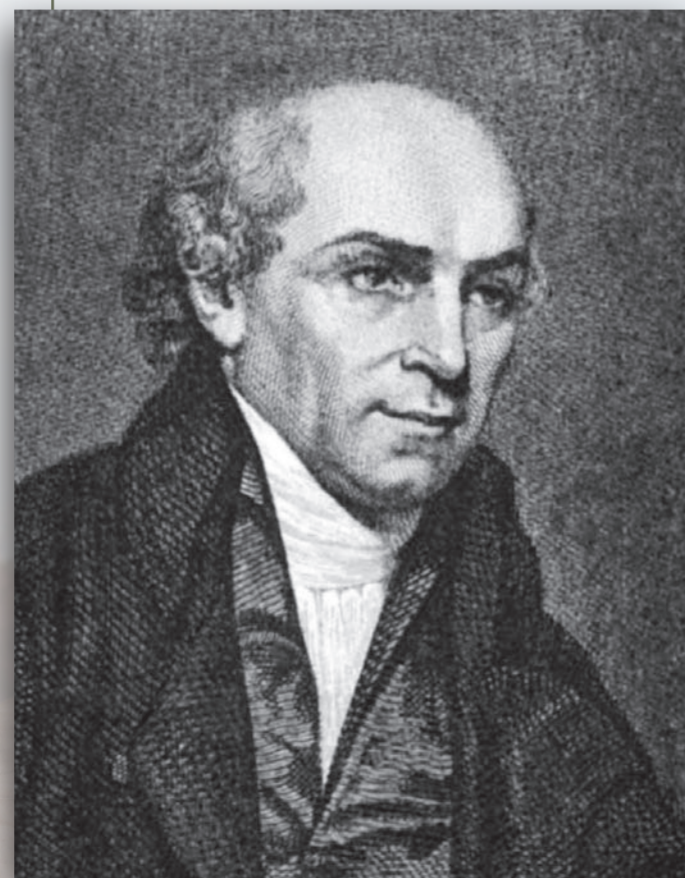
Second Great Awakening begins in America



Open air preaching during the Second Great Awakening.

1793

William Carey sails as missionary for India



1835

Robert Murray M'Cheyne pastors a Presbyterian church in Scotland

1836

George Muller opens orphanage in England

1847

William Chalmers Burns begins missions work in Shantou, China

1854

Charles H. Spurgeon preaches in England



William Carey (1761 – 1834), Father of modern missions.

Charles Spurgeon (1834 – 1892), the prince of preachers. He warned against the “down grade” of the church in his monthly magazine, “The Sword and the Trowel.”

Image from a blog “a twisted crown of thorns”

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1854

Hudson Taylor begins missions in China

1873 – 1875

D.L. Moody holds revival meetings

1881

Westcott and Hort publish corrupted Greek Text

1906

Azusa Street Revival marks the rise of the Charismatic movement

1910 – 1915

Publishing of “*The Fundamentals*”

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The Age of Bible Colleges (1914 – Present)

1924

Auburn Affirmation, signed by 1274 Presbyterian ministers in America, denies the fundamentals of the Christian faith

1925

Eric Liddell serves as missionary in China

1929

John Gresham Machen founds Westminster Theological Seminary

1930s

John Sung revival in South East Asia

1937

Carl McIntire founds Faith Theological Seminary and the Bible Presbyterian Church in America

1942

Forming of the National Association of Evangelicals, a Neo-Evangelical organisation

John Sung (1901 – 1944), Chinese revivalist.

Image from Home of Grace blog



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The Age of Bible Colleges (1914 – Present)

1948

World Council of Churches formed

International Council of Christian Churches formed

Timothy Tow (1920 – 2009), founder of the B-P movement in Singapore.

Image from Titus Low journal

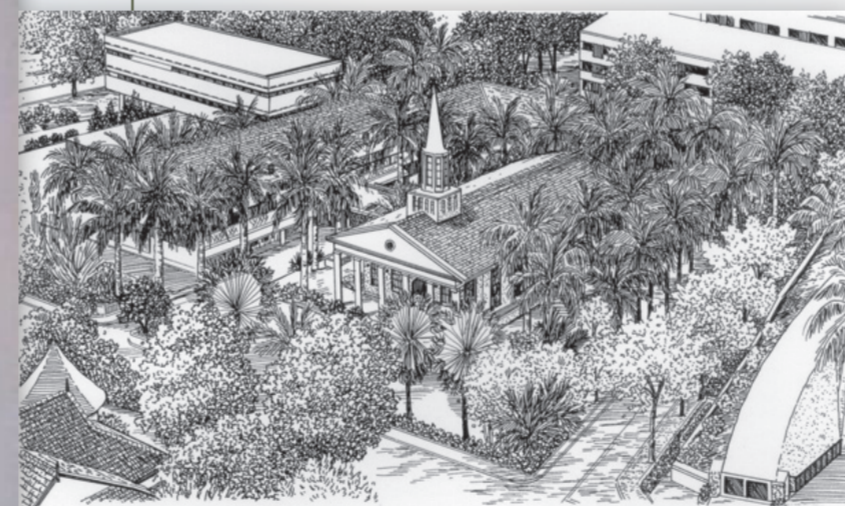
1955

Timothy Tow founds Bible-Presbyterian Church in Singapore



1962

Timothy Tow founds Far Eastern Bible College



Far Eastern Bible College

Image from FEBC.edu.sg

1979

Calvary B-P Church (Pandan) is founded



Calvary Pandan B-P Church

Screen shot from "The Singapore B-P Story"

1988

Dissolution of B-P Synod

1994

Ecumenical "Evangelicals and Catholics Together" document signed by Evangelicals and Catholics ministers in America

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2003

True Life B-P Church begins worship in RELC

2008

Lawsuit to evict FEBC

2011

Court of Appeal rules in favour of FEBC

2014

High Court outlines Terms of Scheme for FEBC's use of premises



Far Eastern Bible College Board, Faculty, Students 2015 with Beulah House, 10 Gilstead Road in the background.

Image from FEBC.edu.sg

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