

◀ This image of Peter was painted by the Greek artist El Greco around 1600. St. Peter's Basilica, or church, in the city of Rome, Italy, is named in his honor.

30 C.E.–600 C.E.

# The Rise of Christianity

## CHAPTER 11

### ASKING ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

*What are the characteristics of a leader? • How do religions develop? • How do new ideas change the way people live?*

**What Will I Learn?** I will learn about the origins and development of Christianity and the role it played in early Europe.

**Why Does It Matter To Me?** Christianity has influenced the development of Western culture in numerous ways and continues to have the largest number of religious followers around the world today.

**How Will I Know That I Learned It?** I will be able to explain the significant events related to the origins and development of Christianity, including where it first began and how its influence spread over time.

### LESSON 1

Early Christianity

### LESSON 2

The Early Church

### LESSON 3

A Christian Europe



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**FOLDABLES**  
Study Organizer

**Using Your Inquiry Journal** As you read this chapter and examine the primary sources, use your Inquiry Journal to help you make notes and expand your list of questions. As you gather information, think about how you will answer the Essential Questions above.

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# PLACE & TIME The Rise of Christianity 30 C.E. to 600 C.E.

## SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY TO 600 C.E.

As Jesus gained followers, he alarmed Rome's rulers. They feared his growing influence and eventually executed him. Jesus' followers carried his message to many lands, and what began as a Jewish group developed into a separate religion.

### STEP INTO THE PLACE



#### GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

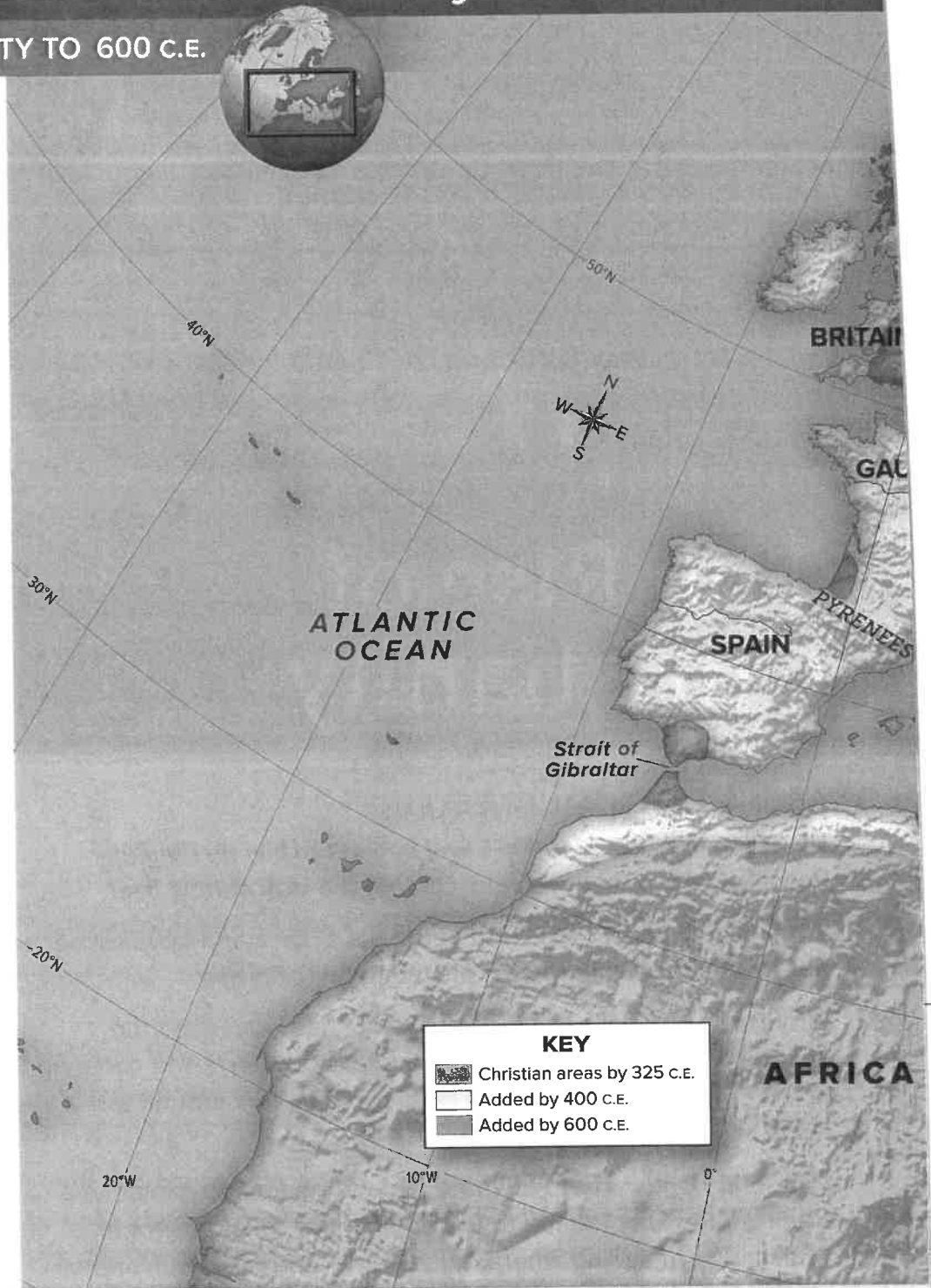
Christianity began in Judaea, an area that was part of the Roman Empire. From Judaea, Christianity spread through the Mediterranean region and beyond.

- 1. SPATIAL THINKING** Look at the map. Is Rome located northwest or southeast of Jerusalem?
- 2. PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** To which other parts of Europe would you expect Christianity to spread most quickly?

### STEP INTO THE TIME

#### UNDERSTANDING

**CHRONOLOGY** Choose an event from the time line and write two or three sentences explaining how the ancient Romans dealt with Christianity during that time.



## EARLY CHRISTIANITY

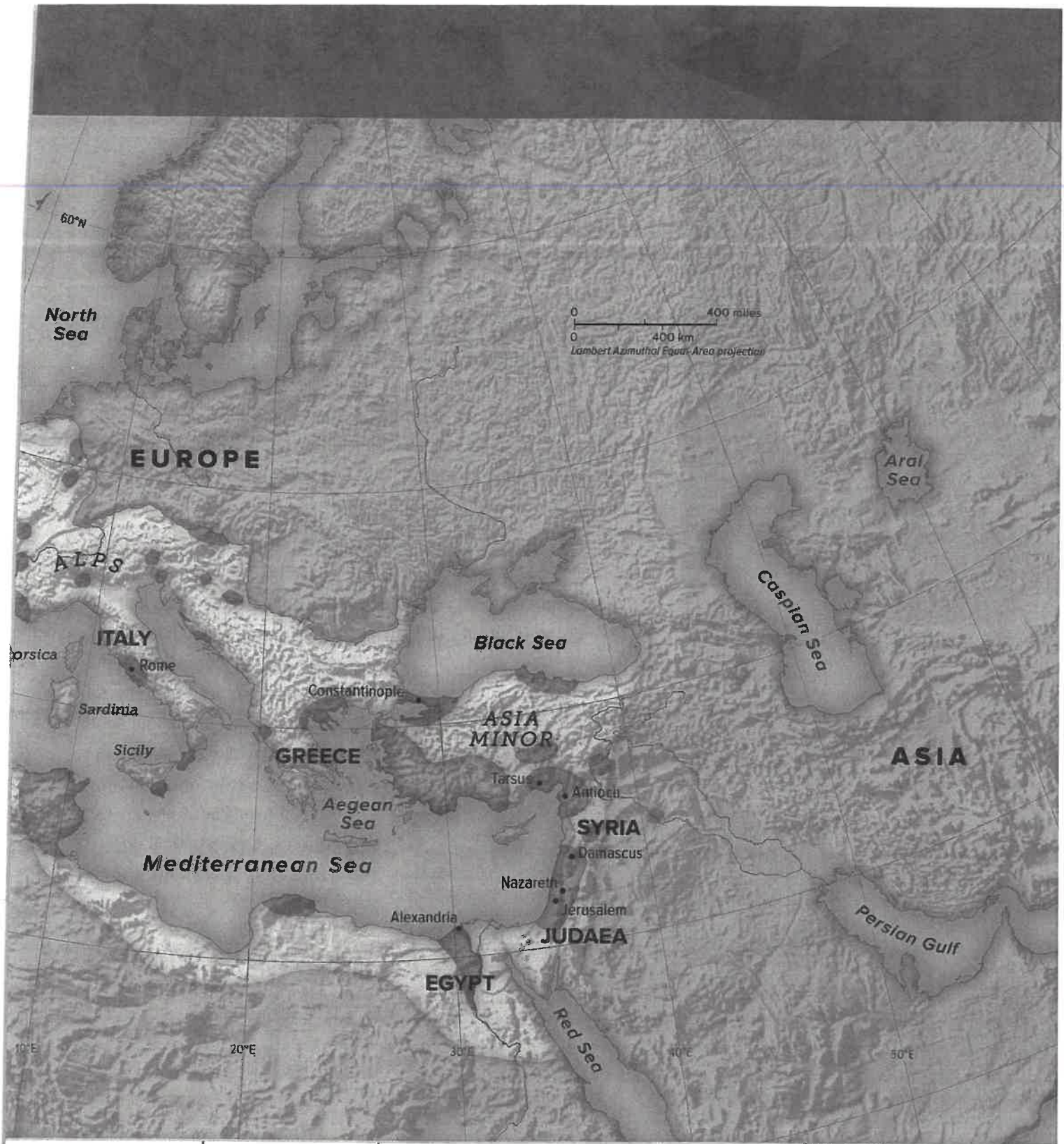
- c. 6 C.E.** Augustus makes Judaea a Roman province
- c. 30 C.E.** Jesus begins his preaching
- c. 33 C.E.** Romans execute Jesus
- c. 64 C.E.** Romans outlaw Christianity
- c. 135 C.E.** Romans force Jews out of Jerusalem

1 C.E.      100 C.E.      200 C.E.

## THE WORLD

- c. 79 C.E.** Eruption of Mount Vesuvius buries Pompeii
- c. 100 C.E.** Buddhism spreads from India to China





**c. 312 C.E.**  
Constantine accepts  
Christianity

**c. 392 C.E.**  
Christianity becomes  
official religion of Rome

**c. 597 C.E.**  
Monks bring Christianity to  
Anglo-Saxons of Britain

**300 C.E.**

**400 C.E.**

**500 C.E.**

**600 C.E.**

**c. 320 C.E.**  
Gupta Empire  
begins in India

**c. 395 C.E.**  
Roman Empire  
divides

**c. 400 C.E.**  
Yamato clan controls Japan

**c. 550 C.E.**  
Mayan cities flourish in  
Mesoamerica

**c. 600 C.E.**  
China prints  
first books

## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- *What are the characteristics of a leader?*

# THE STORY BEGINS...

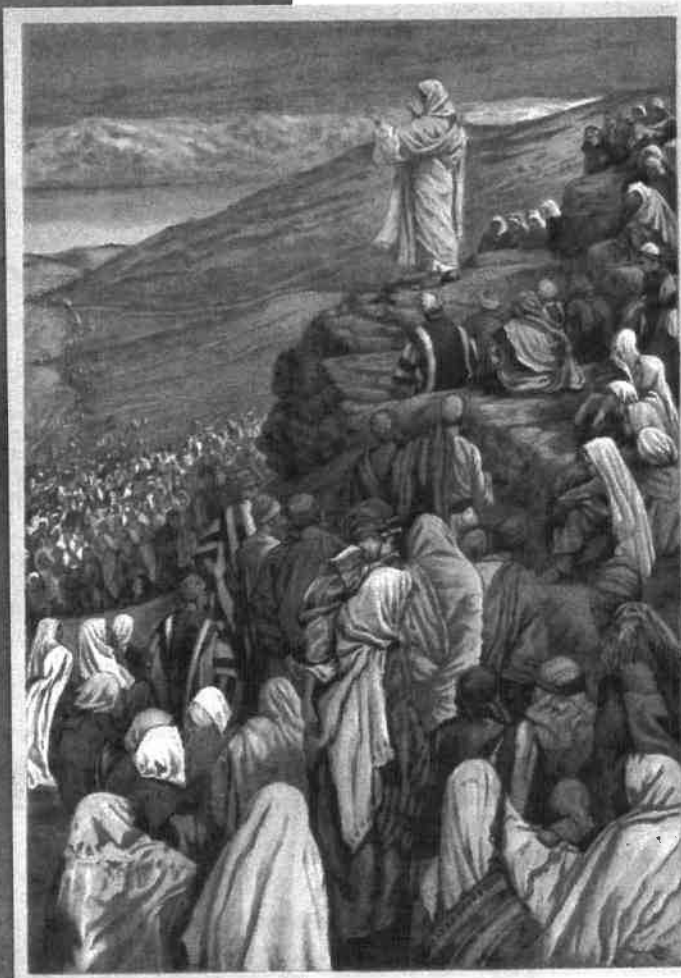
## LESSON 1

# Early Christianity

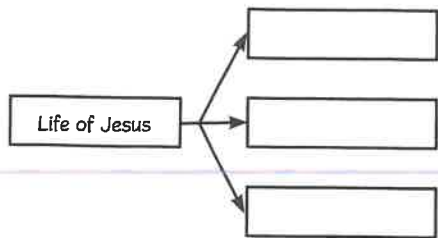
People traveled from far away places to listen to Jesus of Nazareth speak. His followers were men and women of all ages. But how could he share his teachings in a way that everyone would understand? To do this, Jesus taught his followers using parables, or short stories about everyday life that included an important moral or lesson. One of Jesus' most famous parables is about wise and foolish builders:

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

—from Matthew 7:24–27, *New International Version*



*Jesus shared many of his teachings through parables. [Painting by James Tissot, The Sermon of the Beatitudes, 1886–1896 C.E.]*



### ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify three things we know about the life of Jesus. Use a chart like this one to list the information. Explain the significance of how Jesus preached.

## JUDAISM AND ROME

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did the Jews respond to Roman rule?*

The Romans allowed Judaism (JOO•dee•IH•zuhn) to be practiced throughout the empire. In Judaea and Galilee, however, Romans ruled the Jews with violence and force. Many Jews hoped that God would send a deliverer to rescue them from Roman rule. They wanted the kingdom of Israel to be restored.

### CONTROL BY ROMANS

The Romans had taken over Judah in 63 B.C.E., but they allowed Jewish kings to rule it. In 6 C.E., Augustus made Judah a Roman province and called it by the Roman name of Judaea (joo•DEE•uh). Augustus replaced the Jewish ruler with a Roman governor, called a procurator (PRAH•kyuh•RAY•tuhr). Judaea was now more tightly controlled by the Roman Empire.

The Jews disagreed among themselves over how to deal with the Romans. Some Jews wanted to avoid conflict with their rulers. They preferred to cooperate with them. Others limited their contact with Roman officials and continued to practice Jewish traditions. Some Jews completely ignored the Romans. They established communities in remote places, away from Roman rule. Jerusalem, however, remained their holy city.

### JEWISH REVOLTS

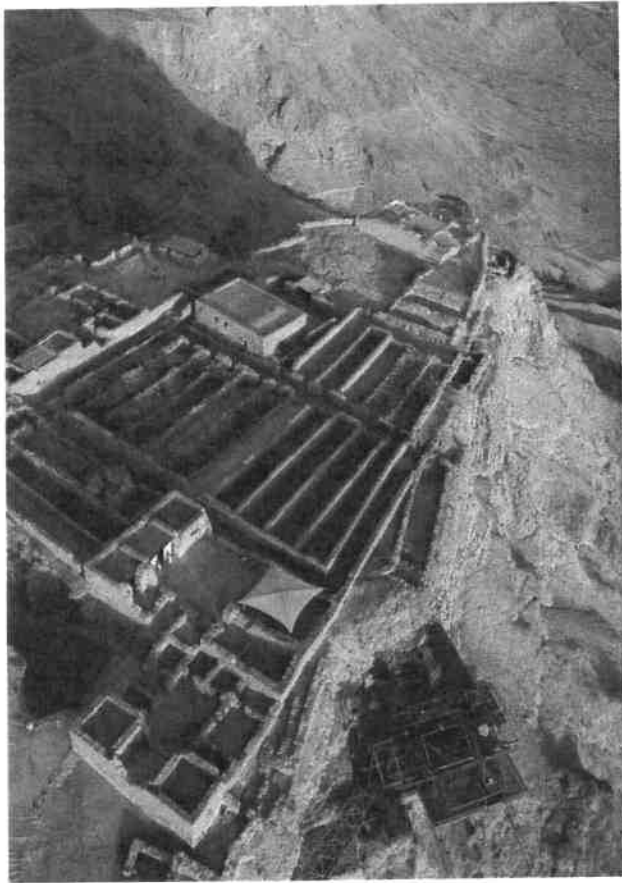
One group of Jews believed that they should fight the Romans for their freedom. These people, called Zealots (ZEH•luhtz), rebelled against Roman rule in 66 C.E. The Romans, however, brutally crushed the uprising. They destroyed the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and killed thousands of Jews.

The ruins of an ancient Jewish fortress called Masada (muh•SAH•duh) stand on a mountaintop in southeastern Israel. After Jerusalem fell to the Romans in 70 C.E., about 1,000 Jewish defenders overtook the Masada fortress. For almost two years, these defenders held off an army of 15,000 Roman soldiers.

### UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

- ANALYZING TEXT PRESENTATION** How has the author organized the information in the section?
- ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** What was the author's purpose in writing the section?





*An armed group of Jews captured this mountain fortress of Masada from the Romans. They defended it against a Roman army that outnumbered them 15 to one.*

**INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION** Why do you think the Jews wanted to control Masada?

In 73 C.E., the Romans broke through the walls of the fortress but found only a few Jewish survivors—two women and five children. The others had taken their own lives rather than surrender to the Romans. The fortress is now recognized as a symbol of Jewish heroism.

The Jews organized another unsuccessful rebellion in 132 C.E. In response, the Romans forced all Jews to leave Jerusalem. The Romans then declared that Jews could never return to the city. Many Jews, mourning the loss of their city, established communities elsewhere. The scattering of Jewish people to different parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa is known as the Jewish Diaspora.

By 700 C.E., the Jews had settled in regions as far west as Spain and as far east as Central Asia. In later centuries, they settled throughout Europe and the Americas.

Although the Jews were scattered around the world, they kept their faith alive. They did this by studying and following their religious laws and traditions.

#### CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

- 1. SUMMARIZING** Who were the Zealots?
- 2. EXPLAINING EFFECTS** How did the revolt in 132 C.E. affect the Jews of Judaea?



# JESUS OF NAZARETH

**GUIDING QUESTION** *Why were the life and death of Jesus of Nazareth important to his followers?*

A few decades before the first Jewish revolt, a Jew named Jesus (JEE•zuhs) grew up in a small town called Nazareth (NA•zuh•ruhth) in Galilee (GA•luh•LEE), the region just north of Judaea. In about 30 C.E., Jesus began to travel throughout Galilee and Judaea, preaching to people about his ideas. A group of 12 close followers called disciples (dih•SY•puhlz) traveled with Jesus.

## WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE OF JESUS?

According to the Christian Bible, Jesus preached that God was coming soon to rule the world. Jesus urged people to turn from their selfish ways and welcome the kingdom of heaven. He preached that God **created** all people and loved them the way a father loves his children. Therefore, people should love God and one another. In this way, they would be obeying God.

Jesus' message reinforced the Jewish teachings: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength" and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

The teachings of Jesus are summarized in his Sermon on the Mount. Jesus preached on a mountainside to a crowd of thousands. In that sermon Jesus gave the people simple rules to live by called the "Beatitudes." He told people that it was not enough to follow religious laws. People had to love God and forgive others from the heart. According to Matthew, this is what Jesus instructed:

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite [hit] thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at law and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel [force] thee to go a mile, go with him twain [two]. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love they neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.”

—Matthew 5:38–44, King James Bible

Jesus spoke using everyday language. He often preached using **parables** (PA•ruh•buhlz). These were stories about things

## ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

### 1. DETERMINING CENTRAL

**IDEA** What is the central idea of the section?

2. **SUMMARIZING** What does each part of the section discuss?

## ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

### 1. DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS

What is the central idea of the excerpt?

his listeners could understand, using events from everyday life. They helped people **interpret**, or explain, the ideas Jesus taught.

In one parable, Jesus told of a Samaritan man who saw an injured traveler by the side of the road. Even though the injured man was not a Samaritan, the passerby helped him. In another parable, Jesus told the story of a father who forgave his son's mistakes. He welcomed his prodigal—or wasteful—son back into the family. Both parables taught that God is like the concerned Samaritan or the forgiving father. He loves people who have erred and will forgive them if they trust him.

## HOW DID CHRISTIANITY BEGIN?

Jesus and his message sparked strong reactions from people. His followers spoke of times in which he healed the sick and performed other miracles. Stories about him were widely told. Many believed he was the Messiah, or the promised deliverer. Some Jews felt Jesus was deceiving people and opposed him. Roman rulers feared his preaching and growing influence and popularity. They viewed Jesus as a threat to law and order.

At the time of the Jewish holy days of Passover, there was growing tension between the Romans and the Jews. The Romans

### THE BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes are sayings or teachings intended to guide people. They are part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The Sermon includes the Lord's Prayer and nine Beatitudes for leading a better life.

1. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** Jesus says the meek—or humble—shall inherit the Earth. What do you think he meant by this?
2. **ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** Based on what Jesus says in the Beatitudes, what kind of people is he speaking to in his sermon?

**A few selected Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:3–12, Revised Standard Version (RSV).**

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the Earth.**

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.**

**Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."**





brought statues of the emperor into Jerusalem, the holy city of the Jews. Many Jews saw these statues as false idols and objected to their presence. The Jews had also grown weary of Roman rule and high taxes. Many Romans were angry because the Jews refused to worship statues of the Roman emperor.

In about 33 C.E., Jesus traveled to Jerusalem with his 12 disciples to celebrate the Jewish holy days of Passover. When he arrived in the city, an enthusiastic crowd greeted him as their promised deliverer. In an event known as the Last Supper, Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with his disciples.

## BETRAYAL OF JESUS

After the meal, however, one of Jesus' closest followers betrayed him. Leaders in Jerusalem arrested Jesus to prevent trouble from erupting in the city. They may have charged Jesus with treason, or disloyalty to the government. He was questioned by the Roman governor and sentenced to death.

According to the Christian Bible, Jesus was crucified, or hung from a wooden cross, and died. Romans regularly crucified criminals and political rebels. The followers of Jesus were greatly saddened by his death. According to Christian belief, Jesus rose from the dead three days after his death and appeared to some of his disciples.

*The parables of the Good Samaritan (left) and the Prodigal Son (right) are illustrated here. In each case, one person is helping another. These two paintings were created by an English painter and an Italian painter more than 1,500 years after the life of Jesus.*

**INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION** What do you think of today when you hear that someone is a "Good Samaritan"?

## DETERMINING MEANING

What context clues in the paragraph help you determine the meaning of **resurrection**?

Early Christian writings state that Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus' followers, was the first to see him alive again. The message of Jesus' **resurrection** (REH-zuh-REHK-shuhn), or rising from the dead, led to the birth of Christianity. During this very early period, Christians were still one of the many groups that made up Judaism.

## ✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **SUMMARIZING** How did Jesus reinforce traditional Jewish teachings?
2. **IDENTIFYING CAUSES** What caused the tension between the Jews and the Romans?

## UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. **ANALYZING TEXT PRESENTATION** How has the author organized the information in the section?
2. **ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** What was the author's purpose in writing the section?

## WHO WERE THE APOSTLES?

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did early Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire?*

The early Christian leaders who spread the message of Jesus were called **apostles** (uh-PAH-suhlz). The apostles first spoke to the Jews in Judaea and Galilee. The apostles then traveled to other parts of the Mediterranean region. Small groups of Jews and non-Jews in the Greek-speaking cities of the eastern Mediterranean believed the message about Jesus.

Those who accepted Jesus and his teachings became known as "Christians" and referred to Jesus as "Jesus Christ." The word *Christ* comes from *Christos*, which is a Greek term that means "the anointed one."

## BIOGRAPHY



## MARY MAGDALENE

A practical, down-to-earth woman, Mary Magdalene went with Jesus during his travels throughout Galilee. Biblical accounts of the life of Jesus maintain that she was present during his crucifixion and burial. These accounts also say she and two other women went to his tomb a few days after he was placed there. Finding it empty, Mary hurried to tell the other followers. She then returned to the tomb with Peter, also a follower of Jesus. [Stained glass window designed in 1800s C.E.]

**INFERRING** What risks did Mary Magdalene face by being loyal to Jesus?



The first Christians formed churches, or local groups for worship and teaching. Early Christians met in homes of men and women. At these gatherings, Christians prayed and studied the Hebrew Bible and early Christian writings. They also ate a meal similar to the Last Supper to remember the death and resurrection of Jesus.

## EARLY CHRISTIAN LEADERS

Apostles played an important part in the growth of Christianity. Peter and Paul were two important apostles in the early Christian church. Peter was a Jewish fisher from Galilee. He had known Jesus while he was alive and had been one of the 12 disciples Jesus had chosen to preach his message. According to Christian tradition, Peter helped set up a Christian church in Rome after the death of Jesus. Today, the center of the Catholic branch of Christianity is still located there.

Paul of Tarsus was another important Christian apostle. He was a well-educated Jew and a Roman citizen. He was raised as a loyal Roman who, as an adult, distrusted the Christians. Saul—his Hebrew name—at first tried to stop Christian ideas from spreading in Judaea and Galilee. The chief Jewish priest in Jerusalem then

*At the end of the 1400s C.E., the Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci created this famous painting of Jesus. Called The Last Supper, it was painted on a wall in Milan, Italy.*

**INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION** What do you think is happening in this illustration of Jesus and his followers?



## PETER

Most of what we know about the disciple Peter comes from the Christian Bible. According to tradition, Peter deserted Jesus when Jesus was arrested in the garden outside Jerusalem. Later, Peter felt ashamed and regretted his lack of courage. In the years following the death of Jesus, Peter emerged as a respected leader of the earliest Christian community. [Artist's stained glass re-creation]

**CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** Why do you think Peter deserted Jesus when Jesus was arrested?

sent him to Damascus, a city in neighboring Syria. There, he was supposed to stop Christians in the city from spreading their ideas.

According to Christian belief, while he was traveling to Damascus in Syria, Paul saw a great light and heard the voice of Jesus. As a result of this encounter, Paul soon became a Christian and devoted his life to spreading the message of Jesus.

Paul traveled throughout the eastern Mediterranean region and founded numerous Christian churches. Many of his important letters to churches in Rome, Greece, and Asia Minor are found in the Christian Bible.

## WHAT ARE BASIC CHRISTIAN BELIEFS?

The early Christians were monotheistic. They believed in one God, not the many Gods of Rome. They believed that Jesus was the Son of God. They believed he had come to save people. By becoming Christians and by accepting Jesus and his teachings, people could gain **salvation** (sal•VAY•shuhn). They would be saved from their sins, or wrongdoings, and allowed to enter heaven. Like Jesus, people would be resurrected after death and join God in everlasting life.

Because of their faith in Jesus, Christians began to believe in God in a new way. Like the Jews, Christians believed in the God of Israel and studied the Hebrew Bible. However, many Christians also believed in the Christian Trinity, which comes from a word meaning “three.” In Christian belief, the Trinity



refers to the three persons of God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These teachings became the basis of the Christian faith.

During the 100 years after Jesus' death, Christianity won followers throughout the world. The peace and order established by the Roman Empire gave people the ability to spread the Christian religion.

**✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING**

1. **ANALYZING POINTS OF VIEW** What did early Christians believe?
2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why were the apostles important to early Christianity?



*Before becoming an apostle, Paul of Tarsus tried to stop the spread of Christian ideas. After he came to believe in Jesus, Paul became one of the most influential leaders of the early Christian movement. [Sculpture, 1800s C.E.]*

**INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION** Why do you think Paul at first tried to stop the spread of the message of Jesus?

## LESSON 1 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

### Time and Place

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSES** How did Jewish traditions survive after 132 C.E.?

### Building History—Social Science Analysis Skills

2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** How did the apostles spread the message of Jesus?
3. **INFERRING** When Jesus said “Love your neighbor as yourself,” what was his message?
4. **SUMMARIZING** Why did Jesus have disciples?

### Writing About History

5. **INFORMATIVE WRITING** In a paragraph, explain why there were growing tensions between the Romans and the early Christians.

### Collaborating

6. **PRESENTING** With a partner, compare and contrast the beliefs of the early Christians with the beliefs of the Romans and the Jews. Present your ideas to a small group or to the class.

**FOLDABLES** Include this lesson's information in your Foldable®  
Study Organizer

## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

• *How do religions develop?*

# THE STORY BEGINS...

*Constantine became a firm supporter of Christianity and passed a law that guaranteed religious tolerance for Christians in the Roman Empire.  
[Statue created at York Minster, England in 1998 C.E.]*

400 It's All Online!

## LESSON 2

# The Early Church

Life was not easy for the early Christians. Those living in the Roman Empire often faced persecution. They faced many threats for practicing their religion, including being arrested, or even beaten. Despite these challenges, members of the early church remained true to their faith. Over time, Christianity became more widely accepted and was even adopted by the Roman Emperor Constantine. In the year 313 C.E., Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, which made it legal for Christians to practice their faith in the Roman Empire:

“When I, Constantine Augustus, as well as I, Licinius Augustus, . . . were considering everything that pertained to the public welfare and security, we thought that, among other things which we saw for the good of the many, those regulations pertaining to the reverence of the Divinity ought to certainly be made first, so that we might grant to the Christians and to all others full authority to observe that religion which each preferred.”

—from the Edict of Milan, 313 C.E.



PHOTO: *stave-goscher/Stock/Getty Images*; TEXT: Translated by Munro, Dana C., Bramhall, Edith, Mitchell, Edwin K., Cheyney, Edward P., Howland, Arthur C., and Whitcomb, Merick. 1897-1907. *Original Sources of European History*, Vol. IV. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Reasons Christianity Spread

- .
- .
- .
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## ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify the major reasons that Christianity spread. Use a chart like this one to list the reasons. Use examples from the text to illustrate the spread of Christianity.

# CHRISTIANITY AND THE EMPIRE

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did Christianity change over time?*

As the apostles spread the message of Jesus, many people in the Mediterranean world became Christians. The Roman Empire contributed to this growth.

## CHRISTIANITY SPREADS

Several factors helped Christianity spread throughout the empire. Areas controlled by the Romans were generally peaceful. Well-constructed roads meant Christians could easily travel from one **region** to another. Most people in the empire spoke Latin or Greek. This allowed Christians to communicate with them about the message of Jesus.

Another reason for Christianity's spread was that its message provided comfort to people during difficult times. It gave people hope that even if life was bad on Earth, there was the promise of a better afterlife.

Christianity also spread quickly throughout the empire because it provided its followers with security. Christians lived in **communities** where each member was responsible for taking care of the needs of others.

## WHY DID ROMANS MISTREAT CHRISTIANS?

As the number of Christians grew, some Romans believed that they were dangerous. They thought Christians were a threat to the empire. Romans expected everyone to worship the emperor as a God. The Christians, like the Jews, however, believed that only God could be worshipped. Christians criticized popular Roman festivals that honored the numerous Roman Gods. Also, Christians did not support warfare as a way to resolve problems. As a result, they refused to serve in the Roman army.

## UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

### 1. ANALYZING TEXT

**PRESENTATION** How has the author presented the information in the text?

### 2. ANALYZING POINT OF

**VIEW** Why do you think the author included information about Axum and Kush?



### GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

Even though the Romans persecuted the Christians, the Christian religion continued to grow and spread its influence.

- 1. EXPLORING PLACE** What areas did Paul visit during his second journey?
- 2. SPATIAL THINKING** What might have prevented Christianity from spreading to more places during its first three centuries?

Furthermore, Christians buried their dead outside Rome in catacombs, or underground burial places. Christians could also meet there to hold memorial services.

People who thought the Christians were dangerous believed that they should be punished. Some Romans blamed Christians for causing natural disasters. In 64 C.E., the emperor Nero falsely accused Christians of starting a fire that burned most of Rome. As a result, Christianity was outlawed.

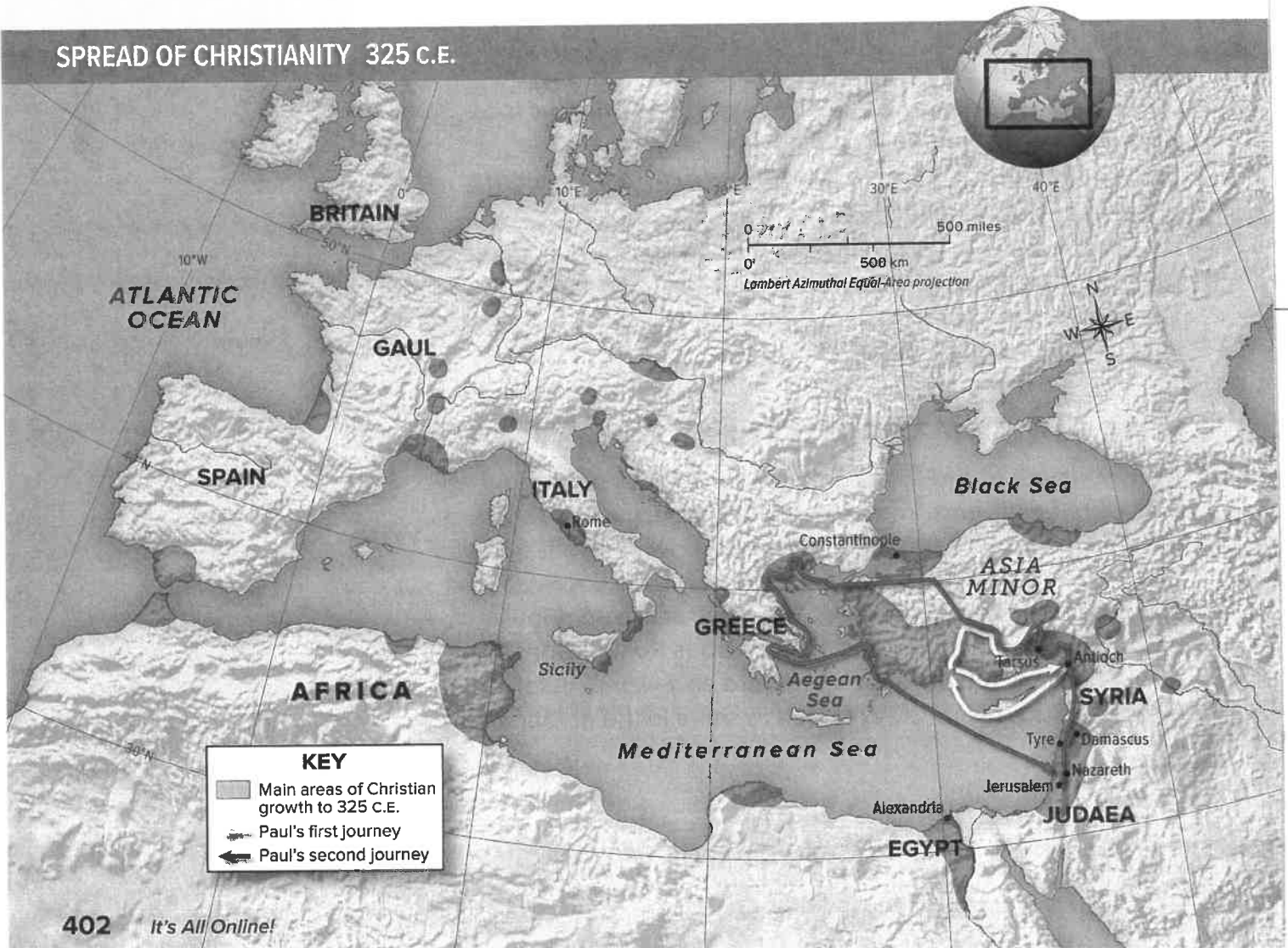
Christians were often mistreated. They were arrested and beaten. Some Christians became **martyrs** (MAHR•tuhrz), or people who were willing to die rather than give up their beliefs. Despite the mistreatment, Christianity continued to flourish.

## THE EMPIRE ACCEPTS CHRISTIANITY

In the early 300s C.E., the emperor Diocletian carried out the last great persecution of Christians. But his attempt failed. Christianity had grown too strong to be destroyed by force.

In 312 C.E., the Roman emperor Constantine (KAHN•stuhn•TEEN) prepared to lead his **military** forces into

### SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY 325 C.E.







*During the early centuries of Christianity, the Roman Catacombs were used for burials and funeral meals. Today, cemeteries are still places where we go to honor our families, experience shared history, and reflect on the sacrifices of others. [Left: Modern photo of Roman Catacombs; Right: Modern photo of Arlington National Cemetery]*

battle. According to some early Christian writers, Constantine had a remarkable dream the night before the battle. In the dream he saw a flaming cross in the sky. Written beneath the cross were the Latin words that meant “In this sign you will conquer.” The next day, Constantine ordered his soldiers to paint the Christian cross on their battle shields. Constantine won the battle and believed the Christian God had helped him.

Constantine became a strong supporter of Christianity. In 313 C.E., he issued the Edict of Milan. This decree allowed all religious groups in the empire, including Christians, to practice their religions freely. Constantine attended religious meetings of Christian leaders and gave government aid to Christians. With the help of his mother, Helena (HEH•luh•nuh), he built Christian churches in Rome and Jerusalem. Christians were allowed to serve in government and were excused from paying taxes. They started to serve in the army.

One of Constantine’s successors, the emperor Theodosius (THEE•uh•DOH•shuhs), banned Greek and Roman religions. In 392 C.E., he made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

## AXUM AND KUSH

At about the same time Christianity was flourishing in the Roman Empire, great trading kingdoms were rising in East Africa. The empire of Ethiopia, also known as Abyssinia, was powerful.

Its city-state of Axum served as a trading center for Mediterranean and East Asian worlds sending goods into and out of Africa. Around 300 C.E., Axum defeated neighboring Kush, another city-state. In 334 C.E., King Ezana (ah-ZAH-nah) of Axum made Christianity the official religion of Axum.

### CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSES** Why did the Romans mistrust Christians?
2. **SUMMARIZING** How did Constantine support Christianity?

### INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION

Why do you think early Christians buried their dead in hidden catacombs?

### CITIZENSHIP

#### PROCESS, RULES, AND LAWS

The early followers of Christianity living in the Roman Empire faced persecution for their beliefs. This all changed under Emperor Constantine. His Edict of Milan made it legal for all people, including Christians, to practice the religion of their choosing. The religious tolerance expressed in the Edict of Milan is much like the First Amendment to the Constitution. The United States government protects the right of all Americans to practice their religions freely without fear of persecution.



*Constantine led his troops to victory at the Battle of Milvian Bridge near Rome. This triumph led Constantine to convert to Christianity. [Modern illustration]*

**INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION** Do you think the Romans could have destroyed Christianity if Constantine hadn't been converted? Explain.

#### **ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS**

1. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** How did writings help Christianity become a unified religion?
2. **DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS** What is the main idea of the section?

#### **DETERMINING MEANING**

What context clues in the paragraph help you determine the meaning of **clergy**?

## **ORGANIZING THE CHURCH**

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did early Christians organize their church and explain their beliefs?*

As the number of Christians grew, the church had to become more organized to unite its followers. In addition, separate Christian communities began to practice Christianity differently. The early Christian leaders had to clarify and write down their beliefs.

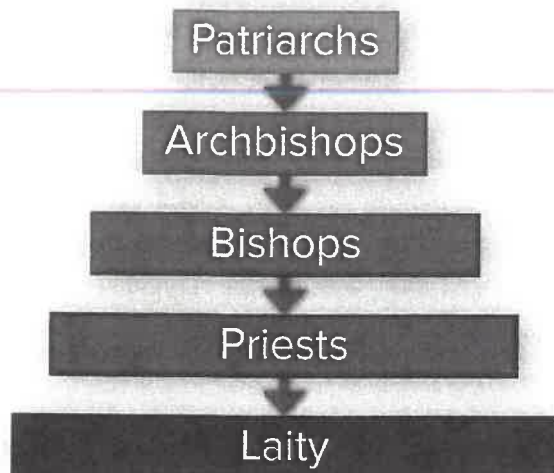
### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

Early Christians were familiar with how the Roman Empire was ruled. They used the empire as their model for organizing the church. Like the empire, the church came to be ruled by a **hierarchy** (HY•uh•RAHR•kee). A hierarchy is an organization with different levels of authority.

The **clergy** (KLUHR•jee), or church officials, were the leaders of the church. The role of the clergy was different from that of the **laity** (LAY•uh•tee), or regular church members. Although women were not allowed to serve in the clergy, they were members of the church. Women cared for sick and needy church members.

By 300 C.E., individual churches were headed by clergy called priests. Priests led worship services and managed local church activities. Clergy called bishops supervised the dioceses (DY•uh•suh•suhz), or several churches grouped together. Bishops explained Christian beliefs and managed regional church affairs. A bishop in charge of an entire region was called an archbishop. The five leading archbishops—in charge of the cities of Rome,

## EARLY CHURCH HIERARCHY



Over time, Christians developed a hierarchy to govern the church.

1. **SUMMARIZING** What are some differences between the status of patriarchs and priests?
2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why did the early church have to become more organized as it grew and developed?

Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem—were known as patriarchs (PAY•tree•AHRKS).

The bishops met in councils to define the teachings of the Church. They wanted to make sure that Christians practiced the same beliefs. The decisions they reached at these councils were accepted as **doctrine** (DAHK•truhn), or official church teaching. The ideas that the bishops rejected were heresies (HER•uh•seez), or teachings that did not support the Christian faith.

### WHAT WRITINGS SHAPED CHRISTIANITY?

Church leaders also preserved stories about Jesus and the writings of the apostles. Jesus did not write down what he said or did. His followers, however, passed on what they remembered about him.

By 300 C.E., four accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus were widely known. Christians believed that four apostles of Jesus—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—wrote these accounts.

Each account was called a **gospel** (GAHS•puhl), which means “good news.” Christians later included the four gospels with the writings of Paul and other early Christian leaders. Together, these works became known as the New Testament. The New Testament was added to the Greek version of the Jewish sacred writings, which Christians called the Old Testament. Together, these works formed the Christian Bible.

Other writings influenced the early church. Christian thinkers who explained church teachings became known as the Church Fathers. One of the most important Church Fathers was Augustine, a bishop in North Africa. In his writings, Augustine defended Christianity against its critics.

### MAKING CONNECTIONS TO TODAY

#### THE POPE

The Roman Catholic Church is led by a pope today. In addition to being the bishop of Rome, the pope is responsible for leading the Catholic Church. During the time of the early Christians, the pope was nearly always a person born in or near Rome. The 21st century, however, has had popes from Poland, Germany, and Argentina. This demonstrates just how far the influences of Christianity have reached through the centuries.

## ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

### 1. EXPLAINING POINT OF VIEW

Why do you think Augustine mentions Plato in this excerpt?

### 2. DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS

What is Augustine's purpose in this excerpt?



Augustine was one of the most important writers and thinkers in the history of Christianity. Even today, his books continue to inform and inspire.  
[Painting, 1400s C.E.]

**PREDICTING** Why do you think Augustine is remembered as one of the Church Fathers?

Augustine wrote *The City of God*. This was one of the first history books written from the viewpoint of a Christian. Augustine writes about people who challenge the teachings of Christianity:

“These men, seeking a weak point in the Christian doctrine [teachings], select for attack the eternity [lastingness] of the body, as if it were a contradiction to contend [fight] for the blessedness of the soul, and to wish it to be always resident in the body, bound, as it were, in a lamentable [pitiful] chain; and this although Plato, their own founder and master, affirms [demonstrates] that it was granted by the Supreme as a boon [blessing] to the gods He had made, that they should not die, that is, should not be separated from the bodies with which He had connected them.”

—from *The City of God*, by Augustine, 413–426 C.E.

## THE BISHOP OF ROME

As the church grew, the bishop of Rome claimed power over the other bishops. He believed that he had received the authority from the apostle Peter. Also, his diocese was in Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire. By 600 C.E., the bishop of Rome was called by a special title—**pope** (POHP). The title is from a Latin word, *papa*, related to the word *pater*, meaning “father.” Many Christians in the western part of the empire accepted the pope as head of all the churches. The Latin churches as a group became known as the Roman Catholic Church. Many Christians in the eastern part of the empire, however, would not accept the authority of the pope over them. Also claiming a link to the apostles, their churches became known as the Eastern Orthodox Church.

### ✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why did the church need a hierarchy of officials?
2. **SUMMARIZING** What role did the laity have in the hierarchy?

PHOTO:Scala/Art-Resource, NY; TEXT: Translated by Dods, Principal Marcus, 1913. The Works of Aurelius Augustine, Bishop of Hippo Vol. 1: The City of God Vol. 1. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark.

## LESSON 2 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

### Time and Place

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSES** What were two main reasons Christianity spread during Roman times?

### Building History-Social Science Analysis Skills

2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** How did church doctrine help to unify early Christians?
3. **SUMMARIZING** How is the pope similar to and different from other bishops?
4. **EXPLAINING ISSUES** Why were early Christians considered traitors to the Roman Empire?

### Collaborating

5. **COLLABORATING** Work together with a partner to compare and contrast the roles of archbishops, bishops, and priests.



Include this lesson's information in your Foldable®.



## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- How do new ideas change the way people live?

# THE STORY BEGINS...

## LESSON 3

# A Christian Europe

During the 500s C.E., the church came under the leadership of Pope Gregory I. He was a strong leader, such a strong leader, in fact, he was known as Gregory the Great. During his time as pope, Gregory I set about making many reforms. He also dedicated much of his effort to spreading Christianity. His missionaries traveled from Italy throughout Western Europe, spreading the Christian doctrine. Pope Gregory I encouraged the building of monasteries, such as the one he describes in his letter to Symmachus the Defensor.

“My son Boniface the deacon has told me that thy Experience had written to say that a monastery built by Labina, a religious lady is now ready for monks to be settled in it. And indeed I praised thy solicitude [concern]; but we with that some other place than that which has been assigned for the purpose should be provided; but with the condition, in view of the insecurity of the time, that one above the sea be looked for, which is either fortified [strengthened] by its position, or . . . without much labour.”

—letter from Gregory the Great to Symmachus the Defensor, 590 C.E.



Pope Gregory I (c. 540-604 C.E.) is remembered for the many reforms he made to the church, as well as his efforts to spread Christianity in Europe. [Art by James William Edmund Doyle c. 1864 C.E.]

Authority of the Pope	
Western Church	Eastern Church

### ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify how the western and eastern Christian churches viewed the authority of the pope. Use a chart like this one to record the information. Summarize the effects of the churches' differing views.

#### ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

- CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** What are the differences between the two churches described in the text?
- DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS** What is the main idea the author was trying to share in this section?

## TWO CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

**GUIDING QUESTION** *What issues divided the western and eastern Christian churches?*

The Roman Catholic Church was based in Rome, the capital of the Western Roman Empire. The church was led by the very powerful pope. As the Western Roman Empire declined, the Christian church of Rome survived. At the same time, the Roman Empire in the east, which soon became known as the Byzantine Empire, thrived. The Byzantines developed their own Christian church. Their church reflected their Greek heritage. This church became known as the Eastern Orthodox Church.

### BYZANTINE GOVERNMENT AND RELIGION

The emperor of the Byzantine Empire and the officials of the Eastern Orthodox Church worked closely together. The Byzantines believed their emperor was God's representative on Earth. Beginning in the 400s C.E., emperors were crowned in a religious ceremony. They also took an oath to defend Eastern Orthodox Christianity. They believed it was their duty to unite the empire under one Christian faith. Thus, the emperors controlled the Eastern Orthodox Church. Emperors appointed church leaders and defined how people would worship. They also controlled the wealth of the church and helped settle disputes about church beliefs.

### WHAT ARE ICONS?

Both Byzantine clergy and the Byzantine people discussed and often argued about religious matters. These arguments frequently became political issues and led to fights and riots.

In the 700s C.E., a heated dispute about **icons** (EYE•KAWNZ) divided the Eastern Orthodox Church. Icons are paintings of Jesus, Mary (the mother of Jesus), and the saints, or Christian holy people. Many Byzantines **displayed** icons in their homes. They also covered the walls of their churches with them.

People who displayed icons claimed that these images symbolized the presence of God in their lives. They also believed that the images helped people understand Christian teachings. The thinker John of Damascus was the leading defender of icons.

Some Byzantines, however, did not approve of the use of icons. They thought it was a form of idol worship forbidden by God. In 726 C.E., Emperor Leo III ordered that all icons be removed from the churches. Government officials who carried out his orders were called **iconoclasts** (eye•KAH•nuh•KLASTS), or image breakers. Today, this word refers to someone who criticizes traditional beliefs or practices.

Most Byzantines, many church leaders, and even the pope in Rome disapproved of Emperor Leo's actions. The dispute over icons severely damaged the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. Over the next century, the argument became less heated, and icons were used once again. They are still important today.

## THE GREAT SPLIT

Icons were only one of the issues that divided the eastern and western Christian churches. The most serious disagreement was about church authority. The pope claimed to be head of all Christian churches. He believed he was a successor, or person who follows another person, to Peter, disciple to Jesus and first bishop of Rome. The Byzantines **rejected** the claim of the pope. They believed the patriarch of Constantinople and other bishops were equal to the pope.

Military events also damaged the relationship between the pope and the patriarch of Constantinople. In the late 700s C.E., Italy was invaded. The pope appealed to the Byzantine emperor for help, but the emperor refused. The pope then asked the Franks to help defend Rome. The Franks were a Germanic people that supported the pope as head of the Christian church.

The Franks successfully defended Italy against the invaders. To show his gratitude, the pope crowned the Frankish king, Charlemagne (SHAHR•luh•MAYN), emperor in 800 C.E. The pope's actions upset the Byzantines. They believed their ruler was the only Roman emperor.



*This icon painted on wood, 1200 C.E., shows the angel Gabriel. According to the Christian Bible, Gabriel was a messenger sent from God.*

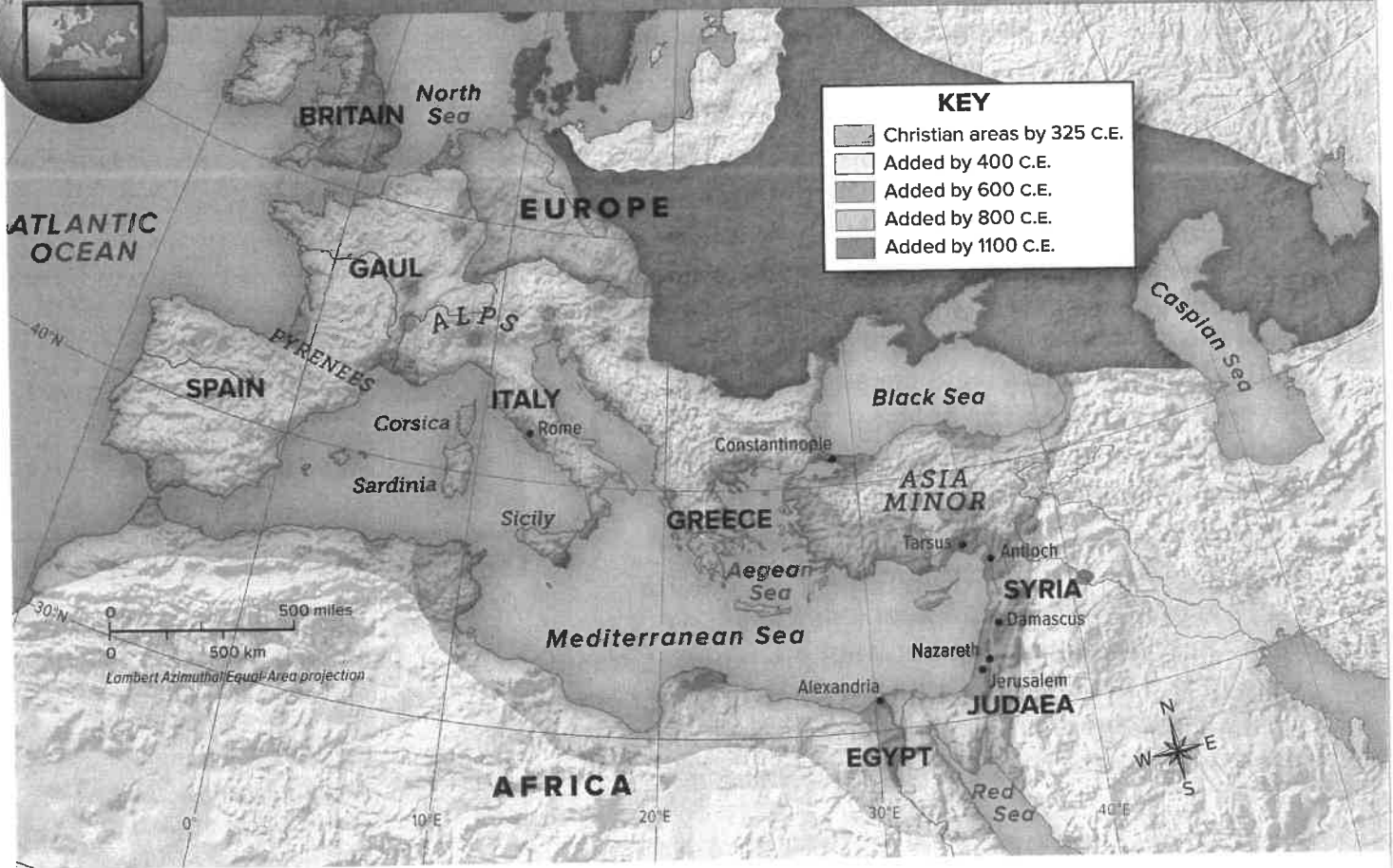
**PREDICTING** Why do you think some Byzantine people were against the use of icons?

### DETERMINING MEANING

What context clues in the paragraph help you determine the meaning of **iconoclast**?



## SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY 325–1100 C.E.



### GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

By 1100 C.E., Christianity had spread throughout Western and Eastern Europe and into far northern lands.

- 1. EXPLORING CULTURE** Which of these two areas became Christian first, Britain or Syria?
- 2. PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** Why do you think some areas took longer to convert to Christianity than others?

The eastern and western churches also viewed their roles in government differently. In the Byzantine Empire, the emperor controlled both church and government. Byzantine church leaders supported the decisions of the emperor. In the West, the pope claimed he had religious and political authority over all of Europe. He often quarreled with kings about church and government affairs.

Finally, in 1054 C.E., after centuries of bitterness, the patriarch of Constantinople and the pope **excommunicated** (EHK•skuh•MYOO•nuh•KAY•tuhd) each other. To *excommunicate* means to declare that a person or group no longer belongs to the church. This created a **schism** (SIH•zuhm), or separation, between the two major churches of Christianity. The split between the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church still exists today.

### CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

- 1. EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** What issues divided the eastern and western Christian churches?
- 2. IDENTIFYING CAUSES** Why did the pope crown the Frankish king as emperor?



# THE SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did Christianity spread across Europe?*

After the fall of the Western Roman Empire, people in many parts of Europe faced disorder and violence. Many looked to the Christian church for help. They hoped that Christianity would bring peace, order, and unity.

## NEW CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

During the 300s C.E., devout Christians in the Eastern Roman Empire formed religious communities called **monasteries** (MAH•nuh•STEHR•eez). In the monasteries, men called monks lived apart from the world. At the same time, they performed good deeds and modeled how Christians should live.

Christian women established religious communities of their own. These women were called nuns, and they lived in convents. During this time, one of the best known nuns was a Roman widow named Paula. In the early 400s C.E., Paula helped a scholar named Jerome translate the Christian Bible into Latin.

The Greek bishop Basil (BAY•zuhl) created a list of rules for monks and nuns. Known as the Basilian (buh•ZIH•lee•uhn) Rule, this list told people how to live and pray in Eastern Orthodox monasteries and convents.

In the West, religious communities followed another set of regulations called the Benedictine Rule. An Italian monk named Benedict (BEH•nuh•DIHKT) wrote these rules about 529 C.E. Benedictines gave up material goods. They devoted their days to work and prayer. One of their major duties was to serve as missionaries. Missionaries teach their religion to those who are not followers.

In addition, the Rule stated that monks were to welcome outsiders who were in need of food and shelter:

### MAKING CONNECTIONS

#### SPREADING CHRISTIANITY

The early Christians spread their faith in many ways, but perhaps one of the most important ways was through missionaries. Missionaries traveled from their homes to spread the message of Christianity.

This practice, though less common, still goes on today. People of many different faiths travel the globe sharing their religious beliefs with others.

### UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

#### 1. ANALYZING TEXT

**PRESENTATION** How has the author presented the information in the text?

#### 2. ANALYZING POINT OF

**VIEW** Why do you think the author chose to present the information in this way?



*Charlemagne, c. 742-814 C.E., believed his authority to rule came from God. Inspired by the teachings of St. Augustine, he considered both the spiritual and material needs of his subjects. [Modern illustration]*

**IDENTIFYING CAUSES** Why do you think Charlemagne, a Frankish king, defended Rome?

## THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET

Cyrillic Letter	Written Name	English Sound
Б	beh	B
Г	gey	G
Ж	zheh	ZH
М	em	M
П	pey	P
С	ess	S
Ф	ef	F
Ч	ch eh	CH



Two Byzantine missionaries, Cyril and Methodius, quarreled with German church leaders who opposed the use of Slavic languages for preaching and worship. The Germans wanted only Latin to be used. Cyril developed the Cyrillic alphabet, part of which is shown here. The original alphabet, based on Greek, had 43 letters. [Mural c. 1848 C.E.]

**EXPLAINING CAUSES** Why did Cyril create a new alphabet for people who spoke Slavic languages?

### ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

- CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** What reason does the author give for treating guests in the manner described?
- DETERMINING MEANING** What is the meaning of this specific rule? Rewrite it in your own words.

“ All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me. . . . Once a guest has been announced, the superior and the brothers are to meet him with all the courtesy of love. . . . All humility [being humble] should be shown in addressing a guest on arrival or departure. ”

—Benedictine Rule, Chapter 53: The Reception of Guests, c. 529 C.E.

Monks and nuns had important roles in Christian Europe. They helped the poor and ran hospitals and schools. They also helped preserve ancient Greek and Roman writings.

## CHRISTIANITY AND THE SLAVS

The Byzantines wanted to bring their religion and culture to groups who lived north of their empire. Two brothers, Cyril (SIHR•uhl) and Methodius, were among the most dedicated Byzantine missionaries. Their mission was to deliver the Christian message to the Slavs, a people in Eastern Europe.

Cyril and Methodius believed that the Slavs would be more interested in Christianity if they heard about it in their own languages. About 863 C.E., Cyril invented an alphabet for the Slavic languages. It is known today as the Cyrillic (suh•RIH•lihk) alphabet in honor of its inventor. The Cyrillic alphabet was based on Greek letters. It is still used today by Russians, Ukrainians, Serbs, and Bulgarians.

## CHRISTIANITY IN WESTERN EUROPE

In Western Europe, Christian missionaries sought to convert the peoples of Britain and Ireland to Christianity. Roman soldiers were stationed there also. In the 300s C.E., Roman soldiers left Britain to defend the empire against Germanic invaders.

Beginning in the 400s C.E., Germanic tribes from present-day Germany and Denmark invaded much of Britain. Over time, these groups united to become known as the Anglo-Saxons. They built farming villages and founded several small kingdoms. Southern Britain soon became known as Angleland, or England. The people became known as the English.

In Britain, the Anglo-Saxons pushed aside the Celts (KEHLTS), the people already living there. Some Celts fled to remote, mountainous areas of Britain. Some of those who fled had already accepted the Christian faith. Others crossed the sea to Ireland. In the 400s C.E., a priest named Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland. He set up churches and monasteries where monks helped preserve Christian and Roman learning.

In 597 C.E., Pope Gregory I sent about 40 monks from Rome to bring Christianity to the Anglo-Saxons of Britain. They converted King Ethelbert of Kent to Christianity. Ethelbert allowed the missionaries to build a church in his capital city of Canterbury. In about 100 years, most of England had accepted the Christian faith. Monasteries were built throughout England. As in Ireland, they became centers of religion and culture.

### CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why were monasteries and convents important in Christian Europe?
2. **DESCRIBING** Who were the Anglo-Saxons?



*Pope Gregory I is also known as Gregory the Great. A former monk, he was an excellent administrator. As pope, he continued to live as a monk and tried to bring about reforms in the church. [Painting c. 1150-1200 C.E.]*

**EXPLAINING CAUSES** How might Pope Gregory's background have affected the spread of Christianity?

## LESSON 3 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

### Time and Place

1. **SUMMARIZING** What role did Pope Gregory I play in spreading Christianity to the Anglo-Saxons?

### Building History—Social Science Analysis Skills

2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why do you think the Byzantine emperor refused to help the pope defend Rome from invaders?
3. **SUMMARIZING** What were monasteries and what purpose did they serve?
4. **EXPLAINING CAUSES** How did the Cyrillic alphabet help the spread of Christianity?

### Writing About History

5. **EXPLANATORY WRITING** Write a paragraph to describe what happened to Ireland once Patrick brought Christianity to its lands.

### Collaborating

6. **PRESENTING** With a partner, work together to answer the question "What different views of the role of the church in government did the eastern and western churches have?" Together, present your ideas to the class.



Include this lesson's information in your Foldable®.

## THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

After the death of Jesus in the year 33 C.E., many Christians faced many challenges. Despite the threat of being imprisoned, beaten, or killed, Christians continued to practice their religion and spread their beliefs to others. Much of what we know about the experiences of early Christians comes from letters written by church leaders. What challenges did early Christians face and how did they overcome them? What information do early church leaders share about the lives of early Christians?

### PRIMARY SOURCE: LETTER

#### 1ST THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 5

Paul the apostle was originally a tent maker. Initially, Paul opposed the Christian movement and believed that Jews who followed the teachings of Jesus should be punished. Paul's feelings changed after he had a dream that Jesus was in fact chosen by God. Paul then became a dedicated follower of Jesus and one of his apostles. After Jesus' death, Paul continued to spread Christianity. In addition to the 13 books of the New Testament credited to Paul, he also wrote many letters to encourage Christian communities facing persecution. One of his earliest letters is to the Thessalonians living in Greece:

“<sup>2</sup> For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail [effort] upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

<sup>4</sup> But ye, **brethren**, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

<sup>5</sup> Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be **sober**. . . .

<sup>8</sup> But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

### VOCABULARY

*brethren*: brothers; relatives

*sober*: serious

*wrath*: fury

*salvation*: to be saved from sin

*departure*: the act of leaving

*accustomed*: to be used to something

*memorialized*: to save the memory of something

*petition*: a formal letter requesting an action

*distinguished*: important; dignified

*diligence*: effort; determination

<sup>9</sup> For God hath not appointed us to **wrath**, but to obtain **salvation** by our Lord Jesus Christ. . . .

<sup>11</sup> Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify [strengthen or support] one another, even as also ye do.”

### ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. **DETERMINING MEANING** What does Paul mean when he says, “putting on the breastplate of faith and love”?
2. **ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** How would you characterize Paul as an individual?

### PRIMARY SOURCE: LETTER

#### AMBROSE TO THE EMPEROR EUGENIUS

Aurelius Ambrose was born in 340 C.E. in Belgic Gaul, an area in present-day Germany. He served as governor of the Italian provinces of Liguria and Emilia before being elected bishop of Milan in 374 C.E. Upon being appointed, Ambrose committed to a life of poverty, donating his possessions to the poor and needy. As bishop, Ambrose dealt with conflicts within the church and between the church and civic leaders, including Roman emperors. His letter to Emperor Eugenius, written in 390 C.E., explains some of the challenges faced by church leaders such as himself:

“The cause of my **departure** was the fear of the Lord, to Whom, so far as I am able, I am



**accustomed** to refer all my acts, and never to turn away my mind from Him, nor to make more of any man than of the grace of Christ. . . . I am not afraid to tell you emperors my thoughts, such as they are. And so I will not keep silence before you, O Emperor. . . . The illustrious Symmachus, when prefect [leader] of the city, had **memorialized** the Emperor Valentinian . . . requesting that he would command that what had been taken away should be restored to the temples. He performed his part in accordance [agreement] with his zeal [enthusiasm] and his religion. And I also, as Bishop, was bound to recognize my part. I presented two **petitions** to the Emperors, in which I pointed out that a Christian man could not contribute to the cost of the sacrifices; that I indeed had not been the cause of their being abolished [outlawed], but I certainly did urge that they should not be decreed [enforced]. . . .”

#### ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. **IDENTIFYING EFFECTS** How does Ambrose respond to the decree that Christians should contribute to the memorial of Emperor Valentinian?
2. **DRAWING CONCLUSIONS** What does this excerpt reveal about the character of Ambrose?

#### PRIMARY SOURCE: LETTER

### SAINT JEROME TO EUSTOCHIUM

Jerome, born in about 347 C.E. in present-day Slovenia, was a monk and religious scholar. Educated in Rome, Jerome traveled extensively in search of religious insight. After a period of time



#### MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

In what ways are the texts similar? How are they different? How might the specific time periods and backgrounds of the authors of the sources have influenced what they wrote?

living as a hermit, Jerome was ordained as a priest. He later moved back to Rome and served as a secretary to the pope. He studied the Bible and translated the text into Latin. Jerome, like other educated religious figures of his time, wrote letters to other Christians. In his letter to Eustochium, written in about 384 C.E., Jerome shares how a wealthy woman became a faithful member of an early religious community:

“In what terms shall I speak of her **distinguished**, and noble, and formerly wealthy house; all the riches of which she spent upon the poor? How can I describe the great consideration she showed to all and her far reaching kindness even to those whom she had never seen? What poor man, as he lay dying, was not wrapped in blankets given by her? What bedridden person was not supported with money from her purse? She would seek out such with the greatest **diligence** throughout the city, and would think it a misfortune were any hungry or sick person to be supported by another’s food. So lavish was her charity that she robbed her children; and, when her relatives remonstrated with [criticized] her for doing so, she declared that she was leaving to them a better inheritance in the mercy of Christ.”

#### ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. **DETERMINING CONTEXT** Why do you think Jerome wrote about the Christian woman to Eustochium?
2. **DETERMINING MEANING** What does Jerome mean when he says, “when her relatives remonstrated with [criticized] her for doing so, she declared that she was leaving to them a better inheritance in the mercy of Christ”?

# CHAPTER 11 Analysis Skills Activities

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

## Thinking Like a Historian

1. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Create a cause-and-effect diagram like the one shown here. Fill it in with the results or effects of Emperor Constantine's conversion to Christianity.



## Understanding Time

2. **SEQUENCING** Create a time line to arrange the events in the order that they occurred.
- Pope Gregory I sends 40 monks to Britain.
  - Emperor Leo III orders all icons to be removed from churches.
  - Judaea becomes a Roman province.
  - Benedict, an Italian monk, writes the Benedictine Rule.
  - Jesus of Nazareth begins teaching.
  - The Cyrillic alphabet is invented.
  - Emperor Nero falsely accuses Christians of setting a fire.
  - Christianity becomes the official religion of the Roman Empire.

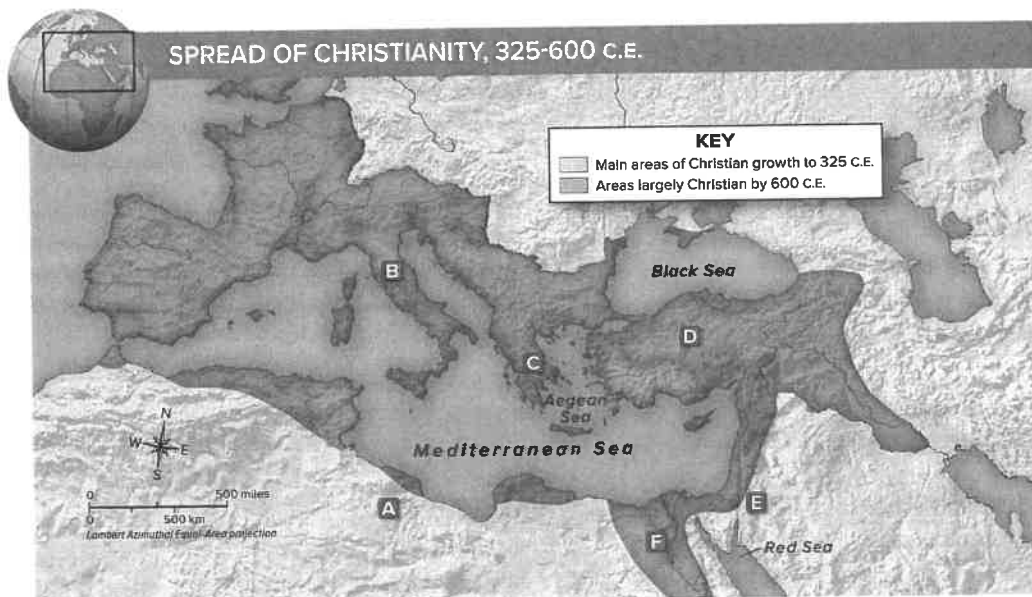
## Building Citizenship

3. **CIVIC AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS** In what ways was the governance of the early church similar to the governance of the United States today?

## Geographic Reasoning

Use the map to answer the following questions.

4. **A. PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** In which directions did Christianity spread between 325 C.E. and 600 C.E.?
- B. PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** What generalization can you make about areas of Christian growth to 325 C.E.?
- C. EXPLORING REGIONS** How does the map support the idea that Christianity first took root in the Eastern Roman Empire?



# CHAPTER 11 Assessment

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

## Vocabulary Practice

- 1 Determine the meaning of each word as it is used in the text.
  - A. parable
  - B. resurrection
  - C. apostle
  - D. salvation
  - E. hierarchy
  - F. laity
  - G. doctrine
  - H. icon
  - I. schism
  - J. monastery

## Short Answer

- 2 **DESCRIBING** Who were the Zealots?
- 3 **ANALYZING POINTS OF VIEW** What did Jesus' followers believe happened to him after he died?
- 4 **EXPLAINING CAUSES** How did the Roman Empire contribute to the spread of Christianity?
- 5 **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** What is the relationship between Constantine and the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire?
- 6 **SUMMARIZING** List the hierarchy of the early Christian church in order from most to least authority.
- 7 **IDENTIFYING** Name and describe the writings that make up the Christian Bible.
- 8 **IDENTIFYING** Why did iconoclasts disapprove of the use of icons?
- 9 **COMPARING** How do the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church each view power of the pope?
- 10 **EXPLAINING** How did Christianity come to England?
- 11 **EXPLAINING EFFECTS** How did the Jewish people react to Roman rule?
- 12 **IDENTIFYING EFFECTS** What were the effects of the Zealots' rebellion against Roman rule of Judea?
- 13 **ANALYZING** How does Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan reinforce his teachings?
- 14 **DRAWING CONCLUSIONS** Who was more important in the spread and development of early Christianity, Peter or Paul? Explain your answer.
- 15 **COMPARING** How was the Christian understanding of God similar to Judaism? How was it different?
- 16 **PREDICTING** How might the development of Christianity have differed if Constantine had not become a Christian himself?
- 17 **EXPLAINING IDEAS** On what basis did the bishop of Rome claim authority over other bishops?
- 18 **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why was early Christianity able to attract so many followers despite the threat of persecution?
- 19 **DETERMINING CONTEXT** How did the dispute over the use of icons reflect a larger issue in the early Christian church?
- 20 **SUMMARIZING** What contributions did monks and nuns make to medieval Europe?

## Need Extra Help?

If You've Missed Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Review	1, 2, 3	1	1	1, 2	2	2	2	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3

# CHAPTER 11 Assessment, continued

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

## Analyzing Primary Sources

Before becoming pope, Gregory I wrote this account of a monk who had not shared three gold coins with his fellow monks:

“[S]tricken with great grief, I began to think . . . how I should make his sins a warning to the living brethren [other monks]. Accordingly, having summoned [called for] Pretiosus, the superintendent [overseer] of the monastery, I commanded him to see that none of the brothers visited the dying man, who was not to hear any words of consolation [comfort]. If in the hour of death he asked for the brethren, then his own brother in the flesh was to tell him how he was hated by the brethren because he had concealed [hidden] money; so that at death remorse [regret] for his guilt might pierce his heart and cleanse him from the sin he had committed.

When he was dead . . . a grave was dug in the dung pit, and his body was flung down into it, and the three pieces of gold he had left were cast upon him, while all together cried, ‘Thy money perish with thee!’ ”

—“Life in a Christian Monastery,” c. 585 C.E.

- 21 DETERMINING MEANING** What does Gregory mean when he says that “his guilt might pierce his heart and cleanse him from the sin he had committed”?
- A. The monk may be forgiven for the bad things he had done.
  - B. The monk would die without any forgiveness for what he had done.
  - C. The other monks in the monastery would not mourn their brother’s death.
  - D. The other monks in the monastery would not pray for their brother’s forgiveness.
- 22 ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** Which statement best captures the attitude that Gregory had toward monks who hold on to personal property?
- A. They should be pitied for their selfishness.
  - B. They deserve to die alone, with no one to comfort them.

- C. They must be treated with scorn, even when they are dead.
- D. Their sins must be punished severely to keep others from sinning.

- 23 INFERRING** What can you infer from Gregory’s way of treating the dead monk about life in an early Christian monastery?
- A. Monks were expected to be cruel and hard-hearted.
  - B. Money was thought of as sinful and wicked.
  - C. Life was lived in common; all personal wealth was to be shared.
  - D. Monks paid a high price if they broke the rules.
- 24 DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS** Why is Gregory so upset with the dying monk?
- A. He stole money from the other monks.
  - B. He came from a very wealthy family.
  - C. He had been unwilling to help the needy.
  - D. He had held on to his earthly possessions.
- 25 CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** Which of the following lines from the excerpt indicates that Gregory did not care about material wealth?
- A. “I began to think . . . how I should make his sins a warning to the living brethren [other monks].
  - B. “while altogether cried, ‘Thy money perish with thee!’”
  - C. “then his own brother in the flesh was to tell him how he was hated by the brethren”
  - D. “I commanded him to see that none of the brothers visited the dying man”

## Extended Response Essay

- 26 NARRATIVE** You are a young person who lives in Judaea during the time of Jesus’ ministry. You have attended his Sermon on the Mount. Write a letter to your grandparents telling them about it.

### Need Extra Help?

If You’ve Missed Question	21	22	23	24	25	26
Review Lesson	3	3	3	3	3	1