

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”
Galatians 4:4-5

The Jewish Greek Roman New Testament World

- Alexander the Great conquests spread Greek culture around the world
- Roman's came in and solidified that used Greek Gods and language to unite empire
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There was a worldwide and nearly universal:

- Citizenship
 - Law
 - Language In the Fullness of Time
 - Peace
 - Transportation
 - Moral Decline
- God Brought His Son because of:

“In the fullness of time God sent forth. . .”

The persecutions of Christians: The Blood of the Saints is the Seed of the Church.

Why were they persecuted:

- They were haters of humanity—Did not associate with non-believers
- They were thought to be cannibals—drink this is my blood; eat this is my body.
- They caused shame among the pagans—convicting others of their own sin
- They were zealously missionary—they wanted everyone to believe
- They were devoutly exclusive—they were very exclusive. This has been a benefit and a curse throughout history for the church.

How were they persecuted:

- Nero (AD 54-68) sporadic and only in Rome
- Trajan (AD 98-117) Province wide--
- Decius (AD 250) Empire wide
- Diocletian (only retired emperor) (AD 300-310) Ten years, most complex, every pastor, church, and Bible considered illegal

Overview of Church History

1. The Early Church Times AD 1-590

- The Apostolic Age 30-100 AD
- The Time of Martyrs 60-313 AD
- The Christian Rulers 313-590 AD The Byzantine Era
 - Fourth Century Christians:
 - Can't beat em' join em'
 - Gradually the Roman Legionaires are influenced to become Christians as they persecute the Church. Constantine losing legionaires.
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 - Constantine converts to Christianity begins succession of Christian friendly emperors.

2. The Medieval Times AD 590-1517

- Missionary Era 590-1049 AD
 - Roman Catholic Monks—Jesuits, Ignatius, Franciscans, etc.
- Papal Era 1049-1294 AD—
 - Crusades-not very Christian in action-dark ages-most people born, lived and died within a five mile range
 - Canosa—European rulers all installed by Popes
 - Popes most powerful of any time
 - Innocent III controls all of Europe by 1294
 - The more powerful the more decadent

- Pre-Reformation Era 1294-1517 AD
 - The lowest point for the church
 - Wycliffe-Scriptures to the English language—first of the great church reformers—hated to this day by the catholic church
 - Hus—protested against church burned at stake--
 - Savonioraola-preached Scriptures were the full expression of God’s will and should be viewed as above and superior to whatever the pope of church may say. He was burned at the stake.

3. The Modern Times AD 1517-Present

- Reformation Era 1517-1648
 - Peace of Westphalia in 1648 Europe stopped fighting between Catholic and Protestant
- Denominations Era 1648-1790
 - 1st Great Awakening
- Missions and Liberalism Era 1790-Present
 - Begins with launch of modern missions—William Cary, Adonirm Judson, etc.
 - The Second Great Awakening—The Restoration Movement
 - Quakers fall into this area as an important time for the movement, many splits and fracturing of the church.