

CHURCH HISTORY

Lesson 1 - Introduction

The Lord's Church began in roughly 30 A.D. with New Testament history ending around 95 A.D. with the book of Revelation. From then until now, many people and events will have a profound impact on Christianity and the life of modern-day Christians. The questions in this series will require considerable research outside of the Bible, so plan your preparation time accordingly.

A. Define "church history".

B. The New Testament writers were not silent about the future of the Lord's church. What can we learn from the following?

1. 52 A.D. 2 Thes. 2:1-12
2. 57 A.D. Acts 20:29-31
3. 65 A.D. 1 Tim. 4:1-5
4. 90 A.D. 1 John 2:18-23; 4:1-3
5. 95 A.D. Rev. 6-20

C. Search the Internet for two good sources of church history and email these to everyone else in class. Why should we be careful about using such sources?

D. Try to divide up the time from 30 A.D. to today into five to seven major periods.

E. In two or three sentences, summarize each of the following major events.

1. 100 A.D. Early Church "Fathers", the rise of "Gnosticism"
2. 200 A.D. Persecution of the Church by Rome
3. 300 A.D. Constantine, the Edict of Milan, the Council of Nicea
4. 400 A.D. Fall of Rome
5. 500 A.D. The rise of the "papacy"
6. 600 A.D. The "Dark Ages"
7. 700 A.D. The rise of Islam
8. 1000 A.D. The "Great Schism"
9. 1100 A.D. The "Crusades"
10. 1400 A.D. Start of the "Renaissance"
11. 1500 A.D. The "Reformation"
12. 1600 A.D. King James Version of the Bible
13. 1700 A.D. The "Enlightenment"
14. 1800 A.D. The "Great Awakening", the "Restoration Movement"
15. 1900 A.D. The rise of "Secular Humanism"