

Highlights of Church History

(With particular reference to the history of Great Britain and the Protestant Reformation)

<h2><u>The Reformation</u></h2> <p>(and Related Matters of Truth & Righteousness)</p>		<h2><u>The Counter-Reformation</u></h2> <p>(and Related Matters of Error & Ungodliness)</p>
<p>Christ and the Apostles laid (and were) the foundation of the Christian Church (Ephesians 2:20)</p> <p>Christ predicted “false Christs” and “false prophets” (Matthew 24:24) Paul, John, Jude, Peter predict and observe at work already, “the mystery of iniquity” which would give rise to “the man of sin”, “wolves”, “antichrists” etc. (Acts 20:29-30, 1 John 2:18-28, Jude 4-5, 2 Peter 2:1-2, 2 Thessalonians 2)</p>	<p>1st Century AD</p>	<p>False Christ and false apostles and antichrists appeared according to the predictions of Christ and the apostles.</p>
<p>Christianity established in Great Britain (Long before Roman Catholicism existed!) Ancient historical writings claim that Christianity was first established in Britain by Joseph of Arimathea at the direction of Phillip the evangelist.</p>	<p>37AD</p>	
	<p>1st-4th C AD</p>	<p>Heresies began to enter the Church. Persecution of Christians by Roman Empire.</p>
	<p>284-305AD</p>	<p>Diocletian the last Pagan Roman Emperor to persecute Christians</p>
<p>The “falling away” is well underway and the “man of sin” begins to emerge – as Paul predicted in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Constantine introduced the sign of the cross on the political standard and shields of his armies. He brought a false peace to the empire by combining Paganism and ‘Christianity’.</p>	<p>312AD</p>	<p>Constantine, Emperor of Rome, defeats pagan forces at Milvian Bridge, and establishes Christianity (Roman Catholicism) as the state religion (politically correct) of the Roman Empire. Although not officially, he was effectively, the first Pope – “that man of sin”.</p>
	<p>411AD</p>	<p>Pelagius (a Briton), taught at Rome, Pelagianism – salvation by free will, without gift of God’s grace. (foundation of Arminian churches today)</p>
	<p>800AD</p>	<p>Charlemagne crowned by the Pope as Holy Roman Emperor.</p>
<p>Alfred the Great, King of England, Ten Commandments basis of English Law, translated Exodus and the Psalms into English.</p>	<p>880-890AD</p>	
<p>Magna Carta – King John forced by English Barons to sign at Runnymede.</p>	<p>1215AD</p>	
	<p>1233AD</p>	<p>The Inquisition instituted, given to Dominican Order to implement.</p>
<p>John Wycliffe (Morning Star of the Reformation) – Translated Bible to English from Latin Vulgate – first full English Bible</p>	<p>C 1380AD</p>	

Martin Luther – Protestant Reformation began! (31 October) – Luther’s “95 Theses” nailed to the Wittenberg Cathedral door. He also penned “5 solas” – “<u>grace alone, faith alone, Christ alone, Scripture alone, God’s glory alone!</u>”	1517AD	
William Tyndale – First English Bible in print, (translated original languages).	1526AD	
English Church – (Henry VIII broke with Rome).	1533AD	
Martin Luther – printed the first German Bible	1534AD	Ignatius De Loyola, founded the “Society of Jesus” or Jesuits, the spearhead of Rome’s ‘Counter-Reformation’.
John Knox led Reformation in Scotland.	1541AD	
	1545-1563	Council of Trent (Roman Catholic) – Established the Tridentine (Latin) Mass, first major step in the Counter-Reformation, decreed many “anathemas” against Protestants/Bible believers.
The “blood of the martyrs became the seed of the Church”!	1553-1558AD	Bloody Mary (Tudor) reigned in England – Many Protestants burnt at stake. (See “Foxe’s Book of Martyrs”)
Elizabeth I reigns as Protestant monarch (many attempts on her life planned by the Jesuits & Roman Catholic powers of Europe – all failed!)	1558AD	
God’s deliverance for England!	1588AD	Spanish Armada sent by Pope to invade England but was destroyed, largely by storms. A medal struck, “God blew and they were scattered”.
	C 1591AD	Francesco Ribera’s, (a Jesuit), futurist interpretation of the Revelation, relegated all prophecy of the Antichrist to the distant future, even after Christ’s return and the resurrection, attempting to overthrow the Protestant doctrine that the Popes fulfilled the prophecies of Antichrist.
King James translation work authorised (Hampton Court Conference)	1604AD	
God’s deliverance for England!	1605AD	The Gunpowder Plot (Guy Fawkes Day, 5th November,) instigated by Jesuits to blow up King James I and English Parliament, failed.
Authorised Version (KJV) published.	1611AD	
	C1613AD	Luis De Alcazar, a Jesuit, produced the praeterist interpretation of the Revelation, relegating all prophecy of the “Antichrist” to the past, claiming its fulfilment in the Pagan Roman Empire, before the rise of Popery.
Synod of Dort refuted the Remonstrants, condemning the heresy of Arminianism & set out the 5 points of Calvinism, which have become famous ever since as a summary of the biblical ‘Reformed’ doctrine of salvation.	1619AD	The Remonstrants, reviving the free-will errors of Pelagius and following the new heretic Arminius, challenged the established doctrines of grace at Dort with their 5 points of Arminianism – a brazen attempt to overthrow the doctrines of grace throughout all Holland.

	C1600's	Freemasonry arose. (More a trade union than a religion in its early form.)
Oliver Cromwell (a Non-conformist Puritan), led the civil war in England against King Charles I (who governed according to the Roman Catholic doctrine, "the divine right of kings").	1642AD	
Oliver Cromwell aided persecuted Protestants in Europe.	1655AD	
English Habeas Corpus Act passed.	1679AD	
The "Glorious Revolution" – Protestants William & Mary of Orange king & queen of England after another resurgence of Romanism.	1688AD	
English Bill of Rights passed.	1689AD	
Act of Settlement passed, ensuring only a Protestant could reign in England.	1714AD	
	1717-1736	Freemasonry – Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Scotland & France established, similarly in America.
George Whitefield , champion of Calvinistic Methodism, contended for the faith and sovereign grace against the Arminian, John Wesley, champion of free-will who majored on personal holiness and 'perfection', or 'entire sanctification'.	1739AD	John Wesley – founder of Arminian (Wesleyan) Methodism, the erroneous theological basis for most modern "evangelical" churches e.g. Methodist, Salvation Army, Church of Christ, Baptist, Pentecostal, all majoring on 'free-will' and 'decisionism', not on sovereign grace – hence many unregenerate members and preachers in the Evangelical churches.
Augustus Toplady , author of "Rock of Ages" and champion of Calvinism, contended strongly against Wesley's error of Arminianism (Free Will).	1770AD	
	1776AD	Adam Weishaupt , Jesuit trained, formed the "Order of Perfectibilists" (Illuminati), & also infiltrated the Freemasons.
	1827AD	Edward Irving , a Scottish preacher, published a translation of the work of Jesuit priest Manuel Lacunza , and aided and abetted by supposed prophetic utterances of a woman in his church, popularised the Roman Catholic idea that the tribulation, the millennium, and the Antichrist were all still future (Futurism) – contrary to the basic doctrines of the Christian Church until that time. His work was popularised by the Plymouth Brethren, and accelerated by the Schoffield Bible with its ' Dispensationalist ' marginal notes in 1909. Today, what began as the deliberate work of Counter-Reformation by the Jesuit Ribera, and was not accepted generally by Protestants till 20 th C, is considered by many as a basic tenet of the faith..
Trinitarian Bible Society founded, contending for the reformed faith and the sacred text of Scripture. (Separated from ecumenical Bible Societies.)	1831AD	
	1833AD	Tractarian Movement taught Romish doctrines in the Church of England.

The Protestant Alliance formed in 1845 .	1844-1845AD	Christadelphians & Seventh Day Adventism began
	1848AD	Karl Marx – wrote “The Communist Manifesto”
CH Spurgeon (Reformed Baptist) & JC Ryle (Anglican), champions of the Scriptures and the Protestant faith.	1859AD	Charles Darwin – “Origin of the Species” – Evolution becomes mainstream
	1870AD	Jehovah’s Witnesses began
	1875AD	Mary Baker Eddy (Christian Science) published “Science and Health with Key to Scriptures)
Burgon & Scrivener faithful men on the Revision Committee opposing Wescott & Hort, defended the “Received Text” of the N.T. on which the Bibles of the Reformation, including the A.V. (K.J.V.) were based.	1881AD	Wescott & Hort (pro-Roman Catholic & New Age heretics) & Revision Committee produced the “Revised Version”, 1000’s of omissions & errors based largely on “Vaticanus” & “Sinaiticus” N.T. manuscripts. This committee, though commissioned to revise the English translation of the Bible (A.V.), actually revised the underlying Greek Text (Received Text), giving rise to the “Critical Text”/NU- Nestles-United Bible Societies Text/Nestles-Aland Text, used in all modern translations incl. NKJV .
	1884AD	The Fabian Society formed, a socialist reform group, operating by gradualism not violent revolution. Members have included George Bernard Shaw, HG Wells, Bertrand Russell, and was influential in the formation of the Labor Party. Our leading Labor MP’s are members.
	1909AD	The Schofield Bible made popular <u>the Jesuit-inspired futurist view of Bible prophecy</u> . His marginal notes have become accepted by many as fact.
	1953AD	Bertrand Russell , (Fabian Socialist), predicted that governments which had control of education would hold such psychological control over the people that police and armies would not be necessary to manipulate them.
	1962-1965	Vatican II (Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican) – mistakenly seen by many as a change in Roman Catholic stance (i.e. beginning of the Ecumenical Movement façade), actually reaffirmed all the anathemas of the first Council at Trent. The aim - to con Protestants back to Rome.
A remnant of Protestant and Reformed Churches remain, aggressively promoting and defending the “faith once delivered to the saints.”	20th-21st C	1988 – Pope John Paul II reaffirmed the “Inquisition” (now called “Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith)
		2013 – First Jesuit pope appointed