FIRST YEAR

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| **church history** |
| A Historical Parallel to the  Seven Churches of Asia |

COURSE WORK BOOK

**DELIVERANCE BIBLE INSTITUTE**

*Portland, Maine, USA*

**Deliverance Bible Institute of Tanzania**

*Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region, TZ*

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| Church History |
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# 1 - INTRODUCTION: Study Questions

1. Explain Matthew 16:18. Be sure to answer the question: “Is Peter the foundation of the church?”.

Jesus is talking to Peter, but Peter is not the rock foundation of the Church. JESUS IS THE ROCK UPON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT! Jesus is the stone which the builder’s rejected, and the chief cornerstone.

1. What is the Greek word for “church” and what does it mean?

the Greek word for church is *Ekklesia* which means *those called together or those called out*.

1. The word “church” today most often refers to the \_\_\_\_\_\_buildings\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ … but it more accurately refers to the \_\_\_\_people\_\_\_\_\_.
2. After what great event did the Lord add daily to the church?

The experience of the Holy Ghost in the Upper Room on the day of Pentecost.

1. Who is the *head* of the church? Give Scripture reference.

Jesus Christ is the head of the church.

1. Can you be saved and not part of the body of Christ? Explain your answer.

Yes. WE are saved by the blood of Jesus, but we must be baptized by the Holy Ghost into the body of Christ.

1. When did the church begin?

On the day of Pentecost.

1. What is the central event of all history?

The birth of Jesus Christ.

1. When and where was the term “Christian” first used?

The term Christian was first used in Antioch around AD 40.

1. Give any reason at all why we should study church history?

Appreciation of our heritage, so that we might learn from it, build up our faith, enrich or knowledge

1. List the Seven Periods of Church History with their corresponding church of Asian from Revelation 2 & 3.
2. **THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH – Ephesus**
3. **THE PERSECUTED CHURCH – Smyrna**
4. **THE IMPERIAL CHURCH – Pergamos**
5. **THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH – Thyatira**
6. **THE REFORMED CHURCH – Sardis**
7. **THE MODERN CHURCH – Philadelphia**
8. **THE LAODICEAN CHURCH – Laodicea**

# INTRODUCTION: Quiz

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# 2 – THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Study Questions

* 1. Which of the Seven Churches described in the Book of Revelation corresponds to the Apostolic Period, and what is the meaning of this church name? Ephesus – desirable

1. When did the church begin?

The church began on the day of Pentecost.

1. What were the three effects of the Holy Spirit upon the church?

**Illuminating** – The Holy Spirit illuminated their minds to understand what they were not able to understand before. **Empowering** – The Holy Spirit empowered them to preach and to work miracles. **Abiding** – The Abiding presence of the Holy Spirit was with them. (Simplified)

1. What race were the original members of the church?

The original members were all Jews.

1. What were the basic doctrines of the Apostolic Church? (Give 3)

Jesus was the Messiah – Acts 2:36

The Resurrection of Christ – Acts 2:30-32

The Return of Christ – Acts 1:9-11, I Thess. 4:15-17

(Scripture not required for answer to be correct)

1. What was the defect of the Apostolic Church?

They lacked missionary vision.

1. Who was the first Christian martyr?

Stephen was the first Christian martyr.

1. What was significant about the church established in Samaria?

This was the first church outside of Judaism.

1. Who was the pastor of the Jerusalem Church?

James wasthe Pastor of the Jerusalem Church. (The brother of the Lord )

1. How can it be determined that Peter was not in Rome during this period? Give a complete answer.

Paul’s greeting to the Roman church in Romans 16 does not include Peter. If Peter had been in Rome Paul certainly would have greeted him. The Book of Acts places Peter in Jerusalem. Peter was not in Rome during this period.

1. Describe the council at Jerusalem.

The Apostles called a council of elders together to settle the question of whether the Gentiles should keep the ceremonial Law of Moses. Some of the people were insisting that the Gentiles be circumcised. The council concluded that the ceremonial Law was not binding on the Gentiles.

*Apostolic Study Questions*, continued

1. Who were the leaders of this period?

Peter, Paul, James and John

1. Describe the fall of Jerusalem. (*Give 5 major details*)

The Jews broke out in rebellion against Roman rule in AD 66. (Date not required)

The Roman General Titus destroyed the city of Jerusalem.

The city caught on fire which caused the gold to melt between the bricks.

Soldiers took apart the temple brick by brick to retrieve the gold.

This event fulfilled the prophecy of Jesus concerning the temple.

1. Give a simple definition for the word Nicolaitanes.

To conquer (or control) the people. (or laity)

1. Memorize and write verbatim Daniel 2:21.

And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

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# 3 - THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: Study Questions

1. Which of the Seven Churches described in the Book of Revelation corresponds to the Persecuted Period, and what is the meaning of this church name?

Smyrna - Crushed

2. What was the Edict of Constantine?

The Edict of Constantine was an official decree that ended the killing of Christians in the Roman empire.

3. List seven causes of Imperial Persecution.

Heathen worship was hospitable to new gods while Christianity was exclusive to the worship of the One True God.

Idol worship was interwoven with life.

Emperor worship – Christians would not worship the Emperor.

Judaism had been an allowed religion in the Roman Empire.

Secret meetings of the Christians (aroused suspicion)

Equality in the church (went against Roman society)

Business interests were threatened by Christianity

4. How many different times of intense persecution did the church suffer during this period ?

There were ten periods of intense persecution.

5. What is the last of these persecutions called and which Emperor led this attack?

The Great persecution led by Diocletian.

6. List four leaders of the persecuted period.

Ignatius, Justin Martyr, Polycarp, and Ireneus

*Persecuted Study Questions*, continued

7. Which two of these leaders had been taught by the Apostle John?

Ignatius and Polycarp

8. Who was the successor of James as head of the Jerusalem Church?

Simeon was the successor of James as head of the Jerusalem Church.

9. What is the meaning of the word “canon”? (As it relates to the Bible)

The word canon means a rod, rule or measuring device.

(Refers to the Biblical books that were judged to be of Divine origin)

10. What is the earliest date that we can place the formation of the New Testament Canon?

AD 300

11. Who were the Gnostics?

Taught that people could be saved by secret knowledge.

12. Who were the Judiazers?

They continued in the ceremonial Law of Moses, and were trying to influence others to do the same.

13. How was this Church period purified?

They were purified through persecution.

14. What did persecution do to the Church?

Persecution caused the Church to spread the Gospel throughout the known world.

15. Briefly describe this period in your own words.

This was a period of intense persecution. Many Christians were martyred. The Church lacked missionary zeal and persecution caused the spread of the Gospel.

(answers will vary – must have some type of a summary)

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# 4 - THE IMPERIAL CHURCH: Study Questions

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Revelation correspond to this period, and what is the meaning

of this church name?

Pergamos means married

2. How does *eating things sacrificed to idols* (Rev. 2:14) apply to this period?

The eating of things sacrificed to idols is in reference to the Roman Catholic wafer that was eaten by the Catholics and sacrificed each week in the mass.

3. What sign did Constantine supposedly see in the sky?

A cross

4. What evidence reveals the pagan nature of the actual sign he saw?

Archeological evidence shows us *this cross* was the Egyptian ankh which is a cross with a loop on top. Constantine had the ankh put on the shields of the soldiers.

5. Who was the first historical pope?

Constantine was the first historical pope.

6. What idol became the representation of baal worship?

Mother - infant idols (statues) became the representation of this

pagan cult of baal worship.

7. What archeological evidence reveals that Mary worship had pagan origins?

The catholic statues of Mary and the baby Jesus look exactly like the ancient pagan idols. The artifacts of these ancient idols show the connection between baal worship and Roman Catholicism.

*Imperial Study Questions*, continued

8. Give Scripture to show the title: “the queen of heaven” was in use long before it was used in reference to Mary.

Baal the sun god and Ashteroth “the queen of heaven” were worshipped in the Old Testament. – Judges 2:13, 10:16, I Sam. 7:14, 12:10.

Cakes were made to the “queen of heaven”- Jer. 7:18, 44:17-19.

(One Scripture is sufficient)

9. What formed a natural barrier between The Eastern and Western Empires of Rome?

The Adriatic Sea

10. Who was referred to as “the golden mouth” because of his eloquence?

John Chrysostom

11. What do the exiles of the Christian leaders of this period indicate to us?

The exiles of these men indicate they were not popular with the Roman Church leaders. The Roman Church would eventually force out anyone that opposed their pagan lies.

12. Describe the melting of Christianity with paganism during this period?

The church was infiltrated by paganism, and became married to the world.

This infiltration of paganism would be the beginning of what would become the Roman Catholic Church.

(answers will vary a brief summary statement is required)

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# 5 - THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH: Study Questions

1. Which of the seven churches described in the book of Revelation correspond to the Medieval period, and what is the meaning of this church name?

Thyatira means continual sacrifice

2. According to Rev. 2:20 who was being seduced by Jezebel?

The servants of Jesus were being seduced by Jezebel.

3. Explain how Jezebel who would have been dead at the time John received the Book of Revelation could still have taught and seduced people.

This Scripture refers to the seductive false worship spirit of Jezebel.

4. How does eating things sacrificed to idols still correspond to this church period?

The Scripture again refers to fornication and eating things sacrificed to idols.

This again refers to the eucharist of Roman Catholicism which was and still is sacrificed every week in the mass.

5. Why is this period called the dark ages?

The light of God's Word was taken from the people.

6. What came to a halt during this period?

Civilization came to a halt.

7. Who dominated Europe during this period?

The Roman Catholic Church dominated Europe.

*Medieval Study Questions*, continued

8. Briefly describe the inquisition. (2 to 5 sentences)

A special court set up in the 1200’s to deal with the heretics.

Anyone who disagreed with The Roman Catholic Church was deemed a heretic. The heretics were hunted down and brought to trial by the Catholics. Many Christians were brutally killed and tortured.

9. Briefly describe the Holy Wars. (2 to 5 sentences)

These wars were an attempt by the Roman Church to retake the Holy Land from the Muslims. The Catholics wanted to drive the Muslims out of Jerusalem and reclaim the city for the pope. The crusaders failed to free the Holy Land from the dominion of the Mohammedans.

10. Why is John Wycliffe referred to as the Morning Star of the Reformation?

Wycliffe’s preaching and Bible translation prepared the way for The Reformation.

11. Why was John Huss killed?

He strongly opposed the Authority of the Pope and the lies of Romanism. He was condemned as a heretic and burned at the stake by a council of the Roman Catholic Church.

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# 6 - THE REFORMED CHURCH: Study Questions

1. Which of the seven churches described in the book of Revelation correspond to the Reformed Church period, and what is the meaning of this church name?

Sardis means remnant

2. What did God do to end the dark ages?

The light of the Gospel drove back the darkness of Romanism. God turned on the light of the Word to end the dark ages.

3. What restored civilization to Europe?

THE LIGHT OF THE WORDrestored civilization to Europe.

4. What was the first book ever printed?

The first book printed was the Bible.

5. What name was given to those who protested the Roman Catholic Church?

Protestants

6. Who is considered to be the father of the Reformation?

Martin Luther

7. What event helped to spark the light of the Reformation?

Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the oaken door of the Wittenberg Cathedral

on Oct. 31, 1517.

8. What were the Protestants in France called?

The Protestants in France were called Huguenots.

*Reformed Study Questions*, continued

9. What provided fertile ground for the Reformation in England?

The Wycliffe Bible spread throughout the land. The Light of The Word in the hands of the people provided fertile ground for the Reformation in England.

10. Who were the Separatists?

Separatists were those who wanted to separate from the Church of England.

11. Who were the Puritans?

Puritans were those who wanted to purify the Church of England.

12. Who led the Reformation in Scotland?

John Knox led the Reformation in Scotland.

13. Why did the pilgrims come to the New World?

They came for religious freedom from the oppression of the Church of England.

14. What was the Mayflower Compact based upon?

(The Mayflower Compact was the first document of self-government of the New World.) The Mayflower Compact based upon Biblical principals.

15. Who led a counter Reformation against the Protestants?

The Jesuits led a counter reformation against the Protestants.

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# 7 - THE MODERN CHURCH: Study Questions

#### Which of the seven churches described in the Book of Revelation corresponds to the Modern Church period, and what is the meaning of this church name?

#### Philadelphia and it means *brotherly love*.

#### Briefly describe the Modern Church period.

#### This was a period of a concentrated missionary effort and great revivals.

#### What was The Great Awakening?

#### The Great Awakening was a mighty revival in both England and America in the early 1700”s.

#### Who were the leaders of The Second Great Awakening?

#### Charles Finney, D.L. Moody, and Charles Spurgeon

#### How did doctrinal beliefs hinder the evangelizing of heathen nations?

#### The Calvinist doctrine of the predestination of the elect was the common belief of the church during this period. Heathen nations were believed to be predestined to be dammed with no hope of Salvation. It was because of the adherence to this false doctrine that it was thought to be unnecessary to travel to heathen nations since they couldn’t be saved

#### Who was William Carey? (2-5 details concerning William Carey)

#### William Carey is the father of the modern missionary movement. He formed the first missionary society. He was the first modern missionary that went to a foreign country for the purpose of evangelizing a heathen nation. He was the first missionary to India.

#### Who was called the pathfinder of Africa?

#### David Livingstone

#### Briefly describe the Azusa Street revival.

#### It was a mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost in Los Angeles California at the turn of the century. God was restoring Pentecost to the Church.

#### Who were other notable preachers of this period?

#### Billy Sunday and Smith Wigglesworth

#### Who were the preachers of the 1950’s Tent Revivals?

#### Oral Roberts, A.A. Alan, Jack Coe, and William Branham

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# 8 - THE LAODICEAN CHURCH: Study Questions

#### What does the word Laodicea mean?

#### Laodicea means rule by the people

#### Why did Jesus say He would spue this church out of His mouth?

#### Because they were lukewarm.

#### How did Jesus describe this church period in Rev 3:17?

#### Thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked*.*

#### Briefly describe the phrase: New Evangelicals.

#### This phrase describes those who were promoting a new modern religion of compromise.

#### What evidence reveals that Billy Graham promoted a new wave of liberalism?

#### He demanded that liberals sponsor crusades alongside the fundamentalists. He started what was called the inclusive policy, which was to include the world rather than to separate from the world. He brought in worldly entertainers to sing gospel songs at the crusades. There was a close association with Catholics in the Crusades. He refers to those in Romanism as our Catholic brothers.

#### (A brief summary of some of these facts are acceptable.)

#### In what false church did the charismatic movement begin?

#### The Roman Catholic Church.

#### What type of gospel has replaced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many of our modern churches?

#### The gospel of prosperity has replaced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many of our modern churches.

#### Give an example of a false doctrine fad that has swept through the Laodicean church.

#### The emphasis is on wealth and monetary gain. Blab it and grab it and name it and claim it. One example is the *Jabez prayer*. (Answers may vary)

#### 

#### How did Jesus say this church described itself? (Rev. 3:17)

#### Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;

#### Briefly describe the Laodicean church period?

#### The church is in a lukewarm condition. Much of the church is asleep.

#### There is much worldliness and compromise in the churches today.

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#### He demanded that liberals sponsor crusades alongside the fundamentalists. He started what was called the inclusive policy, which was to include the world rather than to separate from the world. He brought in worldly entertainers to sing gospel songs at the crusades. There was a close association with Catholics in the Crusades. He refers to those in Romanism as our Catholic brothers.

#### (A brief summary of some of these facts are acceptable.)

#### In what false church did the charismatic movement begin?

#### The Roman Catholic Church.

#### What type of gospel has replaced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many of our modern churches?

#### The gospel of prosperity has replaced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many of our modern churches.

#### Give an example of a false doctrine fad that has swept through the Laodicean church.

#### The emphasis is on wealth and monetary gain. Blab it and grab it and name it and claim it. One example is the *Jabez prayer*. (Answers may vary)

#### 

#### How did Jesus say this church described itself? (Rev. 3:17)

#### Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;

#### Briefly describe the Laodicean church period?

#### The church is in a lukewarm condition. Much of the church is asleep.

#### There is much worldliness and compromise in the churches today.

# Major Assignments Descriptions

ONE: Written & Oral Report on any of the Early Apostles

* LIMITS: 3-6 minutes; 300-600 words
* Each student will do one.
* Choices will be limited to any of the original 12 disciples & the Apostle Paul.
* Report should include details about:
  + Personality/Character
  + Birth & death
  + Accomplishments

TWO: Written & Oral Report on Christian Persecution

* LIMITS: 3-6 minutes; 400-700 words
* Each student will do one.
* Use at least one example from *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs*
* You may use more recent examples, as well.
* Expound on the effect of persecution on the church.
* Answer the question: “How should a Christian respond to persecution?”

THREE: Read a Biographical Book and Write a Book Report

* LIMITS: 3-6 minutes; 300-600 words
* Each student will do one.
* The book must be at least 110 pages in length.

FOUR: Written & Oral Report on a Positive Contemporary Influence

* LIMITS: 3-6 minutes; 300-600 words
* Each student will do one.
* Much attention is given to negative influences in this church age. The subject of this report is a discovery and presentation of some POSITIVE influences in this age.

# Final Exam

1. What is the Greek word for “church” and what does it mean?

the Greek word for church is *Ekklesia* which means *those called together or those called out*.

1. Who is the *head* of the church? Give Scripture reference.

Jesus Christ is the head of the church.

1. Can you be saved and not part of the body of Christ? Explain your answer.

Yes. WE are saved by the blood of Jesus, but we must be baptized by the Holy Ghost into the body of Christ.

1. When did the church begin?

On the day of Pentecost.

1. When and where was the term “Christian” first used?

The term Christian was first used in Antioch around AD 40.

* 1. A) List the Seven Church Periods, B)name each corresponding church of Asia from Revelations chapters 2 & 3, c)give a simple definition of their names, and d) a brief description of each period.

1. THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH – Ephesus
2. THE PERSECUTED CHURCH – Smyrna
3. THE IMPERIAL CHURCH – Pergamos
4. THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH – Thyatira
5. THE REFORMED CHURCH – Sardis
6. THE MODERN CHURCH – Philadelphia
7. THE LAODICEAN CHURCH - Laodicea

13-15. What were the three effects of the Holy Spirit upon the church?

1. Illuminating – The Holy Spirit illuminated their minds to understand what they were not able to understand before.
2. Empowering – The Holy Spirit empowered them to preach and to work miracles.
3. Abiding – The Abiding presence of the Holy Spirit was with them. (Simplified)

16-18. What were the basic doctrines of the Apostolic Church? (Give 3)

1. Jesus was the Messiah – Acts 2:36
2. The Resurrection of Christ – Acts 2:30-32
3. The Return of Christ – Acts 1:9-11, I Thess. 4:15-17

(Scripture not required for answer to be correct)

1. What was the defect of the Apostolic Church?

They lacked missionary vision.

1. Who was the first Christian martyr?

Stephen was the first Christian martyr.

*Final Exam*, page 2

1. Who was the pastor of the Jerusalem Church?

James wasthe Pastor of the Jerusalem Church. (The brother of the Lord )

1. What was the Edict of Constantine?

The Edict of Constantine was an official decree that ended the killing of Christians in the Roman empire.

23-26. List at least four of seven causes of Imperial Persecution.

1. Heathen worship was hospitable to new gods while Christianity was exclusive to the worship of the One True God.
2. Idol worship was interwoven with life.
3. Emperor worship – Christians would not worship the Emperor.

Judaism had been an allowed religion in the Roman Empire.

Secret meetings of the Christians (aroused suspicion)

Equality in the church (went against Roman society)

1. Business interests were threatened by Christianity
2. How many different times of intense persecution did the church suffer during this period ? There were ten periods of intense persecution.
3. What is the earliest date that we can place the formation of the New Testament Canon?

AD 300

1. How was this Church period purified?

They were purified through persecution.

1. What did persecution do to the Church?

Persecution caused the Church to spread the Gospel throughout the known world.

1. Why is this Medieval Church period called the dark ages?

The light of God's Word was taken from the people.

1. Who dominated Europe during this period?

The Roman Catholic Church dominated Europe.

1. Why is John Wycliffe referred to as the Morning Star of the Reformation?

Wycliffe’s preaching and Bible translation prepared the way for The Reformation.

1. What did God do to end the dark ages?

The light of the Gospel drove back the darkness of Romanism. God turned on the light of the Word to end the dark ages.

1. What name was given to those who protested the Roman Catholic Church?

Protestants

1. Who is considered to be the father of the Reformation?

Martin Luther

1. What event helped to spark the light of the Reformation?

Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the oaken door of the Wittenberg Cathedral on Oct. 31, 1517.

*Final Exam*, page 3

1. What provided fertile ground for the Reformation in England?

The Wycliffe Bible spread throughout the land. The Light of The Word in the hands of the people provided fertile ground for the Reformation in England.

1. Who led the Reformation in Scotland?

John Knox led the Reformation in Scotland.

#### What was The Great Awakening?

#### The Great Awakening was a mighty revival in both England and America in the early 1700”s.

#### How did doctrinal beliefs hinder the evangelizing of heathen nations?

#### The Calvinist doctrine of the predestination of the elect was the common belief of the church during this period. Heathen nations were believed to be predestined to be dammed with no hope of Salvation. It was because of the adherence to this false doctrine that it was thought to be unnecessary to travel to heathen nations since they couldn’t be saved

#### Who was William Carey? (2-5 details concerning William Carey)

#### William Carey is the father of the modern missionary movement. He formed the first missionary society. He was the first modern missionary that went to a foreign country for the purpose of evangelizing a heathen nation. He was the first missionary to India.

#### Who was called the pathfinder of Africa?

#### David Livingstone

#### Briefly describe the Azusa Street revival.

#### It was a mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost in Los Angeles California at the turn of the century. God was restoring Pentecost to the Church.

#### What does the word Laodicea mean?

#### Laodicea means rule by the people

#### How did Jesus describe the Laodicean church period in Rev 3:17?

#### Thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked*.*

#### Briefly describe the phrase: New Evangelicals.

#### This phrase describes those who were promoting a new modern religion of compromise. brief summary of some of these facts are acceptable.)

#### In what false church did the charismatic movement begin?

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