



A Modern Hisstory Refresher

“If my public school teachers and college professors had characterized history like this I just might’ve learned it!”

5 B.C.-A.D. 70 Jesus & The Apostles

A.D. 30: Jesus Crucified < Jesus Resurrected < Jesus Raptured (ascended) < Pentecost A.D. 35: Stephen was martyred < Paul was converted A.D. 46: Paul began his missionary journeys A.D. 64: Rome burned & Nero began Christian persecution A.D. 65: Peter & Paul were executed

A.D. 70-312 Early Christianity

A.D. 70: Titus destroyed Jerusalem A.D. 230: Earliest public churches were built A.D. 303: “The Great Persecution” began under Diocletian A.D. 312: Constantine converted to Christianity

A.D. 312-590 The Christian Empire

A.D. 381: Christianity became the state religion of the Roman Empire A.D. 386: Augustine became a Christian A.D. 410: Rome was sacked by the Visigoths A.D. 405: Jerome completed his *Vulgate* A.D. 440: Leo the Great became Bishop of Rome

A.D. 590-1517 Christian Middle Ages

A.D. 622: Muhammad’s hegira yielded the birth of Islam A.D. 730: The first known church organ was played A.D. 800: Charlemagne was crowned “Holy Roman Emperor” A.D. 988: “Russia” was Christianized A.D. 1095: The first Crusade was launched by the Council of Clermont A.D. 1170: Thomas Becket was murdered A.D. 1215: The Magna Carta A.D. 1232: The first “Inquisitors” were appointed by Gregory IX A.D. 1321: Dante completed his *Divine Comedy* A.D. 1348: The Black Death A.D. 1380: Wyclif began his supervision of the English Bible translations A.D. 1431: Joan of Arc was burned at the stake A.D. 1453: Constantinople fell < end of Eastern Roman Empire A.D. 1456: The first printed Bible was published – the Gutenberg Bible A.D. 1476: Chaucer published his *Canterbury Tales* A.D. 1479: The Spanish Inquisition was established A.D. 1488: The first complete Hebrew Old Testament was printed A.D. 1492: Columbus sailed the ocean, blue A.D. 1512: Michelangelo finished the Sistine Chapel frescoes A.D. 1516: Erasmus published the first Greek New Testament

1517-1648 The Reformation Era

A.D. 1517: Martin Luther nailed his *Ninety-Five Theses* to the door of the church at Wittenburg – the 1st public act of the Reformation < Ulrich Zwingli also began his reform, at Zurich A.D. 1521: The Diet of Worms (near the Rhine) Conference began < Martin Luther was excommunicated A.D. 1522: Martin Luther published his German New Testament A.D. 1524: The Peasants’ Revolt erupted in Germany A.D. 1525: The Anabaptist movement began < Tyndale published his English New Testament A.D. 1534: Henry VIII became the supreme head of the Church of England A.D. 1532: John Calvin was converted A.D. 1535: The Coverdale Bible was published A.D. 1536: John Calvin published his 1st edition of *Institutes* < William Tyndale was strangled and burned at the stake A.D. 1540: The Jesuit Order was founded and the Catholic Reformation got underway A.D. 1546: Martin Luther died A.D. 1553: Mary Tudor (Bloody Mary) began her reign A.D. 1556: Quakers were persecuted in Massachusetts A.D. 1559: John Knox returned to Scotland < John Calvin published the final edition of his *Institutes* A.D. 1560: The Geneva Bible was published A.D. 1563: Foxe published his *Book of Martyrs* A.D. 1572: St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre A.D. 1588: The English defeated the Spanish Armada A.D. 1596: Christians were persecuted in Japan A.D. 1607: America’s Jamestown was founded A.D. 1609: Smyth baptized himself and the 1st Baptists A.D. 1611: The KJV Bible was published A.D. 1618: The Thirty Years’ War began A.D. 1620: The Mayflower Compact was drafted A.D. 1636: Roger Williams founded Providence, RI A.D. 1648: The Peace of Westphalia ended the Thirty Years’ War

1648-1789 The Age of Reason & Revival

A.D. 1667: Milton’s *Paradise Lost* was published A.D. 1678: Bunyan finished his *Pilgrim’s Progress* A.D. 1729: Jonathan Edwards became pastor at Northampton A.D. 1733: America’s Georgia was founded A.D. 1735: George Whitfield accepted Christ < The “Great Awakening” period began (Jonathan Edwards) A.D. 1738: John & Charles Wesley’s evangelical conversions A.D. 1739: George Whitfield started open-air preaching services A.D. 1740: The “Great Awakening” peaked A.D. 1742: Handel’s *Messiah* first performance A.D. 1773: The American Revolution took root A.D. 1775: America’s Revolutionary War began A.D. 1776: America’s Declaration of Independence was signed A.D. 1780: Robert Raikes began his Sunday School A.D. 1784: Wesley facilitated the “Conference of Methodists” < The Methodist Episcopal Church was founded

1789-1914 The Era of Progress & Prophetic Confusion

A.D. 1789: The American Bill of Rights was adopted < The French Revolution began A.D. 1801: The Cane Ridge Revival A.D. 1804: Napoleon declared himself Emperor of France A.D. 1816: The American Bible Society was organized A.D. 1825: The American Tract Society was founded A.D. 1827: John Nelson Darby founded The Plymouth Brethren A.D. 1830: [April] 16-year-old Scottish lassie, Margaret Macdonald *uttered* and then hand-wrote the very first recorded 2-stage Rapture prophecy < Little Miss Macdonald (of Port Glasgow, Scotland) gave London pastor Edward Irving one of the first handwritten copies of her “any day now”, 2-stage, pre-Tribulation rapture prophecy < [September] London’s *The Morning Watch* issued the first-ever printed publication of a 2-stage, pre-Tribulation rapture theory – without giving credit to the Scottish lassie (Irving was affiliated with editor, John Tudor. One of them apparently wrote under the pseudonym, Fidus.) < Charles Finney revivals @ Rochester A.D. 1835: Charles Finney published his *Lectures on Revivals* A.D. 1844: The first Adventist church was organized A.D. 1848: Carl Marx published his *Communist Manifesto* A.D. 1854: Charles Spurgeon became the pastor of New Park Street Church A.D. 1855: D. L. Moody was converted to Christianity A.D. 1859: Charles Darwin published his *Origin Of The Species* A.D. 1861: The American Civil War started A.D. 1870: The First Vatican Council declared papal infallibility A.D. 1872: D. L. Moody began preaching A.D. 1878: William & Catherine Booth founded The Salvation Army A.D. 1895: Sigmund Freud finished his first work on psychoanalysis A.D. 1896: Billy Sunday began holding revivals A.D. 1906: The Azusa Street revival boosted America’s *neo*Pentecostal movement A.D. 1908: The Federal Council of Churches was organized

1914-Present The Age of Presumption, “Itching Ears” & Rampant Prophetic Deception

A.D. 1914: World War I began A.D. 1917: The Bolshevik Revolution began A.D. 1920: U.S. Women’s Suffrage was ratified A.D. 1924: The first Christian radio broadcasts A.D. 1929: The U.S. economy collapsed, beginning the Great Depression A.D. 1934: Billy Graham “got ‘saved’” < The Wycliffe Bible Translators organized A.D. 1940: The first Christian TV broadcasts A.D. 1925: The Scopes “Monkey Trial” @ Dayton, TN A.D. 1931: C. S. Lewis became a Christian A.D. 1939: World War II began A.D. 1942: The National Council of Evangelicals was organized A.D. 1945: The U.S. dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima A.D. 1946: The Revised Standard Version New Testament was first published A.D. 1947: The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered A.D. 1948: The World Council of Churches was organized A.D. 1949: Billy Graham’s Los Angeles crusade catapulted him to national fame—leveraged by the broad-based support of media mogul William Randolph Hurst A.D. 1952: C. S. Lewis wrote *Mere Christianity* A.D. 1953: Martin Luther King, Jr. led a march on Washington A.D. 1954: Methodists ordained women for the first time A.D. 1960: The *Charismatic Movement* began taking shape A.D. 1962: Vatican II opened A.D. 1965: The China church grew, despite the Cultural Revolution A.D. 1966: The Chinese cultural revolution exposed human rights violations A.D. 1968: Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated A.D. 1971: The Living Bible was first published A.D. 1979: Pope John Paul II’s first visit to Poland A.D. 1985: Gorbachev became General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party

Hell-fire-and-brimstone preaching continued to dominate the earliest decades of this period – among evangelicals, at least. “Clothesline sermons” were also abundant. The tent revivals of divine healing *superstars* enjoyed enormous popularity for several decades after that. Subsequently, Christian television has exposed long parades of laughable dog-and-pony-show preachers, who have effectively destroyed much of the perceived credibility of the “Full Gospel” movement. Although prophecy teaching has long been a primary attention-getter, today’s prophecy teachers are enjoying unprecedented fame and popularity—especially those who promise a 2-stage, Pre-Tribulation “snatching away” of super Christians. Seems our ears have never needed more scratching.

