

RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

50 TO 600 A.D.

DEATH OF APOSTLES TO GREGORY THE GREAT

CHARACTERS – RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

APOSTLES

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

CHURCH FATHERS

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

MARTYRS

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

EARLY SAINTS

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

monastic personality.

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

ARIANS

Arius	250–336	Founder of the Arian Heresy, which insisted that the Son was not eternal, but created by the Father.
Ulfilas	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 - <u>Church History - Christian Antiquity</u>	<i>entire book</i>
Wolff - <u>Stories of Saints and Martyrs</u>	<u>St. Ignatius of Antioch</u> to <u>St. Gregory the Great</u> (23)
Hodges - <u>Saints and Heroes - I</u>	<u>Athanasius, 296-373</u> to <u>Gregory the Great, 540-604</u> (8)
Lang - <u>Book of Saints and Heroes</u>	<u>The First of the Hermits</u> to <u>The Saint on the Pillar</u> (8)
Church - <u>To the Lions</u>	<i>entire book</i>
Hodges - <u>The Early Church</u>	<i>entire book</i>
Church - <u>Last Days of Jerusalem</u>	<i>entire book</i>

ALSO RECOMMENDED

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

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