

Grace Reformed Baptist Church Church History

The Early Middle Ages, AD400-1054

*“By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as **He is**, so also are we in **this world.**” I John 4:17*

I. INTRODUCTION: How does the Church relate to the World?

A) Two possible approaches:

- 1) Withdrawal
- 2) Conquer

B) God, History, and Time

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A) The “fall” of Rome – various barbarian invasions

- 1) Visigoths, Ostrogoths, and just plain “Goths”

- 2) Justinian resists in the East

4) Charlemagne

C) Conquering: the Good...

- 1) Growth of Christianity
- 2) Christian Culture

D) ...and the Bad

- 1) Wrong love for the world
- 2) Confused kingdoms
- 3) Again, Corruption

V. THE GREAT SCHISM OF 1054—East vs. West

A) Different styles....

B) Different structures...

C) Different theology (filioque)...

B) The challenge of Islam

- 1) Background: Mohammed
- 2) Islam's challenges to Christianity
 - a) exposed issues within the church
 - b) deepened West/East divide
 - c) forced the church to look north

III. MONASTICISM: Withdrawal from the World

A) Early monasticism

B) Benedict and the *Rule*

C) The Good of Monasticism...

- 1) Focus on Christ
- 2) Missions/Evangelism
- 3) Preservation of Doctrine, Scriptures
- 4) Social Services

D) ...And the Bad

- 1) Salvation by works?
- 2) Too withdrawn?
- 3) Corruption

IV. CHRISTENDOM: To Conquer the World

A) Growth of the Papacy

- 1) Leo I
- 2) Gregory the Great

B) Re-emergence of the Empire

- 1) Clovis
- 2) Charles Martel and Boniface
- 3) Pepin and Boniface