

## **Commonly Asked Church History Questions That Will Be Answered in This Class**

- Why is History in general, and church history in particular, so important?
- Where did the Pharisees and Sadducees come from?
- Who decided what books were included in the Bible and how did they decide?
- Are Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphal books bad? Are they worthwhile? Why do some Bibles include them?
- Why is the New Testament written in Greek?
- Why were the creeds important in the early church but not used as much today?
- What was Apostolic Succession? Why was it important? Does it exist today?
- What is Gnosticism? Does it exist today?
- What were the early church's views on the Trinity, Israel, end times, and church structure?
- Where did Roman Catholicism come from? How did it get so popular, powerful, and influential in Europe, and where did the Pope come from?
- How did Islam affect the church?
- Are the Crusades really no different than Islamic jihad?
- What was the Holy Roman Empire and how did it come about? Why did it end?
- What are contemplative theology, mysticism, and monasticism? Are they good or bad?
- What is Scholasticism and why was it so important in medieval theology? Is it a good or bad thing?
- How did the Roman Catholic church end up with 7 sacraments while most denominations have only 2 or 3?
- What is Progressive Justification?
- Where do denominations come from? How did they start? Are they Biblical?

- Why did the Reformation happen? Was it a good or bad thing?
- What was The Enlightenment? Was it a good or bad thing?
- What's the difference between Humanism in the Reformation and Secular Humanism today?
- What are the *Solas* and why were they so important?
- How did politics in England affect Christianity, especially Christianity in North America?
- Was America founded as a Christian nation?
- What was the Great Awakening?
- What did the founding fathers believe about religion, spirituality, and Christianity?
- What are Rationalism, Deism, and Unitarianism?
- What is Empiricism, and how did it affect the founding fathers?
- Why did Europe become so secular after centuries of being heavily influenced by the church?
- How did "Christianity" change in America in the 1800's, and how did the Civil War and Rationalism affect this change?
- How did the Evangelical movement of the mid-1800's affect Christianity in America?
- Where did American cults come from, and what defines an American cult?
- What is Modernity, and how did it affect the church?
- What is Post-Modernity, and how did it affect the church?
- What are some good books to read on church history?