

#### TWENTY CENTURIES. TWELVE VOLUMES. ONE STORY.

your understanding of today's often bewildering world, to an epic adventure that page after page will reveal how individual people, all touched by the same inextinguishable flame, sometimes errantly, often brilliantly, created the astounding society we are now fighting hard to restore and preserve for posterity. To share in this experience, you will acquire 12 large books, each with nearly 300 pages or more, all on high quality paper in full color, packed with magnificent paintings, hundreds of photos, sketches, maps, and other images.

The narrative unfolds in compelling language more characteristic of magazines than formal histories. The emphasis is always on the Christians who made the events happen, often heroically, sometimes to their historic discredit. (The series is not a "whitewash." Where the Christians erred, we say so.) The writers and editors are nearly all seasoned journalists and practicing Christians, identified in the front matter of each volume, as are others associated with the production, and, of course, the indispensable academic historians who consulted closely on the text throughout.





hile the goal of this series is to make Christians highly knowledgeable of their history and sufficiently perceptive to refute erroneous accounts of it, the books should not be approached as a course of studies, but simply as a captivating story. For history is addictive, and becomes most powerful when it is absorbed, not merely through memorization, but born out of the lure of the intriguing people it describes. The publisher of the books is SEARCH, the Society to Explore and Record Christian History, a nonprofit entity chartered in both the state of Virginia and the Canadian province of Alberta. Its directors and officers are

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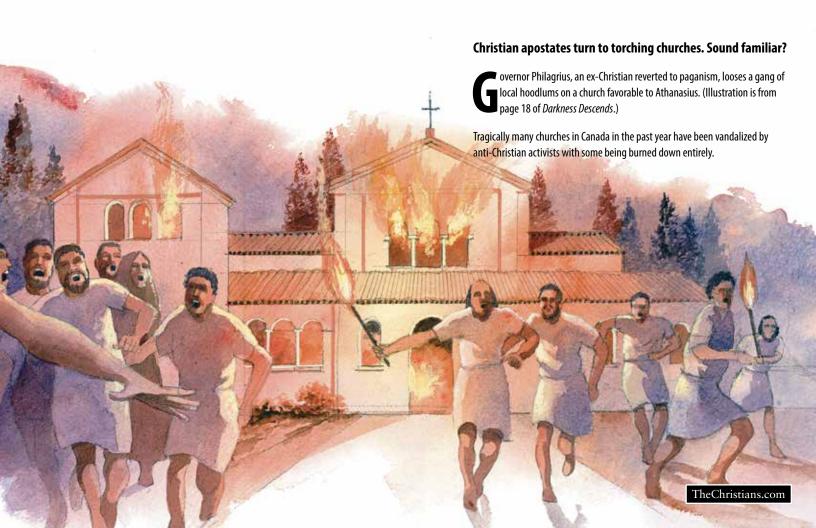
God in

A Century of Giants

shown in the front matter of Volumes 6 through 12. The volumes may be seen on the web at TheChristians.com. SEARCH is not connected, legally or effectually, with any Christian denomination or church related institution. However, we gratefully acknowledge the 20th Century Christian writer C. S. Lewis as the inspiration for this whole endeavor. We can only pray that he approves of what we have done.

Ted Byfield, General Editor The Christians: Their First Two Thousand Years





#### NOVEMBER 2021



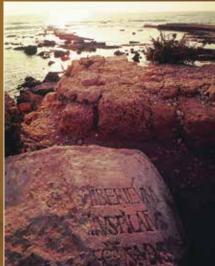
"I am so thankful for this series. Believers like me will have their faith strengthened by witnessing the power of the Spirit to bring the Church through the best and worst times imaginable. Skeptics and even unbelievers will be enriched by experiences that have led to the character of Christians that live around them. The series is not afraid to show the appalling sinfulness of some of Christianity's representatives, along with the astonishing bravery and goodness of others, sometimes mixed in the same person. This is real life, real history, and real faith." — Mark Wilms, Royal, lowa

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Daylight Savings				Remembrance Day / Veterans Day (Stat)		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Thanksgiving Day (USA Stat)		
28	29	30				
Advent Sunday (Christian)						



#### Pilate's fate: Some say he killed himself, some that he became Christian

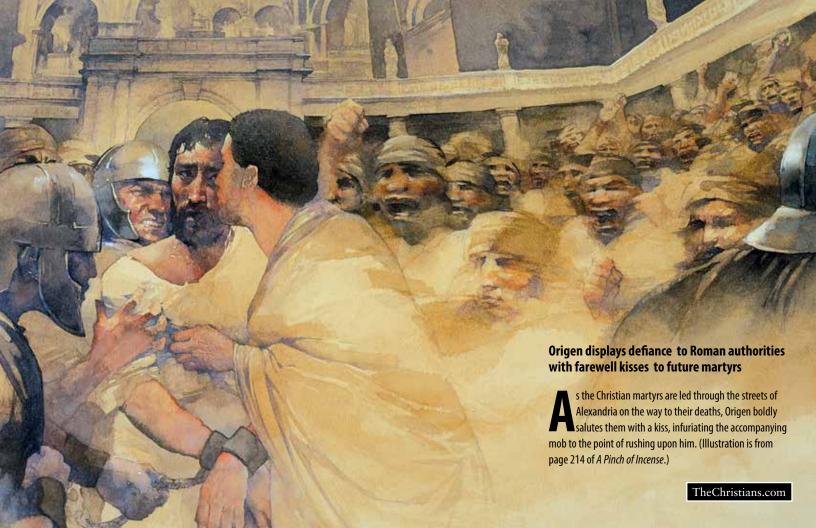
ritics who were dubious about the historicity of Pontius Pilate were silenced by the twentieth-century discovery of a partially effaced stone inscription in seaside Caesarea. "... NTIUS PILATUS... ECTUS IUDAE..." it reads, identifying him as prefect of Judea. After the original was removed to a museum, this replica (below) was placed at the discovery site near the ancient amphitheater of the city. The original stone, (left) is now located in the Israel Museum, Jerusalem. (Illustration is from page 15 of *The Veil Is Torn*.)



#### DECEMBER 2021

What Readers Are Saying "THE CHRISTIANS is a classic and timeless collection that we consider a family treasure at our home. The series is historical, factual and a vessel of truth. It will be invaluable to us and future generations as we will eventually recapture the building blocks of Western Civilization. Civilization itself is explained within the pages of the series. The Christians will cement the faith of the Believer and has the power to inspire faith in the unbeliever." —Forrest Kennerd, Cochrane, Alberta

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Pearl Harbor Remembrance				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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						Christmas Day (USA/CAN Stat)
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Boxing Day (CAN Stat)						

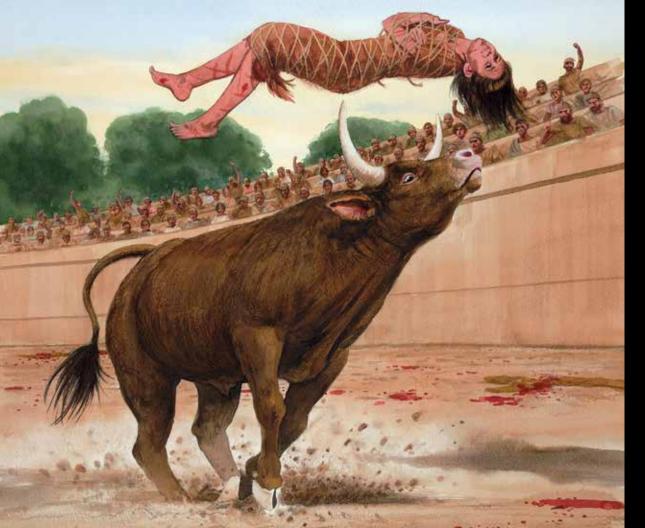


#### JANUARY 2022



"... a very valuable tool in evangelism and nurture as the post-Christian 21st century unfolds. ... And just as people are brought to Christ by the witness of Christians they meet and know, so too people may be brought to Christ by the witness of Christians of past days whose story is faithfully presented to them. The new Christian has come into a family, and [these books] will do what a family album does ... tell the family's story." — Dr. James I. Packer, Professor of Theology, Regent College

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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						New Year's Day ( USA/CAN Stat)
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				Epiphany Day (Christian)		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (USA Stat)				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



## Blandina: Mild-mannered slave girl from Gaul proves incredibly difficult to kill

he slave Blandina is thrown by a bull in the arena at Lyon (Lugdunum), but the animal's attack fails to kill her. Having endured unspeakable torture for several days, she has refused to deny her faith and, surviving the attack of the bull, is eventually stabbed to death, the final victim of the persecution of the summer of AD 177. (Illustration is from page 142 of A Pinch of Incense.)

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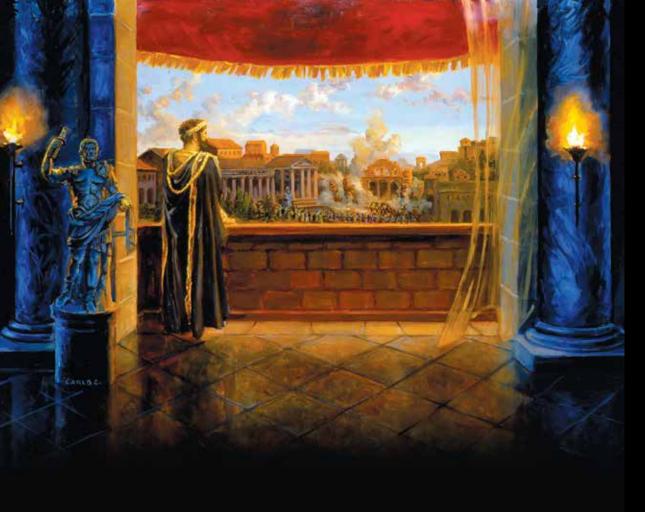
#### FEBRUARY 2022



"I highly recommend THE CHRISTIANS. I greatly enjoyed reading them. Each volume is printed on high-quality paper and accompanied by full-colour pictures and maps. Scholarly, but very readable for all, these books should have a place in every Christian home and are an excellent source of material for all Christian educational institutions."

— Klaas Brobbel, Co-Founder and Former CEO of The Voice of the Martyrs Canada Inc.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	Washington's Birthday (USA Stat)	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



#### Destroying churches: a popular pastime today that dates back all the way to Diocletian

he emperor Diocletian looks on with satisfaction as an offense to his eyes and sensibilities is removed at his command. The Christian basilica in Nicomedia stood directly opposite the imperial palace, a galling and strongly symbolic confrontation of the "Kingdom" of the Christians with his empire. Diocletian's first act of persecution was the obliteration of the church. (Illustration is from page 112 of *By This Sign*.)

Sadly, present-day anti-Christian authorities are repeating this tragic tradition with the destruction of many beautifully built churches throughout China.

#### MARCH 2022

What Readers Are Saying "More than a remarkable collection of Christian history. Beautifully presented with artistic layout. Many thanks to all the writers and artists and printers. Knowing your history is vital whether American or Christian....and ALL Christians should read. A benchmark production that will never be repeated." — Richard Ternes, Walton, Nebraska

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday (Christian)	Ash Wednesday (Christian)			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Daylight Savings				St. Patrick's Day		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					Annunciation Day (Christian)	
27	28	29	30	31	,	



#### Buried Christian treasure: Evidence Christianity was practiced in ninth-century China

he hottest, most inhospitable place in China, the Turfan Basin, proved to be the ideal climate to preserve ancient manuscripts and wall paintings, such as this one. The ruined walls of a church near Khocho (or Chotscho) revealed this fresco from the ninth century depicting Palm Sunday. A priest or deacon is holding either an incense box or a chalice while three worshippers hold branches. Head gear identifies the two men as Uighurs, but the woman is clearly Chinese. (Illustration is from page 182 of The Quest for the City.)

#### APRIL 2022



"The entire series has been invaluable in my ministry of sharing the gospel with Chinese academics (mostly visiting scholars) studying in California universities. I have drawn from the series again and again to demonstrate that the Christian message is historically and supernaturally based and that Christian values and presence worldwide have contributed more than anything else by far to the flourishing of people globally." —Joe Lorencz, Campus Minister, San Francisco Bay Area

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm Sunday (Christian)					Good Friday (CAN Stat)	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Easter Sunday	Easter Monday (CAN Stat)				Orthodox Good Friday (Christian)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Orthodox Easter Sunday (Christian)	Orthodox Easter Monday (Christian)					



## 3,000 immediately embrace Christ, followed by hundreds of millions since

assersby logically assume that the disciples, pouring out of the house from which a puzzling din is issuing, are nothing more than early-morning drunkards. But then each pilgrim to Jerusalem recognizes that this band of babblers is actually speaking in the language of his homeland. Peter excitedly calls out: "Let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say." People do listen, and three thousand are reported to join the fellowship of Jesus' disciples. (Illustration is from page 12 of *The Veil Is Torn*.)

#### MAY 2022



"THE CHRISTIANS is mind-boggling and extremely well-written. I learned so much, and having been a Christian for many years, reading the Bible daily, of course, and other related books, this was just like a breath of fresh air. What an excellent plan to start with Pentecost and follow carefully through to the present age. I truly wish to commend you all for this excellent series." — Rose High, Castor, Alberta

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0	9	10	11	12		14
Mother's Day					Ascension Day (Christian)	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Victoria Day (CAN Stat)	24	25	26	27	28
29		31				



#### JUNE 2022

What Readers Are Saying "Absolutely outstanding series on the history of our faith. The research and editing team were definitely inspired by the Lord. Recommend every follower of Christ Jesus read these amazing books. Great writing, great graphics, outstanding quality. These are treasured in our home." — Mark Dady, Jasper, Georgia

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Pentecost Day (Christian)						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Juneteenth Independence Day (USA Stat) / Father's Day	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

#### The final days of the first crusade and a penitential procession around the Holy City

s the Muslims jeered from the walls of Jerusalem, the ragged, half-starved Christians trudged around the city singing hymns, looking the very picture of penitent defeat, their vaunted reconquest of the Holy Land evidently a complete failure. Two days later the fate of this motley group would be determined by history. (Illustration is from page 12 of *A Glorious Disaster*.)



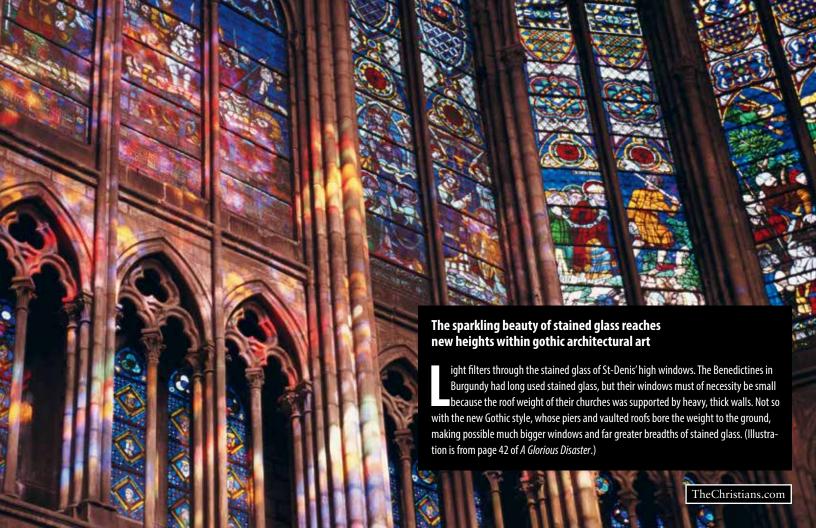
#### JULY 2022

What Readers Are Saying

"It is a wonderful series with historical information presented that is not taught in most churches. The books are easy to read but not simplistic. The illustrations are superb."

— Mark Fischer, Mokelumne Hill, California

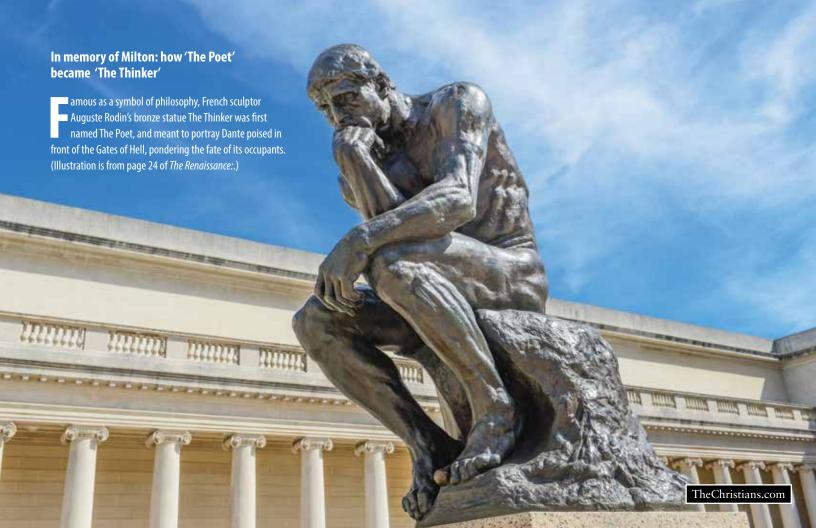
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					Canada Day (CAN Stat)	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Independence day (USA Stat)					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



#### AUGUST 2022

What Readers Are Saying "From the very beginning I could understand the importance of this work. The overview is inclusive of East and West, and it seems to do so in a careful and balanced manner. These books open doors for readers to avenues of inquiry and study, and they introduce them to the reality that the Christian Way, not being a system, but a way of life consequent on a loving relationship with God who loves His creation and His creatures, each one beautifully unique. About this, we may say, 'May the Difference Live!"" — Monk Seraphim, Ottawa, Ontario

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	Civic Holiday (CAN Stat)					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



#### SEPTEMBER 2022



"But my jaw drops when I look at the beautiful volumes produced by the Christian History Project and SEARCH ... This is solid history told the way history should be written, with sound and fury signifying something vital about the drama God has produced. The writing is lively and the characters are vivid." — Dr. Marvin Olasky, Former Editor, World Magazine

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Labor Day (USA/CAN Stat)					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Patriot Day (USA)						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
					Truth & Reconciliation Day (CAN Stat)	



#### **John Calvin reluctantly** returns to reform Geneva, his 'Protestant Rome'

hile John Calvin was exceedingly happy in Strasbourg, things did not go well in Geneva. According to reports sent him by William Farel, brothels were opening, Anabaptists were preaching, and the Mass was being said in many homes. Finally persuaded that Geneva was a cross he must bear, Calvin returned in 1541, devoting the rest of his life to creating a city modeled on biblical authority. The identity of the sketch artist is not recorded. (Illustration is from page 96 of A Century of Giants.)

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#### OCTOBER 2022

What Readers Are Saying

"This series does not shy away from dark moments in the story of Christianity. Yet it also is alert to the many good things the Christian movement hasbrought to the world and tells the stories well. It is extremely readable and engaging." — Axel Schoeber, Victoria, British Columbia

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	Columbus Day (USA Stat) Thanksgiving Day (Canada Stat)					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



#### Key Jesuit ingredient to 19-century Catholic revival in Europe: Offering the best possible education

nineteenth-century wood relief (above) shows Jesuit Peter Canisius teaching a class of children in Augsburg. Heralded for masterminding and almost singlehandedly reestablishing Catholicism in Germany, Austria, Bohemia, and Poland, Canisius began his mission at the thoroughly Lutheran University of Ingolstadt, where he succeeded in restoring Catholicism as the dominant religion. (Illustration is from page 163 of A Century of Giants.)

As the quality of public education continues to decline in western nations a similar opportunity arises for revival via Christian involvement in various forms of alternative schooling.

#### NOVEMBER 2022

What Readers Are Saying

"These beautiful books paint a multi-faceted, balanced view of the history of Christianity over its first 2000 years. I have given numerous copies to my godchildren, and to at least one Christian school." — Susan Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Daylight Savings					Remembrance Day / Veterans Day (Stat)	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				Thanksgiving Day (USA Stat)		
27	28	29	30			
Advent Sunday (Christian)						



# Like much of Christianity's greatest literature 'Pilgrim's Progress' originates in prison

unyan began his work on Pilgrim's Progress while imprisoned for his dissenting Protestant preaching at a time when strict adherence to Anglicanism was being enforced. Here, in a nineteenth-century oil by George Frederick Folingsby, Bunyan is portrayed in Bedford jail, where he was treated leniently, preaching to fellow inmates and a guard while attended by one of his five children. (Illustration is from page 84 of We the People.)

With so many imprisoned Christians these days in China, Korea, Iran and other nations, one wonders what new and amazing works are being written for the glory of God as you read this.

TheChristians.com

#### DECEMBER 2022

What Readers Are Saying "Decided to read through the entire series as a "bucket list" goal... Not only is the content interesting and compelling, but it provides perspective on the human condition...That perspective is comforting. It helps me understand and deal with the current craziness of world events, and realize that the same God has guided us (even despite our many weaknesses, mistakes and willfulness) throughout history. Thank you for producing this awesome resource." — Ron Johnson, Saskatchewan

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Pearl Harbor Remembrance			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day (USA/CAN Stat)	Boxing Day (CAN Stat)					



## Confounding scientists for centuries: why do some Christian corpses barely decay?

ernadette's reputedly incorrupt body lies in its sarcophagus in Nevers. When exhumed in 1909, the body was reported to be free of putrefaction, but the eyes and nose were sunken and the skin blackened, requiring her face and hands to be covered by light wax masks. (Illustration is from page 49 of *Unto The Ends of The Earth.*)

Exhumed bodies like St. Bernadette of Lourdes and a few other venerated Catholic and Orthodox Christian saints show remarkably little sign of normal bodily decay. Most have not been embalmed (or mummified) in any way and some corpses are hundreds of years old. Science has yet to explain this phenomenon.

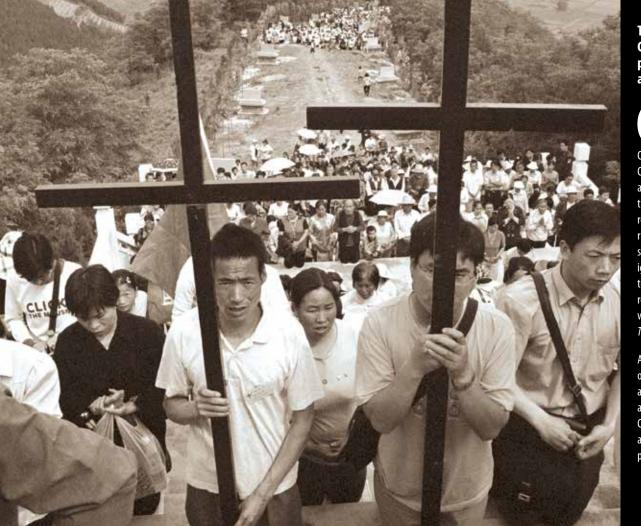
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#### JANUARY 2023

What Readers Are Saying "The series is great! My wife read the entire series twice and I read the entire series once and some books more than once. We will continue learning from the entire set. There is so much of church history that we had not heard previously or considered. We have told others about the The Christians: The First Two Thousand Years because it is a tremendous publication."

—Spencer Gilliam, Flint, Texas

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Year's Day ( USA/CAN Stat)					Epiphany Day (Christian)	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (USA Stat)					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



## The work ahead for Christians today: present-day persecution at record levels

hinese Catholics kneel and worship in front of a church on a hillside in Baoji, in northeast China's Shaanxi province in May 2005. China, along with sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, had been among the leaders in Christian growth in recent decades, with its numbers rising from four million to fifty million since 1949. The boom has been largely ignored by western media unwilling to acknowledge Christianity's resurrection outside the developed world. (Illustration is from page 404 of The High Tide and the Turn.)

As history shows, such Christians often then experience pushback and persecution from governmental authorities. Many of the faithful in China and other parts of Asia and Africa are in dire need of your prayers and political appeals for their protection.

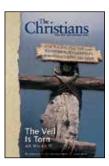
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#### FEBRUARY 2023

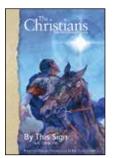


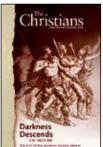
"Most evangelical Christians know almost nothing about Church history. That is both a pity and a scandal. THE CHRISTIANS is a very accessible first step for believers to take as we reclaim the glorious heritage we share with brothers and sisters who have lived faithful lives, have done great deeds, and have contended for the truth throughout the past two millennia." — Chuck Colson, Prison Fellowship

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Washington's Birthday (USA Stat)					
26	27	28				





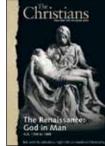


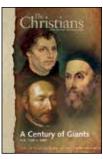


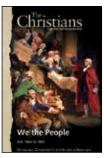


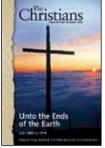














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