

# RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

## 50 TO 600 A.D.

### DEATH OF APOSTLES TO GREGORY THE GREAT

## CHARACTERS – RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

### APOSTLES

<b>Saint James the Greater</b>	d. 44	Apostle who preached in Spain before being beheaded by Herod. Patron Saint of Spain.
<b>Saint Peter</b>	d. 64	Leader of the Apostles and first Pope of the Roman Catholic Church.
<b>Saint Philip</b>	d. 80	Apostle who preached in Greece, Syria and Asia Minor. Martyred in Asia Minor by crucifixion.
<b>Saint Paul</b>	3–67	Apostle who traveled throughout the Eastern Roman Empire spreading Gospels. Wrote Epistles.
<b>Saint John</b>	d. 101	Long-living apostle who preached in Asia Minor. Authored the Gospel of John and Revelation.

### CHURCH FATHERS

<b>Saint Ignatius of Antioch</b>	35–107	A follower of the Apostle John, Ignatius was one of the early fathers of the church. Died as a martyr in the arena.
<b>Saint Irenaeus</b>	~ 190	Early Christian theologian, bishop in Roman Gaul, recognized as a Father of the Church.
<b>Saint Cyprian of Carthage</b>	200–258	Bishop of Carthage who battle heresies and suffered with his flock through persecutions.
<b>Saint Athanasius</b>	298–373	Bishop of Alexandria. Opposed the Arian heresy.
<b>Saint Basil</b>	330–379	Influential bishop and important church father, particularly revered in the Orthodox churches. Opposed Arianism.
<b>Saint Ambrose</b>	340–397	Bishop of Milan. Resisted Arian heresy, advised emperors, advocated for Church interests.
<b>Saint Jerome</b>	340–420	Translated the Bible into the Latin <i>Vulgate</i> .
<b>Saint Chrysostom</b>	347–407	Bishop in Syria and Constantinople. Great orator, and notable ascetic.
<b>Saint Augustine</b>	354–430	Greatest Christian theologian of the Middle Ages. Wrote <i>Confessions</i> and <i>City of God</i> .

### MARTYRS

<b>Saint Cecilia</b>	d. 117	Noblewoman of Rome who was martyred under the reign of Marcus Aurelius.
<b>Saint Dorothea</b>	295–311	Martyr Virgin who refused to worship the Roman Gods and was put to death.
<b>Saint Lawrence</b>	225–258	Deacon of Rome who was martyred during the persecutions of Valerian by being grilled on a gridiron.
<b>Saint Alban</b>	d. 304	First martyr of England. Killed for hiding a priest in his home.

### EARLY SAINTS

<b>Saint Christopher</b>	d. 250	Early Christian saint whose name means "bearer". Said to have borne the burdens of the Christ child."
<b>Saint Denis</b>	d. 250	Saint of the third century who was martyred in Roman Gaul by druid priests for converting Celts to Christianity.
<b>Saint Paul the Hermit</b>	228–341	First Christian hermit. Fled to the Theban desert to avoid persecution of Decius.
<b>Saint Helena</b>	248–329	Wife of Constantius Chlorus and mother of Constantine. Influenced her son to become Christian.
<b>Saint Nicholas</b>	d. 343	Bishop in fourth century Asia Minor, known for his generosity.
<b>Saint Martin of Tours</b>	317–397	Roman soldier who gave up his military career to follow Christ. Bishop of Tours and early

monastic personality.

<b>Saint George</b>	275–303	Patron saint of England. Soldier who killed a dragon and died a martyr's death.
<b>Saint Germanus</b>	380–448	Renowned Bishop from Gaul visited Britain in order to help combat Pelagianism heresy.
<b>Saint Synesius</b>	d. 414	Bishop in Africa near the city of Cyrene, and associate of Hypatia.
<b>Saint Benedict</b>	480–547	Established the Benedictine order of monks. Founded the monastic movement in Europe.
<b>Saint Clotilda</b>	d. 545	Christian wife of Clovis; converted him to Christianity, and built a church.
<b>Saint Simeon</b>	521–597	Hermit who lived for many years on the top of a pillar, practicing penance.
<b>Gregory the Great</b>	590–640	Increased the power of the papacy by church reforms and effective management.

### ARIANS

<b>Arius</b>	250–336	Founder of the Arian Heresy, which insisted that the Son was not eternal, but created by the Father.
<b>Ulfilas</b>	310–383	Missionary bishop who translate the bible into the Gothic language and converted the Goths to Arian Christianity.

## RECOMMENDED READING – RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

### HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Notre Dame - <a href="#"><u>Church History - Christian Antiquity</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>
Wolff - <a href="#"><u>Stories of Saints and Martyrs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>St. Ignatius of Antioch</u></a> to <a href="#"><u>St. Gregory the Great</u></a> (23)
Hodges - <a href="#"><u>Saints and Heroes - I</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Athanasius, 296-373</u></a> to <a href="#"><u>Gregory the Great, 540-604</u></a> (8)
Lang - <a href="#"><u>Book of Saints and Heroes</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>The First of the Hermits</u></a> to <a href="#"><u>The Saint on the Pillar</u></a> (8)
Church - <a href="#"><u>To the Lions</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>
Hodges - <a href="#"><u>The Early Church</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>
Church - <a href="#"><u>Last Days of Jerusalem</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>

### ALSO RECOMMENDED

Harding - <a href="#"><u>City of the Seven Hills</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>The Christians and the Empire</u></a> (1)
Cresswell - <a href="#"><u>Roses of Martyrdom</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr</u></a> to <a href="#"><u>Promise of St. Dorothea</u></a> (6)
Notre Dame - <a href="#"><u>Saint Gregory the Great</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>
Forbes - <a href="#"><u>Life of Benedict</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>
Morrison - <a href="#"><u>The Jews Under Roman Rule</u></a>	<i>entire book</i>

\*Level I and II Study Questions are based on **Core Reading Assignments**.