

From Jesus to *St. Swithin's*

- Expansion: Heresy or Truth?
- Christendom
- Reformation & Anglicanism
- Anglicans in the United States

I. The Early Church: Heresy or Truth?

A. New Testament is Written in Greek

1. Alexander made Greek the common language of trade
2. Spread Follows the Trade Routes

B. A Consistent Organization

1. Episkopos
2. Presbuteroi
3. Diakonoi
4. Laos

C. Gnosticism

1. Surfaces in the middle of the 2nd Century
2. A religious mood of world-rejection coupled with a transcendentalist habit of mind
3. Secret knowledge, gnosis, revealed to those who are displaced beings from the hidden world of light and knowledge. The gnostic elect are imprisoned in the material world and the gnosis will set them free.

D. Marcionism

1. Marcion breaks with the Christian community in 144
2. He argued that the God of the OT was a God of legalism and strict justice. In contrast, the God of the NT was a God of grace and love.
3. For Marcion, the OT God who created the world was a lower deity, subordinate to the God revealed in Jesus Christ.

E. Montanism

1. Montanus and his assistants, Priscilla and Maximilla, about 170
2. Ecstatic prophesy: "mouthpieces of the Spirit"
3. Apocalyptic
4. Severe asceticism: forbade marriage

F. Monarchianism

1. 2nd and 3rd Centuries
2. Sees God as a single divine monarch
 - a) *Jesus is a mere man on whom the power of God descended*
 - b) *or the Trinity are manifestations of the one God*

G. Persecutions

1. Emperors are part of the Roman pantheon
2. No separation of church and state
3. When the empire struggles, when it is perceived that the gods have withdrawn their favor
4. Late in the 3rd century: pressure from tribal peoples

Early Church Christendom

H. Conversion of Constantine

1. 4 contestants for Emperor
2. 312 AD: “By this sign you shall conquer” -
3. 324 AD: Defeats last rival
4. Slowly accommodates the Church and marginalizes the pagans.

I. Arian Heresy

1. Begins with Arius in Alexandria, a presbyter
 - a) *Logos was called into being from nothing by God*
 - b) *There was a time when Logos did not exist*
2. What does *gennetos* (begotten) mean?
3. Constantine finds this controversy raging when he takes over the eastern half of the empire

J. Councilor Governance

1. Constantine summons all the bishops of the church, at imperial expense, to Nicea—first “ecumenical council.” 325 AD
 - a) *Addresses Arianism*
 - b) *Canons that formalized structure*
2. Constantinople - 381 AD – revises and extends the Creed as we know it.
3. Ephesus - 431
4. Chalcedon - 451
5. Constantinople - 553 and again in 680
6. Nicea 787

K. Papal Governance

1. Bishop of the Imperial Capital
2. State church
3. Growing importance to an assertion of primacy
4. Great Schism: 1054

L. Middle Ages: Expansion

1. The challenge of evolving understanding
 - a) *Missionaries set out with one theology*
2. Theology continues to evolve “back home”
3. By the end of the 14th century all of Europe is evangelized.

M. Middle Ages: Monasticism

1. Christians living in disciplined community: begins in the 3rd and 4th centuries.
2. Expands through the Middle Ages
 - a) *Domincans*
 - b) *Franciscans*
 - c) *Other less well known*
3. A variety of disciplines: Rule of St. Benedict (516 AD) becomes the most common

- a) *Core: to pray is to work and to work is to pray*
- N. Middle Ages: Mysticism
 1. Flowers especially in the 14th century
 2. German Dominicans
 3. St. Catherine of Siena, also a Dominican
 4. Julian of Norwich–Revelation of Divine Love

II. The Reformation & Anglicanism

- A. Beginnings: Germany & Switzerland
 1. Currents of Discontent
 - a) *Fiscalism*
 - b) *Pluralism-holding multiple offices*
 - c) *Absenteeism*
 - d) *Concubinage*
 2. Martin Luther & the Beginnings
 3. Switzerland and Ulrich Zwingli
- B. Expanding Movements
 1. Anabaptists
 2. German Protestantism: Augsburg Confession
 3. Scandinavia
- C. John Calvin
 1. Geneva before Calvin
 2. Attracted to humanism at university in France
 3. Calvin's theology
- D. English Reformation
 1. Gradual process:
 - a) *Four monarchs*
 - b) *Driven by nationalism and a desire for church reform*
 2. Weaknesses in the English Church
- E. Henry VIII
 1. English Humanism
 2. Lutheran Infiltration
 3. Thomas Wolsey, Archbishop of York
 4. Henry himself
 5. Thomas Cromwell
- F. Edward VI
 1. Protestant minded reforms control the regency
 2. Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury: first BCP 1549, 2nd 1552
 3. Regents legally change the order of succession: fail to secure Mary
- G. Mary

1. Cranmer and leading reforms jailed
 2. Worship returns to the last year of Henry's reign.
 3. Protestants flee to the continent
 4. Cranmer and other bishops executed for heresy
- H. Elizabeth
1. Supreme Governor of the Church in England
 2. Elizabethan settlement: "I will not have a window into men's souls."
 3. BCP 1559 is a modified BCP of 1552
 4. Thirty-nine Articles of Religion
- I. Scottish Reformation
1. John Knox
 2. Political tensions: France and England
 3. Protestantism and Nationalism
 - a) *Mary, Queen of Scots*
 - b) *Son, James, has Protestant regents*
- J. Catholic Reforms
1. Reaction and Defense
 2. Internal movements to reform
 3. Spain: Jesuits
 4. Italy: Theatines
 5. Women's religious associations
 6. Council of Trent

III. Anglicans in the United States

- A. Colonial Period
1. Nominally under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of London.
 2. No bishops anywhere in the colonies.
 3. 10 of the 13 colonies had established churches.
 4. Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, New Jersey and New York all established the *Church of England*
- B. An American Church
1. State church of the defeated King: many clergy depart.
 2. Questions of polity
 3. General Conventions: Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States
 - a) *1785: Unicameral*
 - b) *1789: Bicameral*
 4. U.S. Constitutional Convention: 1787
- C. Early African Americans
1. Separate, not equal
 2. Absalom Jones & Richard Allen, Philadelphia

- a) *Jones: Deacon 1795 & Priest 1802*
 - b) *Allen: AME Church*
 - 3. St. Thomas' governed it's own affairs but was not welcome at Diocesan Convention.
- D. The Civil War
 - 1. Leonodis Polk, Bishop of Louisiana
 - a) *Enslaved over 200*
 - b) *Forms the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Confederate States*
 - c) *Resigns: better known as Gen. Polk, CSA*
 - 2. Bishop Hopkins, Vermont, supports slavery
 - 3. General Convention, 1862 in N.Y.: 10 dioceses are "absent."
- E. Missionary Expansion: East to West
- F. Early 20th Century
 - 1. 1913: Bishop and Deputies of Maine attempt to amend constitution: Women deputies.
 - 2. Fails again 1925
 - 3. BCP 1928
 - 4. Missouri elects Elizabeth Dyer, 1946 - singular event. 1949: layman means lay man.
 - 5. 1963: A 12 story HQ building at 815 2nd Ave in Manhattan.
- G. Women in Leadership
 - 1. Women deputies are defeated essentially every 3 years until 1967/70
 - 2. Women ordained (1974) 1976
 - 3. BCP 1979: pronouns are italicized in all ordination liturgies.
 - 4. The Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris, Massachusetts, 1988
 - 5. Pamela Chinnis, Pres. House of Deputies, 1991
 - 6. The Rt. Rev. Katherine Schori, P.B. 2006
- H. A Kind of Reformation: Images of God
 - 1. Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity challenges racial separation in the church
 - 2. 1967 General Convention & 1969 Special General Convention
 - 3. African American bishops, first sufferagans, then diocesan, with authority over white congregations
 - 4. Pastoral Letter on Racism: 1994
 - 5. Anti-racism training required
- I. A Kind of Reformation: God Sanctifies
 - 1. Election of Gene Robinson, New Hampshire
 - 2. To Set Our Hope on Christ
 - 3. Anglican Church in North America
 - 4. Alternative Marriage rite, 2018

J. Insert how “St. Swithun’s” intersects this history