

The History of the Church Course Outline

Session 1 – Beginnings to AD303

Political and Religious Context, Expansion, Official Persecutions

Session 2 – Organization and Leadership to AD430

Practice of Christian Gatherings, Leadership Structures, Church Fathers

Session 3 – Constantine, Creeds, and Canon, AD303-500

Rise of Emperor Constantine, Toleration, Fourth and Fifth Century Councils, Development of the Canon of Scripture

Session 4 – The Early Middle Ages, AD500-1054

Fall of the Roman Empire, Christianization of Britain and Europe, Growth of the Papacy, East-West Schism

Session 5 – The High Middle Ages, AD950-1500

Papacy and Empire, The Crusades, High Tide of the Papacy, Babylonian Captivity or “Great Schism”

Session 6 – Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation, AD1483-1546

The State of the Church in the 15th Century, Protestant Reformation, The Life of Martin Luther

Session 7 – John Calvin and the Reformed Churches

Ulrich Zwingli, The Life of John Calvin, Churches of 16th Century Europe, Anabaptists, Counter-Reformation

Session 8 – The English Reformation, 16th Century

State of Religion in England, Henry VIII, Edward VI, The Martyrdoms under Mary

Session 9 – Puritanism, 17th Century

Puritan Writings, Puritanism and the Reformation, Puritan Theology, The Puritan Story

Session 10 – The Great Awakening and Jonathan Edwards, 1703-1758

The Exodus to America, American Puritanism, The Life of Jonathan Edwards, Great Awakening, George Whitefield

Session 11 – Challenge and Response, 18th and 19th Centuries

Social Changes, Intellectual Challenges, Deism, Immanuel Kant, Missions Movements, YMCA

Session 12 – The Baptists, AD1520-1845

The Radical Reformers, Baptists in Great Britain, Baptists in America, The Southern Baptist Convention

Session 13 – The 20th Century and Capitol Hill Baptist Church

20th Century Challenges, Voices of Dissent, History of Capitol Hill Baptist Church