

Church History

Constantine



Pax Romana

- 180AD – considered the end of Pax Romana – “Peace of Rome”
- 193-211 – Severna, in 201, forbade conversion to Christianity
- 249-260 – severe persecution under Decius and Valerian
- 270 – Monasticism
- 303 – Diocletian – no longer meet – church buildings destroyed – leaders imprisoned – copies of scriptures to be burned
- 304 – all who refused to sacrifice to the idols were to be killed
- 305 – Diocletian abdicated emperors
- Galerius, on his death bed, issues Edict of Toleration

Constantine

- 306-337 – Constantine
- Edict of Milan
- “Rest in the day of the Sun”
- 330 – made Constantinople the capital
- 325 – Council of Nicaea
 - Arius vs Athanasius & Alexander
 - Constantine presides
 - All bishops invited
 - “Beautiful buildings”
 - Easter on Sunday

Constantine

1. Emperor
2. Senate (Imperial Council)
3. Imperial Governor (Vicarius)
4. Provincial Governor
5. Civitas (city)
6. The common people

1. Pope
2. Council (College of Cardinals & Ecumenical Councils)
3. Patriarch (Cardinal)
4. Metropolitan (archbishop)
5. Bishop
6. The lay people

Other Councils

- 381 Council of Constantinople – Holy Spirit, angel or God?
- 431 Council of Ephesus – “Mary, mother of God”?
- 451 Council of Chalcedon – Jesus is completely God and completely man – divine and human.
- 553 – Council of Constantinople – one nature or two of Jesus?
- 680 – Council of Constantinople – Jesus declared to have two natures or wills
- 687 – Council of Nicaea – Images?

Dates

- 450-1000 – Dark Ages
- 570-632 – Mohammed
- 600-750 – spread of Islam
- 590-604 – Gregory, first Medieval Pope