

3. COUNCIL OF NICAEA to FALL OF ROMAN EMPIRE (325-590 AD)

363	<p>New Testament is canon is complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Of all letters and books in circulation... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does this book teach what the Disciples of Jesus and eyewitnesses taught? - Does it encourage and strengthen Christians in their faith? (Meryl Doney, <i>How the Bible Came to Us</i>) - Agreed at Councils of Laodicea (363) and Carthage (397) - New Testament is not distributed, but used by Priests. Old Testament - Hebrew, New Testament - Greek
~400	<p>Barbarian tribes (smaller, less organized tribal people - Huns, Goth, Alaric) slowly begin conquering western Roman empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rome was not built in a day, nor was it destroyed in a day. - No one ruler was able to unite Romans - The church's established rulers over cities (Bishops) begin to consolidate their leadership in Rome.
	<p>Slow division of the Latin-speaking Christianity of the Western Roman Empire (now called Catholicism) and the Greek-speaking Christians of the Eastern Roman Empire (Orthodox Christianity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The church would formally split in 1054
	<p>Modern day United Kingdom begins being invaded by Angles, Saxons and Jutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These tribes are mostly pagan - Christians in Britain and Ireland (primarily Celtic Church) must survive invaders who are Pagan (rural dweller) and who are highly superstitious.
	<p><u>Patrick</u> (390-460) spearheads evangelism efforts in Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At 16 years old he is captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave. - Works for 6 years before escaping - Becomes Clergy and returns to evangelize Ireland - Known as Patron Saint of Ireland by Catholic church, also Apostle of Ireland - Is said to have often used a <u>shamrock</u> to teach about the Trinity. - Tradition states died on March 17, 460 (disputed)
	<p>Efforts to evangelize Pagans result in Christian Celtic Church adopting some practices (some would say as evangelism tools).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Celtic church is very loosely organized - <u>Jack-O-Lanterns</u> (carved turnips) represented souls caught between two worlds. It is said some Christians used Jack-O-Lanterns as a starting point for talking about Christ. - <u>Christmas trees</u> evergreen trees were brought indoors and decorated as an offering to Pagan gods at Mid-winter festival. Christians used shape of tree to point to God, a star or angel is placed on top to represent the star over the stable, and evergreen to represent eternal life. Presents are left under the tree to represent the gift of God in salvation. - <u>Easter Eggs</u> and rabbits were part of a celebration to a Pagan fertility god. Modern celebrations have used empty eggs to represent the empty tomb of Christ.
476	<p>City of Rome is conquered by barbarians. The Bishop of Rome (later "Pope") is the last remnant of western half of Roman empire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barbarians rule over territories made up of Christians who look to the ruler of the church. - Regional barbaric rulers begin to understand their need to have the submission of conquered people - which would mean the endorsement of the Pope. - Pope becomes very powerful filling what would be considered an office equal with that

	<p>of an emperor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The church is, in effect, on its own (Catherwood, p55, loc 665)
	<p>Pope's rise to power begins what many historians call the Dark Ages (or Middle Ages)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Called Dark Ages because of the lack of records, literature and art- Church leaders view scientific research as not believing in the Bible. Often scientists are viewed as evil and persecuted.- Also called Dark Ages in contrast to the "enlightenment" period of the rise of science.