

not a fan.

Are you a fan or a follower?



THE LETTER TO THE
HEBREWS
JESUS IS THE ULTIMATE REVELATION OF GOD

Sunday School

A Recap of Some of the Things We Learned

**gods
at
war**

THE BATTLE FOR YOUR HEART THAT WILL DEFINE YOUR LIFE

A graphic for "History and Apologetics" featuring a collage of religious and historical figures. The top part shows a man writing and a group of figures. The bottom part shows portraits of Martin Luther and a man speaking at a podium.

History and Apologetics
History: The Story of God's Love and Faithfulness
Apologetics: The Christian faith makes more sense

Godly Relationships

To know God's intended purpose and boundaries for relationships.

The Gospel of John >

Jesus is the Source, Giver and Sustainer of Life

"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31

not a fan.

Are you a fan or a follower?

A question to ask ourselves:

Are you a fan or a follower of Jesus?

Fan: *an enthusiastic admirer*

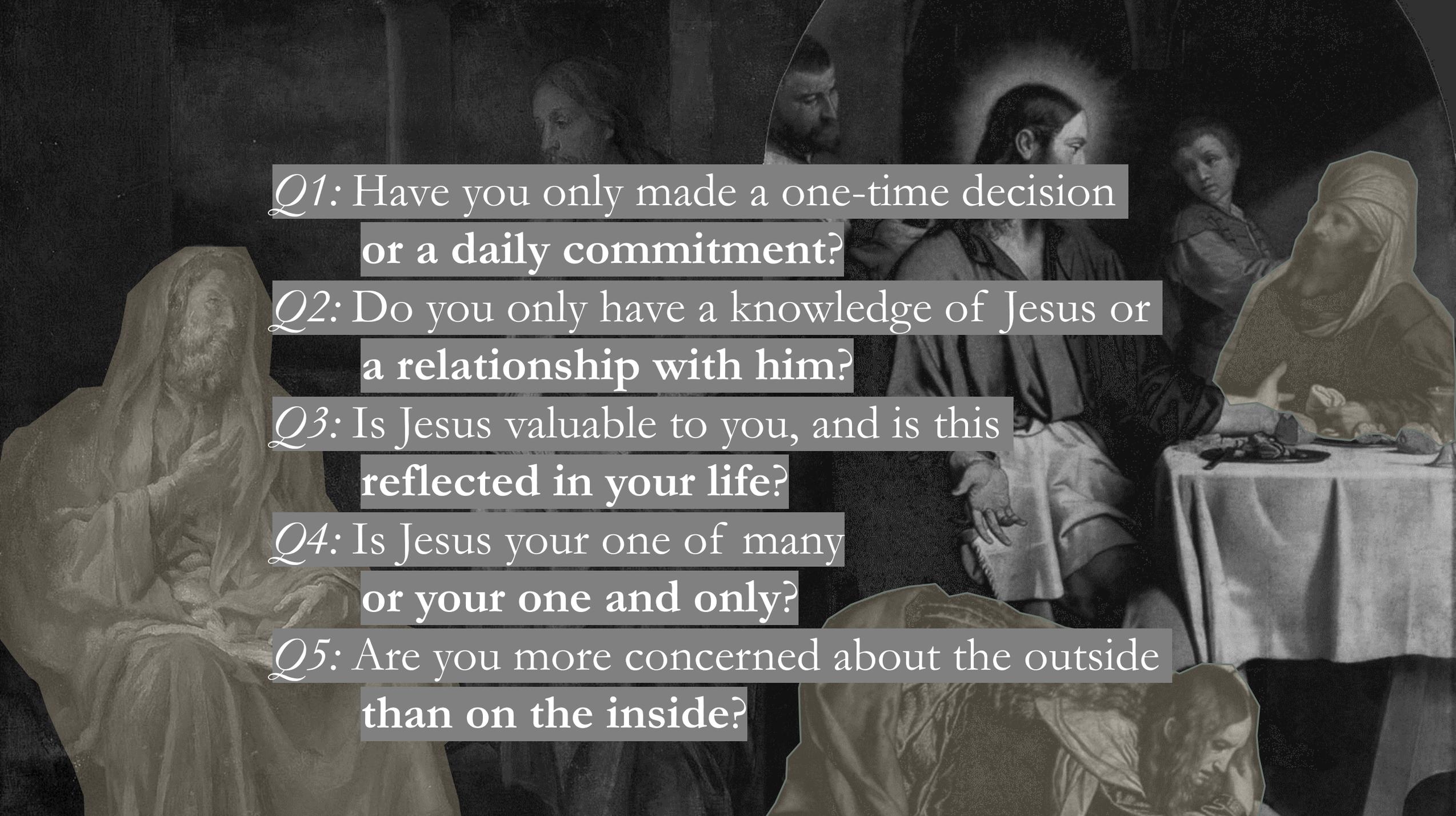
Does Jesus have a lot of fans today?

Follower: *someone who would “take up their cross daily and follow” Jesus*

Does Jesus have a lot of followers today?

How would you define your relationship with Jesus?

- *What makes you so sure?*
- *Do you use a “religious ruler”? (As long as I’m better than the next guy...)*
- *Where do you find your greatest joy?*



Q1: Have you only made a one-time decision
or a daily commitment?

Q2: Do you only have a knowledge of Jesus or
a relationship with him?

Q3: Is Jesus valuable to you, and is this
reflected in your life?

Q4: Is Jesus your one of many
or your one and only?

Q5: Are you more concerned about the outside
than on the inside?

Jesus doesn't expect followers to be
perfect but he does call them to be
authentic.

Luke 9:23

**Whoever wants to be my disciple
must deny themselves
and take up their cross daily
and follow me.**

Don't be fooled: Being a follower isn't easy.

Luke 9:24

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

Don't waste your life: Be a true follower of Jesus.



KEEP

CALM

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

CARRY

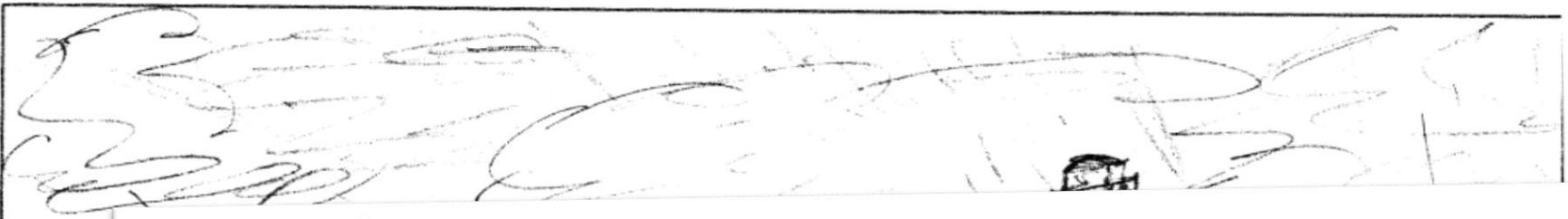
ON



FIVE WEEK
LENTEN
FEAST

Reading Through Matthew's Gospel

From Sunday, March 1
To Easter Sunday, April 5



9



↓

↓

2

8

Prophecy

Genesis 22:1-18; 1 Chronicles 17

What can we learn

A lot of signs pointed into the lives of

What's something

God made a promise the Son of God fulfilled.

What question

Why did God do

What can you learn about

Abraham + Isaac: love God

By Cat,

Messengers of the King - Part 1

Matthew 8-9

What can we learn from your passage?

Jesus can do many amazing things like perform miracles and can respond to those who

What's something

Jesus wants me

Messengers of the King - Part 2

Matthew 10-11

What can we learn from your passage?

The Beatitudes Refer to What a disciple should do, what is expected

What questions did you have?

Is sacrifice needed / wanted in a relationship w/ Jesus?

What can you learn about loving God / loving others?

Be helpful towards people in need; know that although we are saved, we were sinners, not righteous.

By [No Name]

What questions did you have?

Were the Samaritans / Gentiles already condemned or wouldn't listen to the message?

What can you learn about loving God / loving others?

Spread the Word of God; be a disciple.

By [No Name]

Crucified King

Matthew 26-27

What's something you noticed for the first time?

Nothing

What questions did you have?

What can we learn from your passage?

A lot.

Crucified King

Matthew 26-27

What can we learn from your passage?

Jesus died for our sins. We are Barabbas and God sets us free.

What's something you noticed for the first time?

The Love of Jesus for Barabbas.

What questions did you have?

[Blank]

What can you learn about loving God / loving others?

God's salvation is for everyone even for those who walked away from Him.

By Abby, Levi, James

THE LETTER TO THE
H E B R E W S

JESUS IS THE ULTIMATE REVELATION OF GOD

Main Point: Jesus is better and worth it

- Jesus' Gospel is better than the previous covenant that God has made with Israel because it is based on faith and not works
- It is worth it to suffer and be persecuted for Jesus' sake because he is better than anything the world could ever offer

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

WHAT THIS SAYS IS,
DON'T

MOMEN UMHAWAII.ORG

gods at war

THE BATTLE FOR YOUR HEART THAT WILL DEFINE YOUR LIFE

You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. *(Exodus 20:3-4)*

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." *(Matthew 22:36-40)*

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *(Matthew 6:21)*

"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." *(John 4:11-14)*

We all follow something or someone, the only question is:

What or whom do we follow?

- Whose opinion do you care the most and whose attention do you want the most?
- For what or with whom do you spend your time and money?
- Where do you find your identity and purpose?
- What or who gives you the greatest happiness in life?

All sin springs from the same source – **IDOLATRY**.

While we may not see many “graven images” in our world today, there are still countless gods passionately at war for the throne of our heart.

If we put the wrong god on the throne, our lives will be thrown into chaos, and all our efforts at sin management will be futile.

Only by recognizing our misplaced worship and by enthroning Jesus can we experience freedom and life.

	Possible gods	Ways to fight this god
gods of pleasure		
gods of love		
gods of money		
gods of power		
gods of me		

If you don't put God at the center of your heart to fulfill your desires, you will inevitably look for a cheap substitute, a false god, to give you happiness and you will not be satisfied.

All of human desires and longings are satisfied in Jesus alone. All true life, joy and happiness can be found only in him.

"God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing." CS Lewis

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in you." St. Augustine



The Gospel of John

^("good news")



*Jesus is the Source, Giver
and Sustainer of **Life***

"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31

Intro: Who is Jesus?

Book of Signs: How Jesus is the Son of God

*Transition:
Preparation for Glory*

Book of Glory: Jesus' Glory Revealed

*Epilogue: Jesus' Call to
Personal Discipleship*

Intro: Who is Jesus?

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

Book of Signs: How Jesus is the Son of God

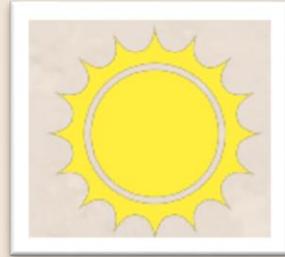
There are 7 "signs" in the first half of the Gospel, validating Jesus' identity as the Son of God.

- ★ 1. Turning water into wine at the Wedding at Cana
- ★ 2. Healing of the Official's Son
- ★ 3. Healing of the Paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda
- ★ 4. Jesus feeding the 5,000
- ★ 5. Jesus walking on Water
- ★ 6. Healing of the man born blind
- ★ 7. Raising of Lazarus

There are 7 "I Am" sayings by Jesus in the whole Gospel. These are Jesus' own revelations of himself to his disciples, as the source, giver, and sustainer of life.



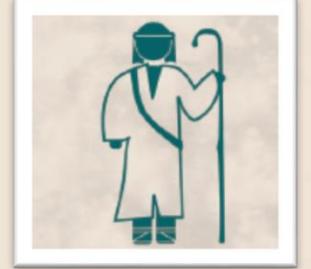
1. I am the Bread of Life he who comes to me shall not hunger.



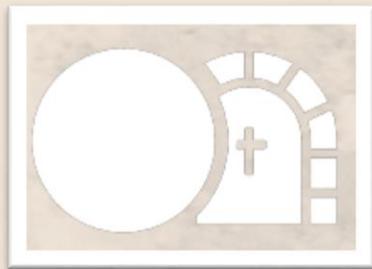
2. I am the Light of the World; he who follows me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life.



3. I am the Gate; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.



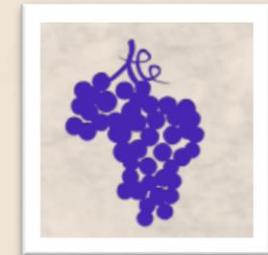
4. I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.



5. I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me shall live even if he dies.



6. I am the Way, the Truth, and Life; no one comes to the Father but through me.



7. I am the Vine, you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit for apart from me you can do nothing.

Book of Glory: Jesus' Glory Revealed

This second half of the Gospel describes, event by event, prophecy by prophecy, the fulfillment of God's plan for humanity's redemption!



Final Take-Away #1: Jesus is Sovereign

God is sovereign. Everything goes according to God's plan. God permits evil to bring about a greater good. He has planned all things while taking into account free human actions (without violating their free will).

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.” Acts 2:22-24

Final Take-Away #2: Jesus is Truth

Truth Exists and is found in Jesus Christ. Jesus did not just claim to have the words of truth but that he was the embodiment of Truth itself.

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me”. John 14:6

Final Take-Away #3: Jesus is Love

God has demonstrated his love for us through Jesus Christ (Romans 5:8). We are called to do the same because we are Jesus' disciples.

“For God so loved the world (loved the world in this way) that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” John 3:16

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
John 13:35

John talks about this again in his letters in 1 John 4:8, “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love”

Epilogue: Jesus' Call to Personal Discipleship

The last scene in the Gospel is of Jesus telling Peter to personally follow him.

Jesus calls all of us to follow him first, personally and primarily. Church, youth group, fellowship with other believers are pointless and worthless if we don't personally follow Jesus himself. All fellowship is meant to encourage us to look to Jesus together.

“Then he said to them all: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?’” Luke 9:23-24

Godly Relationships

To know God's intended purpose and boundaries for relationships.

1. Introduction and History

2. How is your relationship with God?

3. World's View vs. Biblical View

4. Boundaries in Relationships / Dating

Summary:

1. Make sure that in all your relationships you are leading people to Jesus and not the other way.
2. Put your relationship with God first and be the right person before looking for the right one.
3. Be open and accountable to a Godly person.
4. Purity leads to intimacy. Physical intimacy is God's gift for those who are married.
5. Make wise decisions through reading the Bible and seeking Godly advice.
6. The world's view is different from the Biblical view; don't let the world influence you through media (music, videos, shows, movies, etc.).

Three Final Words of Advice?

Tito Angel:

- Pray
- Have Godly wisdom
- Know your boundaries

Tito Rommel

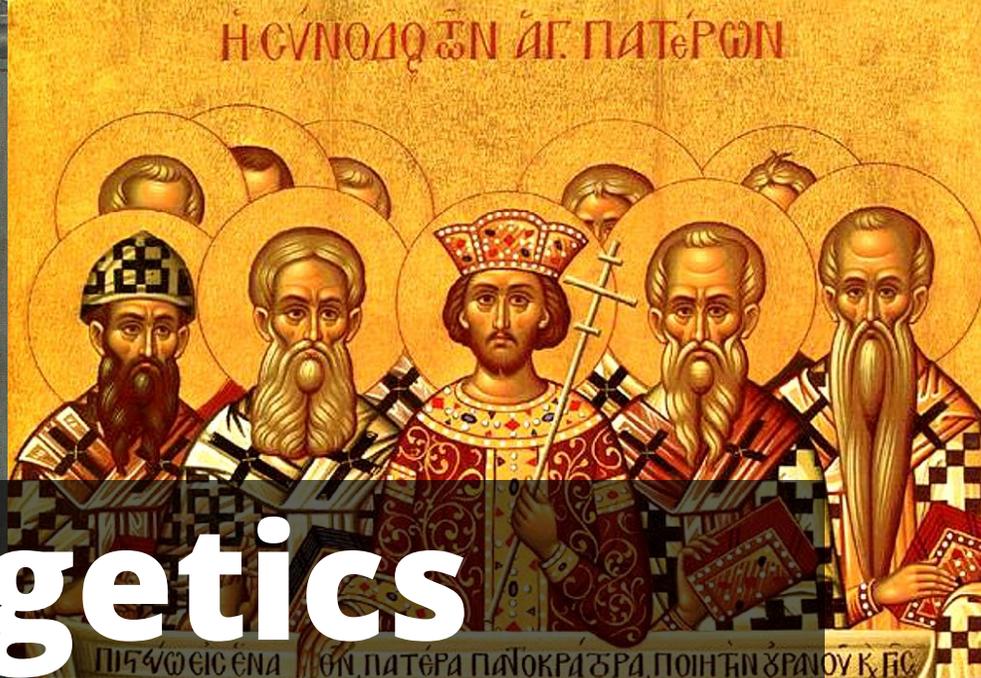
- Know your situation with God
- Wait, take your time, because that will come. If you don't wait you'll make unfavorable decisions
- Seek the counsel of God, your parents, and those with Godly wisdom

Tita Jen:

- Seek God
- Seek God
- Seek God more

Tita Elaine

- Love God first
- Love yourself
- Have self-control



History and Apologetics

History: The Story of God's Love and Faithfulness

Apologetics: The Christian faith makes more sense



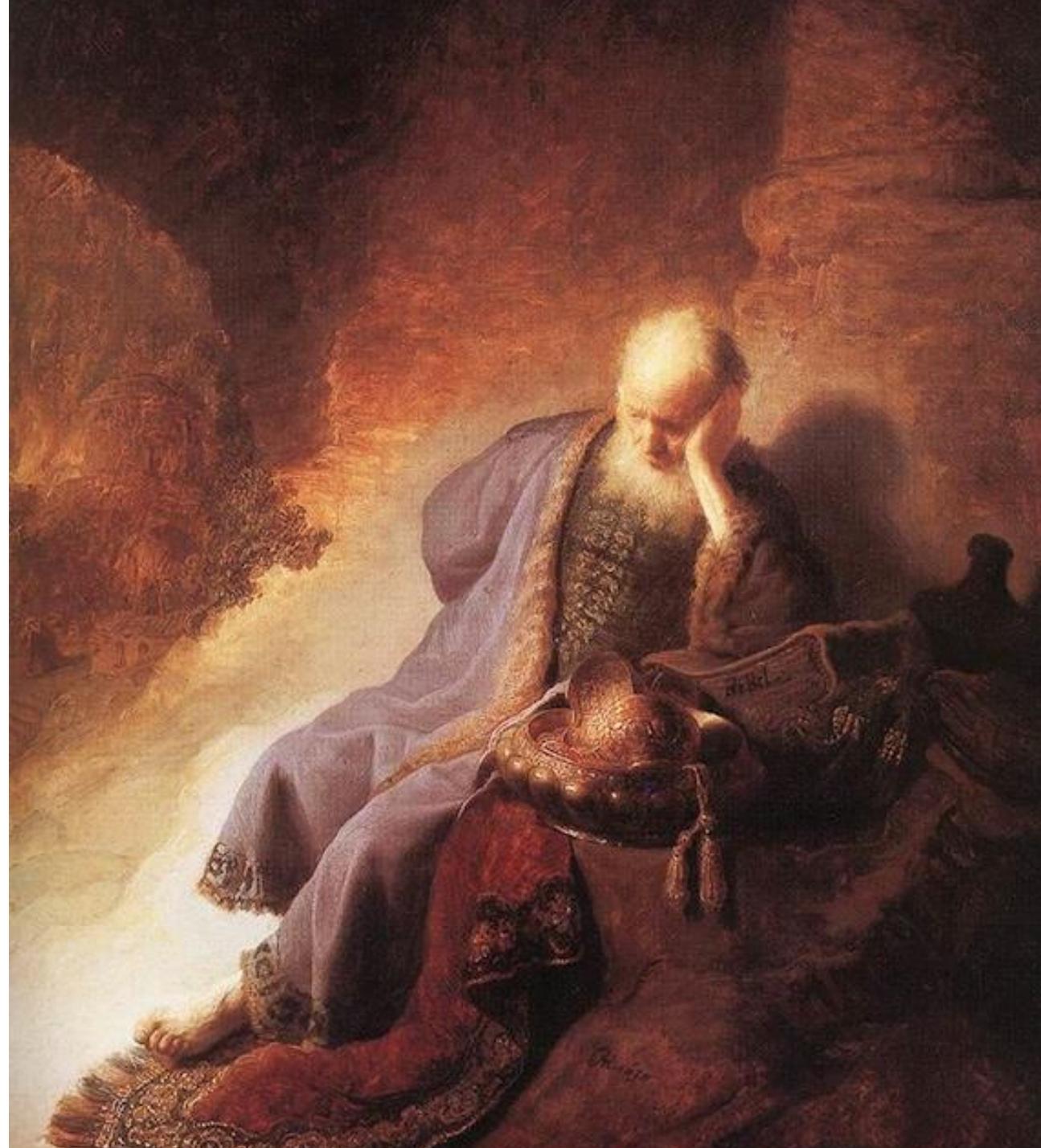
**The faithful love of the Lord never ends!
His mercies never cease.
Great is his faithfulness;
his mercies begin afresh each morning.**

I say to myself, "The Lord is my inheritance;
therefore, I will hope in him!"

The Lord is good to those who depend on him,
to those who search for him.
So it is good to wait quietly
for salvation from the Lord.

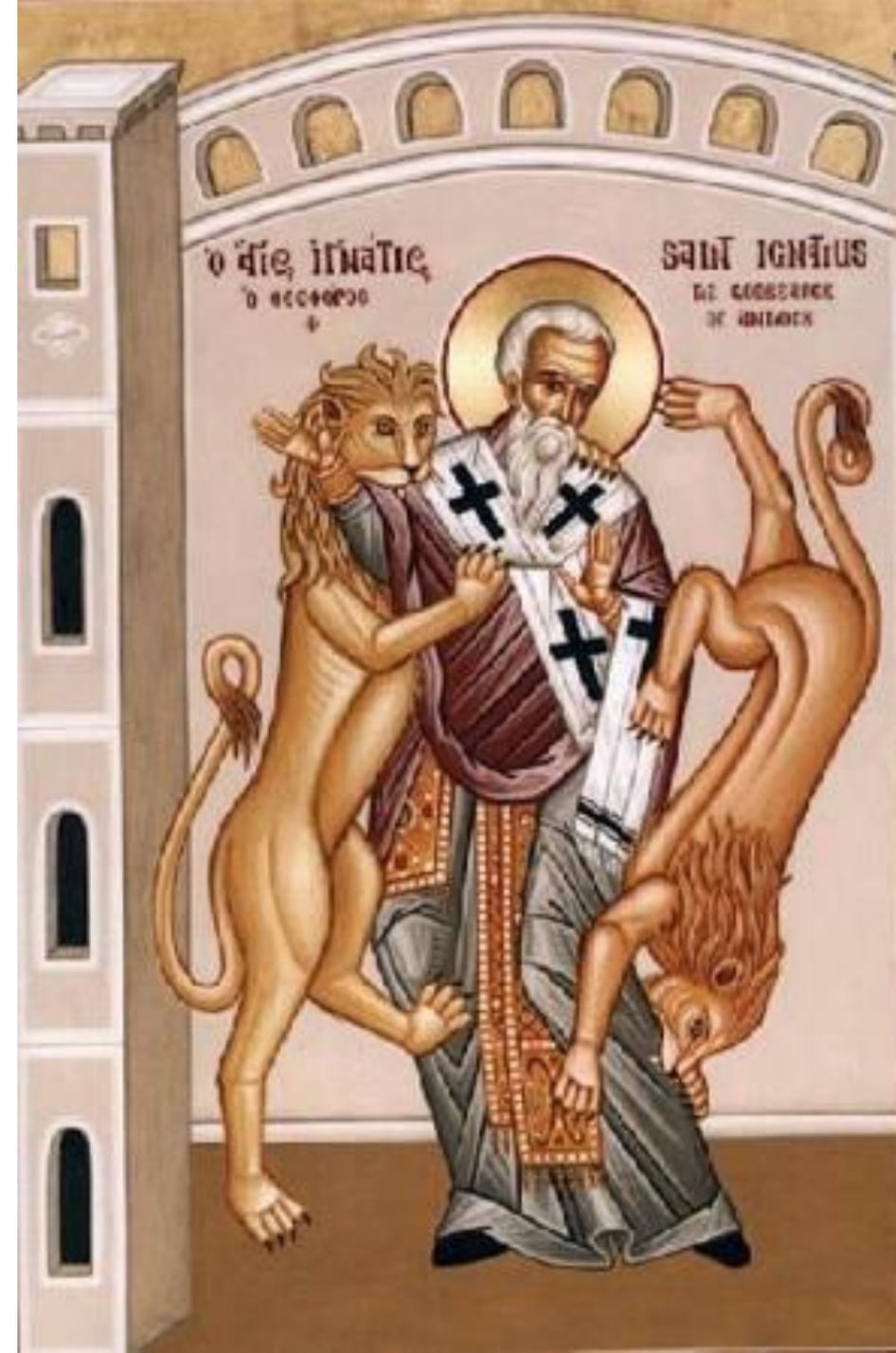
Lamentation 3:22-25

Written by Jeremiah, the Prophet
after the Destruction of Jerusalem, *circa* 600 B.C.



Christian History: Why study dead Christians?

- a) To imitate their faith
- b) To see God's faithfulness
- c) To include those within Christianity / "mere Christianity"
- d) To exclude heresy



But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

1 Peter 3:15

Written by Peter the Apostle
as a Circular Letter to all Christians



Apologetics: To be Christian is to be Different.

a) We live in a world that is different. We need to know what we believe.

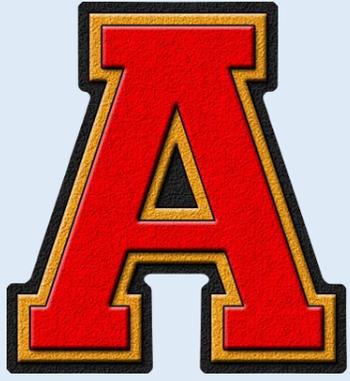
We live in a world of many different ideas and many different worldviews, what is called a “pluralistic society”. Nowadays, to be truly Christian is to be different.

b) To defend and present the better alternative

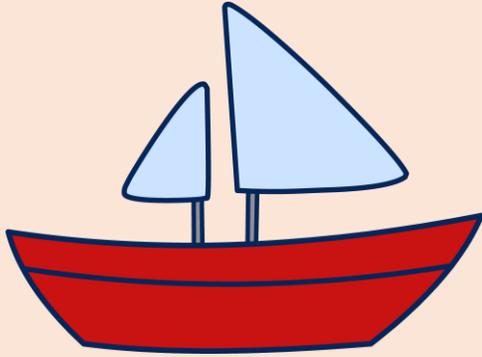
Gone are the days when Christian convictions are normative and don't have to be defended. We must, in fact, go further and present a case why the teachings of Jesus are actually the most reasonable worldview and that he gives us the most compelling answers to life's questions.

Questions we addressed:

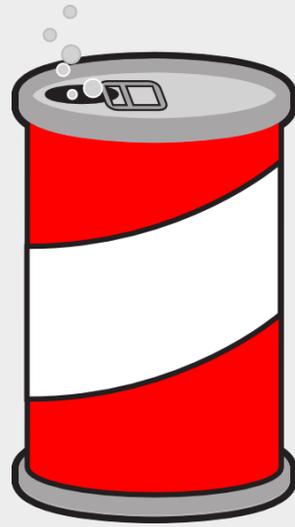
1. Does Science contradict the Bible?
2. Why don't Christians follow Old Testament Jewish laws?
3. What are the evidences that Jesus' Resurrection is a true historical event?
4. How can we be sure of the reliability and accuracy of our Bibles?
5. Why are there so many denominations and what are their differences?



A



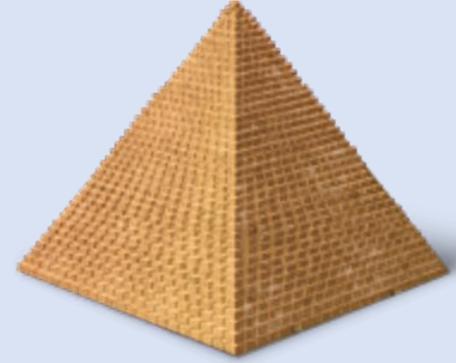
Boat



Can

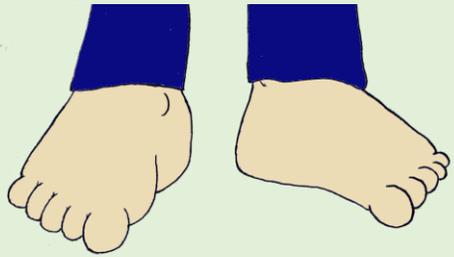


Dream



Egypt

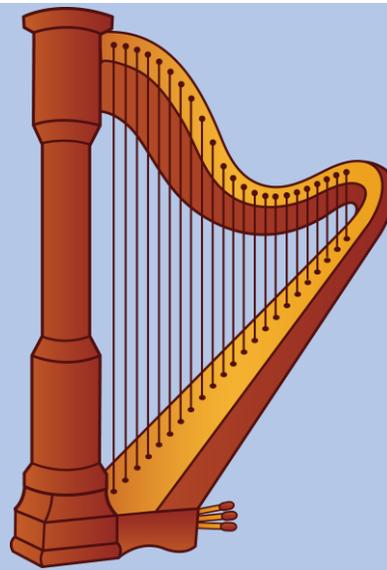
Who	Adam and Eve	Noah	Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel)	Joseph (Jacob's son)	Descendants of Israel, Moses
Summary	Sin spreading into the world.	Demonstration of the consequences of sin and of free salvation.	God's rescue plan begins by calling Abram to Canaan from Ur.	God brings his people to Egypt through Joseph.	God brings his people out of Egypt through Moses.
Jesus?	Jesus is the new Adam who has come to undo Sin.	Jesus is salvation from wrath to those who trust in him.	Jesus is the promised descendant of Abraham, to bless all nations.	Jesus faced trials and death, yet overcome them all to bring salvation to many.	Jesus saves us from our captivity to Sin.



Feet



Gavel



Harp



In-N-Out

J. CREW

Jesus

<p>Moses to Joshua (a lot of marching)</p>	<p>Judges</p>	<p>King David, Solomon and sons</p>	<p>Exile to Babylon and Return (Esther, Daniel, etc.)</p>	<p>Jesus and Disciples</p>
<p>Giving of the Law in the wilderness. Israel's disobedience. Conquest march into Promised Land.</p>	<p>Israel settles into the Land, but disobeys. Enemies attack but God saves them by raising a judge.</p>	<p>Israel demands a king. God gives Saul then David and his descendants. Kingdom gets divided.</p>	<p>Israel is conquered and many are exiled into Babylon. Eventually, God brings them out of exile back into Israel.</p>	<p>God comes down as Jesus to live, die and be resurrected, sends disciples to preach Good News.</p>
<p>Jesus mediates God and Man, perfectly obeys the Law, conquers his enemies.</p>	<p>Judges saved Israel but only temporarily. Jesus saves once for all.</p>	<p>Jesus is the true and perfect King of his people.</p>	<p>Jesus is rebuilding God's kingdom on earth.</p>	<p>Jesus saves, sends disciples to build the Church to renew the broken creation.</p>

← Creation

BEFORE CHRIST

/

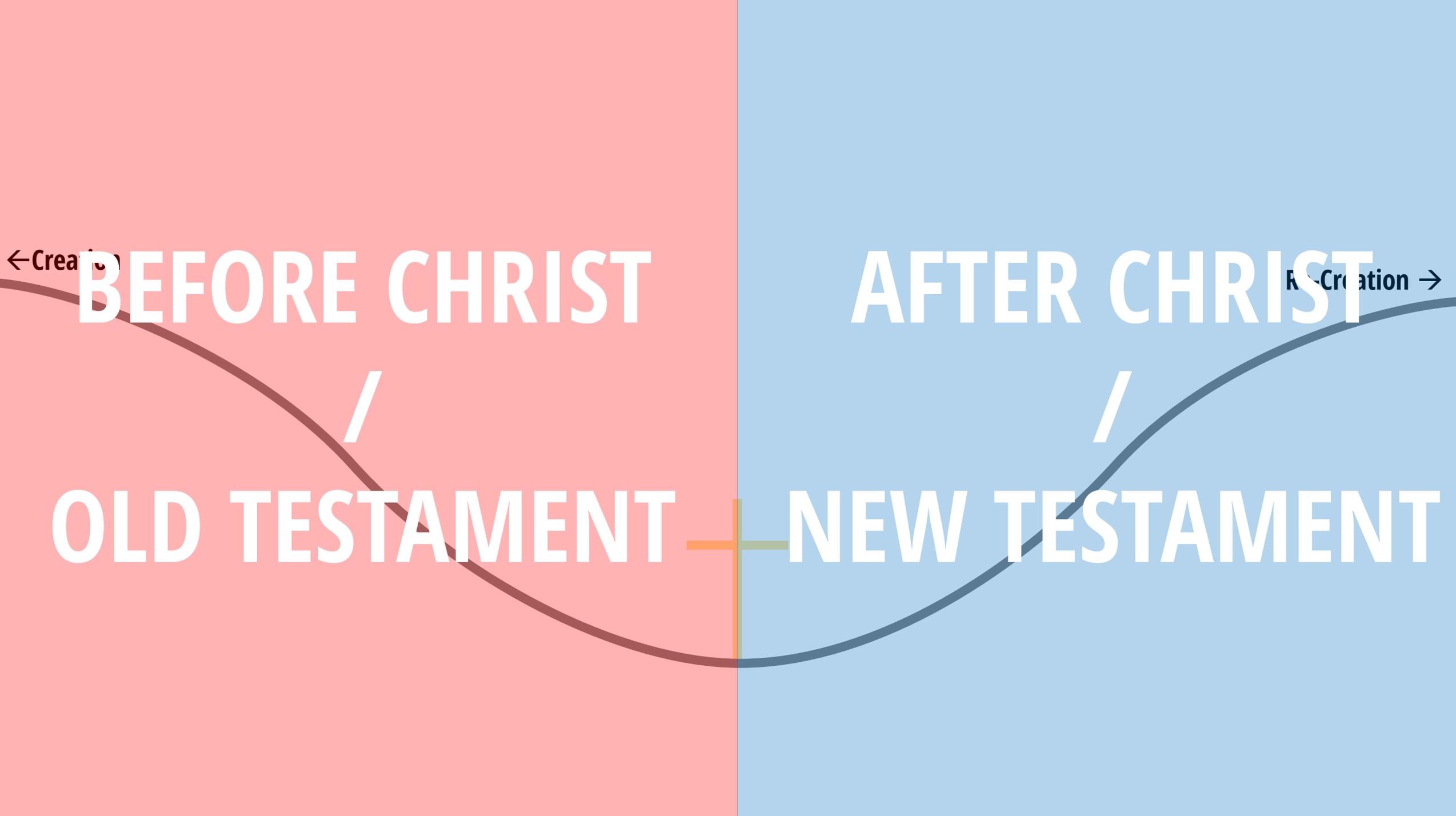
OLD TESTAMENT

AFTER CHRIST

Re-Creation →

/

NEW TESTAMENT



ADAM

NOAH

ABRAHAM

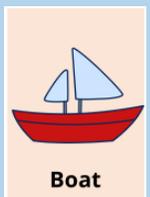
ISRAEL

CHURCH

NEW CREATION



A



Boat



Can



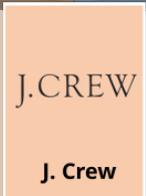
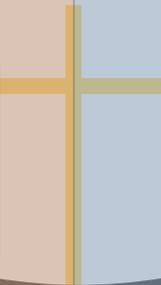
Egypt



Gavel



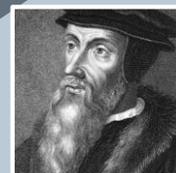
In-N-Out



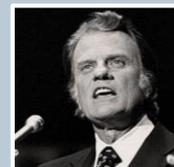
J. CREW
J. Crew



AD300



AD1500



AD1900

You Are Here
(2016)



2000 - 1500BC

1000BC 600BC

What if you only had five minutes to explain your faith?

What would you say?

What are the important things you'd make sure to mention?

An adequate summary of the faith should contain these ideas:

Sin | Salvation | Gospel | Grace | Faith





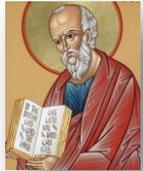
Please Explain...

The Spread of Christianity
in the Roman Empire
By the Second and Fourth Centuries

70
Temple Destroyed



95
Death of John



Increasing Roman persecution



303
Great Persecution



306
Constantine



313
Edict of Milan



325
Council of Nicaea

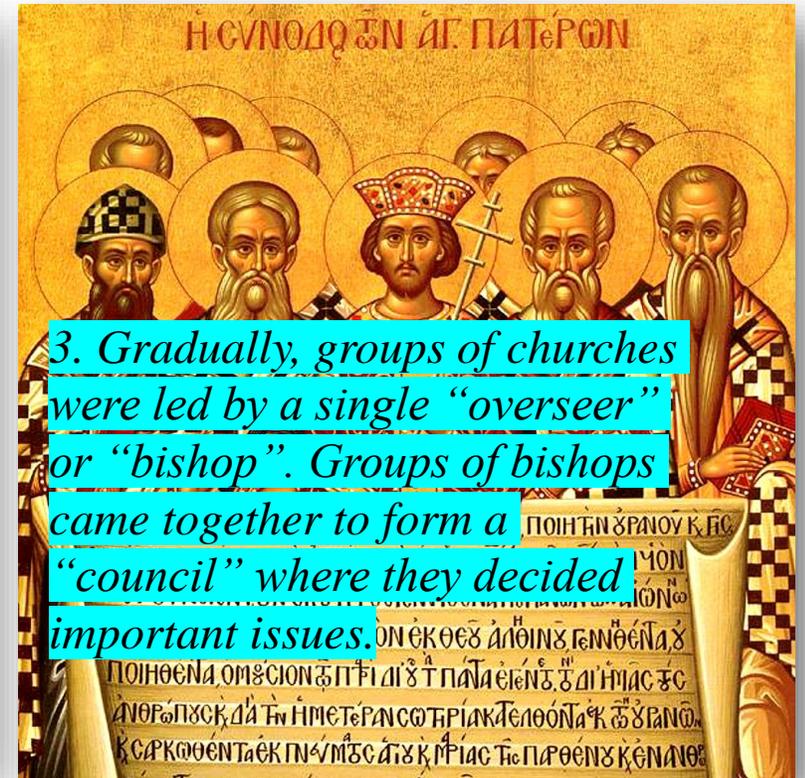


Early Christianity (70-325)

1. Growing Roman hostility because Christians did not participate in Roman social life, but simultaneous growth due to Christian kindness.

2. Theologians begin to define "orthodox" teaching, in order to defend against "heresies". Christians began the process of recognizing which writings are from the apostles, and so authoritative – forming the *biblia*, literally "books".

3. Gradually, groups of churches were led by a single "overseer" or "bishop". Groups of bishops came together to form a "council" where they decided important issues.



382

State Religion



476

Fall of Rome



1054

Great Schism



1517

Luther's 95 Theses



Increasing Papal power

Decreasing Papal power

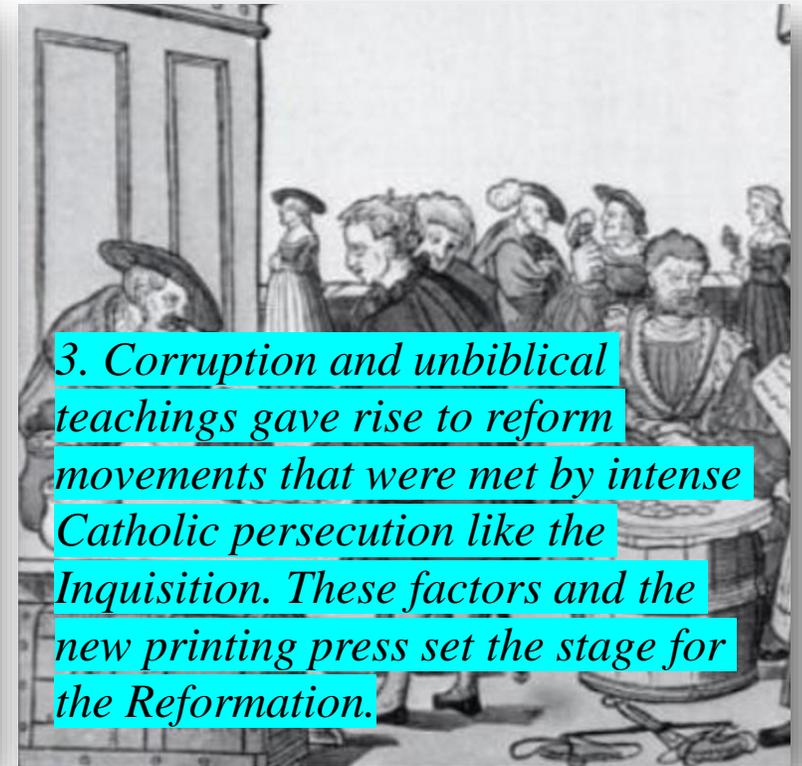
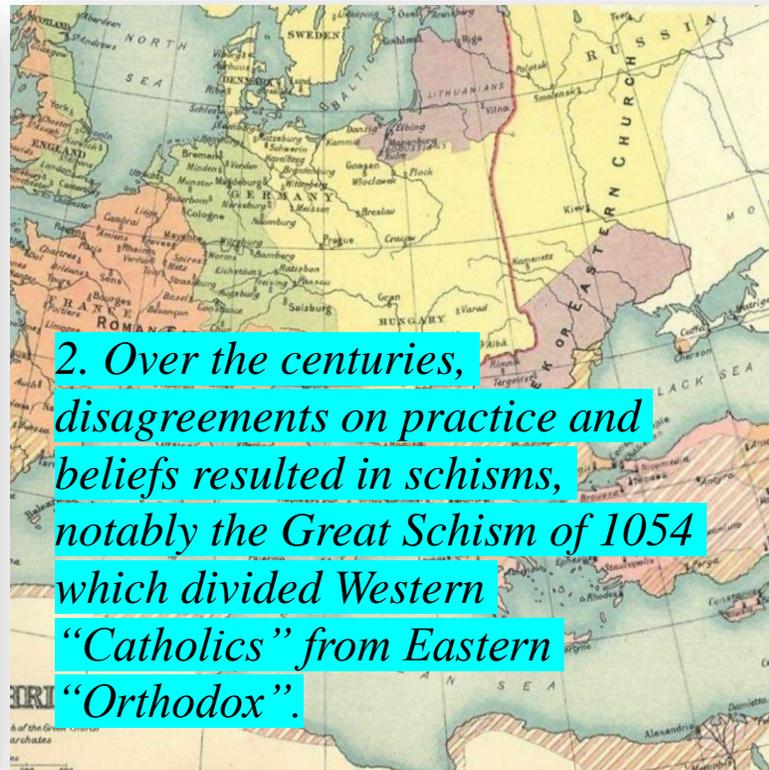
Reform movements

Christian Middle Ages (325-1517)

1. The Bishop of Rome (the "Pope") rose as the dominant cultural, spiritual and political authority in Western Europe after the fall of the Western Roman Empire. With the increased wealth and power came corruption.

2. Over the centuries, disagreements on practice and beliefs resulted in schisms, notably the Great Schism of 1054 which divided Western "Catholics" from Eastern "Orthodox".

3. Corruption and unbiblical teachings gave rise to reform movements that were met by intense Catholic persecution like the Inquisition. These factors and the new printing press set the stage for the Reformation.



1534

1536

Conflicts between Catholics and Protestants

1618-1648

1730-60

Church of England

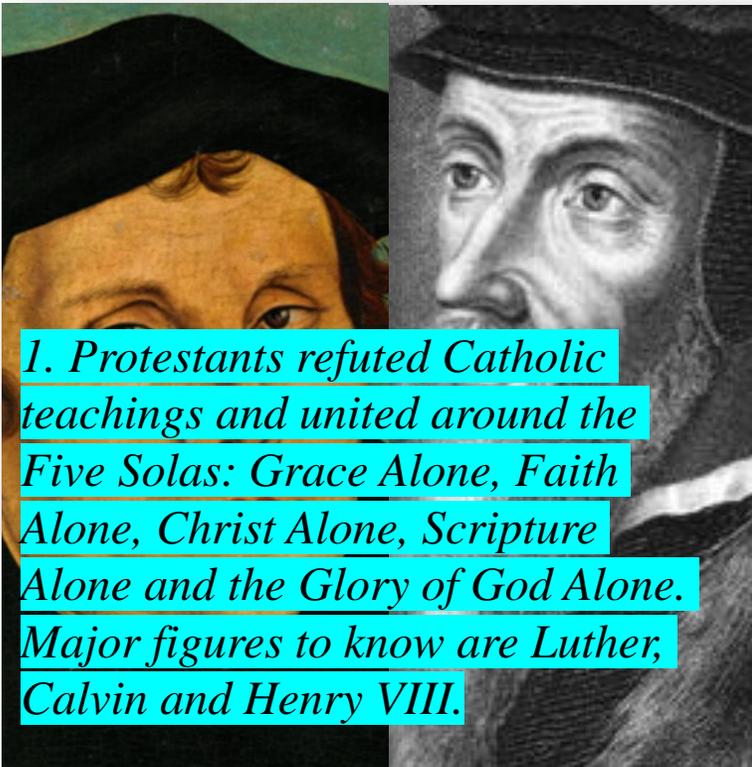
Calvin's *Institutes*

Thirty Years' War

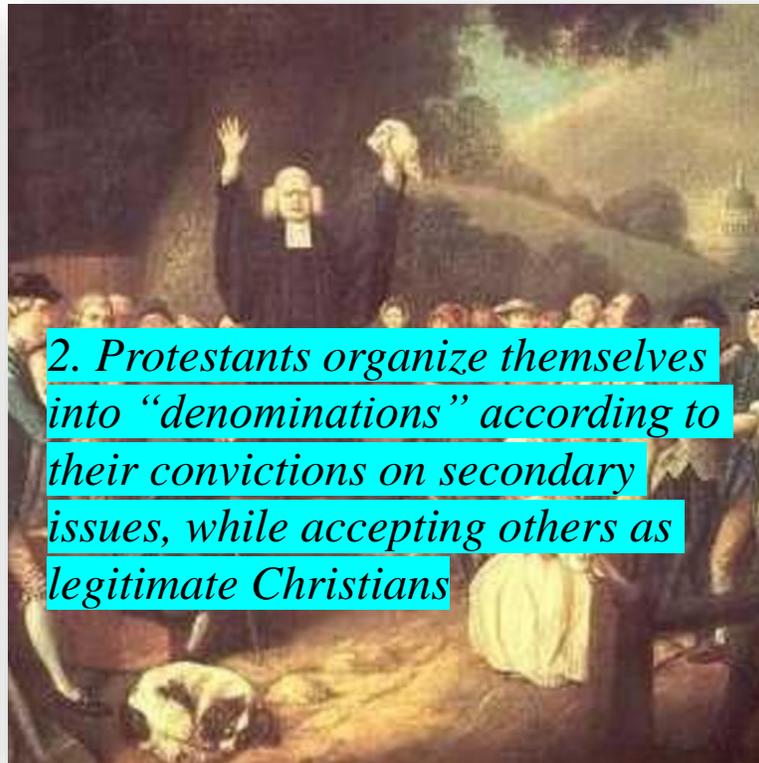
The Great Awakening



The Reformation and Early Modern Christianity (1517-1800)



1. Protestants refuted Catholic teachings and united around the Five Solas: Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone, Scripture Alone and the Glory of God Alone. Major figures to know are Luther, Calvin and Henry VIII.



2. Protestants organize themselves into "denominations" according to their convictions on secondary issues, while accepting others as legitimate Christians



3. Christianity spread to the Americas, East Asia and Australia due to European colonization and also due to Christians fleeing persecution.

1800-1820
Second Great Awakening



1906-1915
Pentecostal Movement



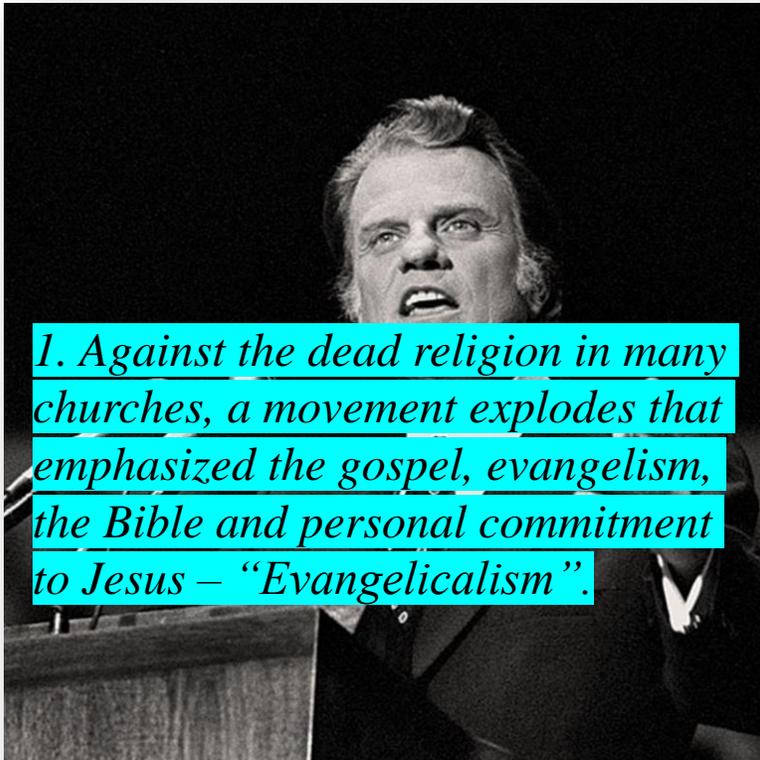
1947-2005
Billy Graham Crusades



2016
Present

Rise of "Evangelical" Christianity

Modern Christianity (1800-Present)



1. Against the dead religion in many churches, a movement explodes that emphasized the gospel, evangelism, the Bible and personal commitment to Jesus – "Evangelicalism".



2. Evangelical Christianity explodes in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Meanwhile, Christian-majority Western countries become more secularized.



3. Fresh movements of the Holy Spirit resulted in the widespread rediscovery of spiritual gifts in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD