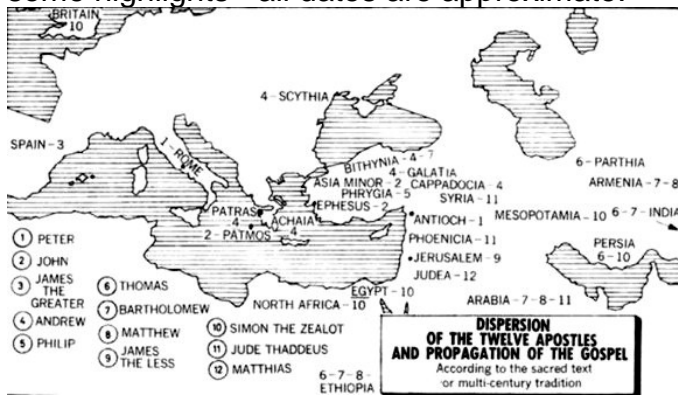


## Highlights in Church History

### Overview

It may surprise some people but we find that the impact upon the world by the church is more than phenomenal. The following are some highlights - all dates are approximate:



- **Beginning:** To understand church history one has to start at the beginning of time as recorded in Genesis 1,2. Scientists believe that this occurred some 14.5 Billions of years ago followed by creation of the Earth around 4.5 Billion years ago.
- **20,000-50,000 BC:** In this period we believe that man first came upon the scene, also as recorded in Genesis 1,2– as Adam and Eve. Also there is a great flood and Noah’s boat becomes the safe ground for selected humans and creatures.
- **2000 BC:** Around this time Abraham is touched by God and is told that he will be the father of countless peoples. The Egyptians become a prominent power.
- **1300 BC:** The birth of Moses and the dramatic rescue of the Jewish people.
- **800-100 BC:** The age of the prophets.
- **4-6 BC:** Jesus is born.
- **25-28 AD:** Jesus begins his public ministry.
- **30 AD:** Jesus is crucified, dies and is resurrected. The church is born.
- **37-38 AD:** Saint Paul is converted.
- **70 AD:** The temple is destroyed.
- **90 AD:** The last book of the bible – Revelation is written by John.
- **313 AD:** King Constantine is converted and Christianity becomes the religion of the land. The Roman Empire grows.
- **325 AD:** The first of the Ecumenical councils of Nicea is convened to combat heresies and to create the Nicene Creed. The Roman Empire goes into decline.
- **500-800 AD:** The church grows but is plagued by problems. These are the “dark ages” in world history.
- **600 AD:** Islam is born and Jerusalem is conquered by the Muslims.
- **900-1000 AD:** The church papacy is dominated by Roman families and experiences a period of decline.
- **1050 AD:** A great schism splits the East and West church and the crusades attempt to recover Jerusalem.
- **1100-1200 AD:** Monasteries and the first universities are founded.
- **1200-1500 AD:** The church is in a crisis and in need of reform.
- **1450 AD:** The Gutenberg press is invented and changes how knowledge is spread while Columbus sails to the new world.
- **1520 AD:** Martin Luther attempts to correct church abuses and (along with Calvin) triggers the Protestant Reformation. Henry the 8<sup>th</sup> breaks with the church and creates the Anglican Church.
- **1500-1800 AD:** Numerous Protestant denominations are developed while America is born.
- **1854 AD:** The dogma of the Immaculate Conception is proclaimed.
- **1917-1950 AD:** The Dead Sea Scrolls are found while the world tries to recover from several major and world wars.
- **1962-1965 AD:** Vatican Council II convenes and makes major changes to the church.
- **Present:** The church both grows and suffers persecutions as we wait for the Second Coming of Jesus.