

EPIC_Wk 7_Missionaries and Emperors Part II (500-999)

Review: Great missionaries who took the faith to the world: St Benedict, St Augustine of Canterbury, England, Irish missionaries and monks who not only took the faith to Europe but copied scriptures and other classical literature in their monasteries, St Boniface brings many to the faith with his destruction of the Thor Oak in city of Geismar and the beginning of **Islam** and how Mohamed began to form his **community of believers** to begin to conquer ancient Christian areas in the Holy Land and in North Africa.

Part II

HERESY (EAST): Monophysites (451) = “one will”: (*Christ has only a human nature absorbed by Divine nature*); Patriarch Sergius of Constantinople tries to appease Monothelites and bring Church back together (*Christ had only one will and he only had a Divine Will*). What does it mean to be human if you do not have *free will* to determine what you will and will not do? If Christ did not have a human nature and will, then He would not have been able to *choose* His actions. Sergius asks **Pope Honorius** his opinion, but Honorius does not reinforce decisions of previous Ecumenical Councils and provides only an ambiguous response. Heresy persists in the **EAST** for 50 more years. Bishops in the **WEST** condemn the teaching. Finally in **631** at the Council of Constantinople, the **EAST** condemns the heresy AND Pope Honorius as a heretic. **Pope Leo II** felt the Council overstepped boundaries by condemning Honorius and no real proof he upheld the heresy of Monophysitism. He rewrote the decision that Honorius did not condemn nor accept the heresy and was only negligent in using his authority to quell it, a sin of omission. **FINAL DECISION:** Pope Honorius was not a heretic, he never believed the heresy, he did not preach the heresy. He simply failed to definitively teach *against* it when he had the opportunity.

NOTE: The teaching and decisions of an Ecumenical Council do not become official or authentic until they are approved by the Pope. The Pope also has the authority to change documents of the Council, if necessary, as in the case of Honorius. (HO#33 – Honorius and Eric)

Charlemagne (WEST): (8th Century (700's)) : Grandson of Charles Martel (who stopped the Muslim in France); son of Pepin of Herstal who established a new line of authority in France by soliciting the Pope to decide who should rule: ineffective kings or the one who is doing the job but no title. Pepin becomes *Protector of the Pope* and establishes the *Papal States*. (Remember importance of the *conversion of Clovis, the Frank king back in 496*)

- Fought Muslims in Spain (won all except 1, *Song of Roland*¹)
- 30 yrs fighting the Saxons (pagans who practiced human sacrifice and cannibalism) Charlemagne tried to convert them peacefully but **forced to use the sword – not a normal practice**)
- Implemented *Capitular Laws* (strict and severe laws directed at the Saxons) to prevent Saxons from reverting back to paganism, many would result in death
- Crowned *Holy Roman Emperor* by Pope Leo III who was attacked by a mob; time of unrest and many Italian noble families were trying to secure the papacy; Charlemagne became *Protector of the Pope* (very, very important title and responsibility)
- Unites EASTERN and WESTERN Europe under one ruler and ruled for 42 years **(SG pg. 208)**
- Where **CONSTANTINE** gave people vision of **WHAT** a Christian ruler could do, **CHARLEMANGE** gave people vision of **WHAT** a Christian ruler DID DO.

Holy Roman Empire (founded in 800 AD) lasts for over 1000 years and is dissolved by **NAPOLÉON** IN 1806.

Carolingian Renaissance²: Charlemagne's plan to educate *his* people; hired Alcuin of York³, an English scholar and student of Venerable St. Bede⁴. Alcuin originated the *liberal arts curriculum* that included the **Trivium**: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric and the **Quadrivium**: Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy and Music

Scriptoriums: Benedictine monasteries where Charlemagne commissioned the monks to copy scripture and classical literature. Over 7,000 manuscripts still exist today

Upon Charlemagne's death in 814, his son Louis I becomes emperor divides empire among his three sons as sub-rulers: Pepin, Louis and Charles. Much unrest and fighting. The Empire crumbles and with **Treaty of Verdun**⁵ in 843, it is dissolved.

HERESY (EAST): Iconoclasm (image breaker); Emperor Leo III (EAST) believed volcanic was result of an angry god ordered destruction of all sacred images (art, windows, paintings, statuary). Pope Gregory II condemns this and writes a letter to emperor. Many religions, including Islam, practice this today.

Christ knows that so often as we go into the Church of St Peter, and see the picture of this saint, we are moved and tears flow from us. Christ has made the blind to see but you have made the seeing blind. You say we worship stones and walls and boards, but it is not so, Emperor, but that they serve us for remembrance and encouragement, lifting our spirits upwards by those whose names the pictures bear, and we worship them not as God as you maintain, God forbid, for we set not our hope on them. But if a picture of the Lord is there, we say Lord Jesus Christ, help and save us. At a picture of His Holy Mother, we say, Holy Mother, pray for us with thy Son...(a murderer's guilt) is not as great as yours, for you have persecuted that which is open and clear as light and stripped the Church of God. Pope Gregory II, 729 AD

Emperor Leo orders images be destroyed, his successor Constantine orders persecution of any who worship the idols (especially monasteries and convents in EASTERN Church. He dies and Leo IV becomes Emperor, marries Irene. Leo dies, son is too young to take the throne, but his mother Irene becomes emperor. She calls the **Second Council of Nicaea** (787)

- Clearly defines how we look at sacred images: 1. We **WORSHIP** God and God alone. 2. We **VENERATE** the Blessed Mother. 3. We have **REVERENCE** for the saints.
- Acknowledges work of St John Damascene (Doctor of the Church- Arts⁷); used arguments from reason, Scripture and *tradition* of The Church to demonstrate okay to have sacred imagery.

Since the invisible God took on flesh, we may make images of Christ who was visible and picture Him in all His activities. St John Damascene

EAST	WEST
Charlemagne begins <i>Carolingian Renaissance</i> ; unites Empire	After Charlemagne dies; chaos erupts
HERESY: Iconoclasm-Destruction of sacred images	Muslims raiding Sicily and Italy Vikings attacking Europe, Britain, Spain, France, Germany
2nd Council (#7) of Nicaea (787) - Sacred images ok; we venerate/reverence St John Damascene: Dr of Church-Art	Beginning of Feudalism; Code of Chivalry Society begins to stagnate again
HERESY: Photian Schism – Excommunications	HERESY: Photian Schism
4th Council (#8) of Constantinople – Pope Hadrian (869)-last Council until 1123, 254 yrs. later	States universal authority of Pope of Rome
	Time of instability both politically and pontifically; Synod of the Corpse (Pope Formosus and Emperor Lambert) (895-896); Pope Stephen VI

Pope John IX is elected(899-900), condemns Synod of the Corpse and tries to wipe away this part of The Church's story. Important to know this story because:

- Shows how bad things were in Europe during 9th and 10th centuries
- Event may be used to weaken and confuse people who do not know the entire story

Important to realize 266 Popes in 2,000 years and vast majority were holy and saintly men. Some were weak leaders, a few used the office politically, and this event had nothing to do with *Church Doctrine*-nothing changed in what we believed. These events *did not* invalidate the office.

Cluny Monastery: Julian, Duke of Aquitaine founded to appease his murder of another in fit of rage. Became the source of renewal and reform in The Church. Monastery was placed under the control of the Pope, not the local Bishop, so limited the political intrusion.

¹ **Song of Roland:** Rear guard of Charlemagne who held off Muslims for him and his knights to escape back to Gaul (France)

² **Carolingian Renaissance:** Began in the late 8th century and continued into the 9th century by Charlemagne in effort to educate his Holy Roman Empire citizens. The 4th-century Roman empire inspired it. The revival was characterized by the increase in liturgical, architecture, literature, jurisprudence, writing, and religious studies.

³ **Alcuin:** Wrote numerous letters during his lifetime that are now an important source of information concerning the literary and social conditions of the time and a reliable authority for the history of humanism during the Carolingian age.

⁴ **Venerable Bede:** Bede was one of the greatest scholars of the Anglo-Saxon period. He produced a large number of works on subjects as varied as science, music, poetry and biblical commentary, but he is most famous for his Ecclesiastical History of the English People, one of our best-written sources for early English history.

⁵ **Treaty of Verdun:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Verdun

⁶ **Veneration or Reverence:** Some common synonyms of venerate are **adore, reverence, revere, and worship**. While all these words mean "to honor and admire profoundly and respectfully," venerate implies a holding as holy or sacrosanct because of character, association, or age. In Catholicism, **veneration is a type of honor distinct from the true worship** (veritable adoration), which is due to God alone. The difference between veneration and reverence Veneration can be defined as "respect or awe inspired by the dignity, wisdom, dedication, or talent of a person." Reverence can be simply defined as "great respect and admiration for something or someone." **Veneration implies a high degree respect and reverence.**

⁷ **Doctor of The Church:** a title given by the Catholic Church to saints recognized as having made a significant contribution to theology or doctrine through their research, study, or writing. Among the 37 recognized Doctors: 28 are from the WEST and nine from the EAST; four women (three nuns, one consecrated virgin); 19 bishops, 12 priests, 1 deacon; 27 from Europe, 3 from Africa, and 7 from Asia. **More Doctors (twelve) lived in the 4th century than any other time.**

