

The Christians

CALENDAR FOR
THE YEAR 2024

The battle for the soul of Christianity

Eyed with satisfaction by Constantine and his mother, Helena, bishops assembled at Nicea step forward to sign their approval of the creed they have just hammered out. Among those present are bishops missing eyes and limbs, scarred by the tortures of years of persecution.

Christians at this council declared a statement of faith that clearly defined the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and affirmed the divinity of Jesus Christ.

(Illustration is from page 240 of *By This Sign*.)



The Septuagint: Ancient Israel's most effective evangelism tool

Assembled at the behest of Ptolemy II Philadelphus, who wanted a Greek version of the Jewish sacred books, 72 Jewish scholars (six from each of the twelve tribes) gathered in Alexandria to carry out the painstaking translation. Three centuries later, 300 of the 350 Old Testament citations quoted in the New Testament would be drawn from what became known as the Septuagint, from the Latin word for seventy.

The Septuagint is the first known translation of the Bible. Through this text all the Greek-speaking Mediterranean lands conquered by Alexander the Great learned the history of Judaism, which in turn formed a foundation for early Judeo Christianity.



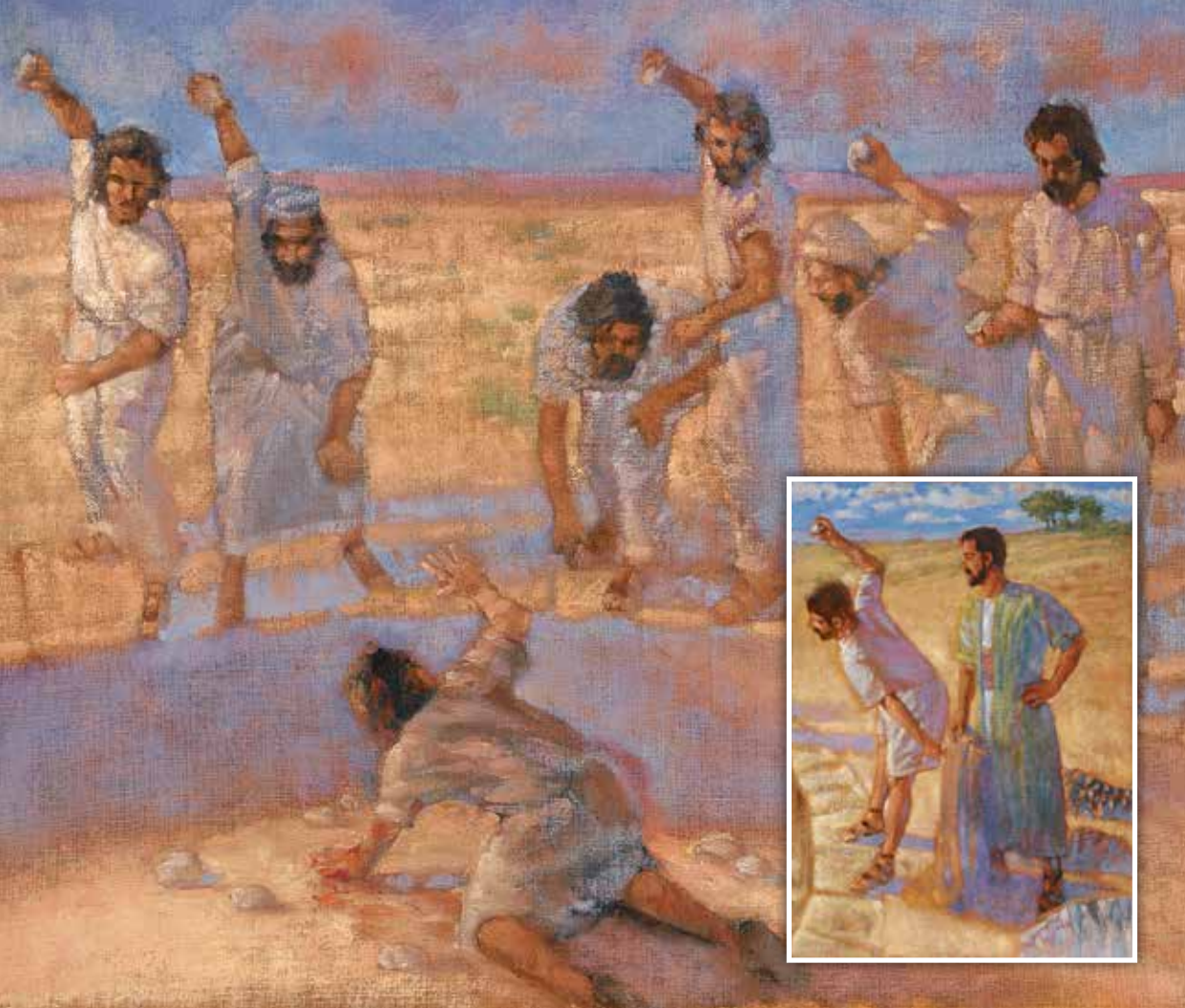
(Illustration is from page 73 of *The Veil Is Torn.*)

DECEMBER 2023



*THE CHRISTIANS series is essential for anyone who wishes to understand not only the last 2,000 years, but our present moment. The monumental scale of this story gives the reader some idea of the scope of the vacuum its rejection is leaving in Western civilization, cut off as it is from the source of its values. — Jonathon Van Maren, Author of *Prairie Lion: The Life and Times of Ted Byfield*, Norwich ON, Dutch Reformed*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance	8	9
10	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)				



The first martyr of millions who fear no earthly death

At his stoning (left), Stephen's last words echo those of his Savior, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." The dreaded Saul (inset) fierce foe of the new faith and inflexible protector of the ancient Covenant, takes grim satisfaction in Stephen's brutal demise.

Being the first Christian martyr (a word that means "witness") Stephen would become the first of an army. In the twentieth century alone, its numbers would reach into the millions.



(Illustration is
from Page 60 of
The Veil is Torn.)

TheChristians.com

JANUARY 2024



THE CHRISTIANS complete set should be a part of every home, church, and school library. This in-depth resource documents and clearly outlines the true history of the Christian faith in a way I've never seen before. Owning this set helps you understand and share the rich history and tradition of the Church built by Jesus Christ. *THE CHRISTIANS* series shares the record of truth, *unedited*. — John Tomkinson, Past vice-president of Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association, Wetaskiwin AB, Catholic

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



Roman caesar demands demands to meet Jesus' grand nephews

Emperor Domitian ordered that two of Jesus' kin be brought to Rome to get to the bottom of the Christian "conspiracy." It doesn't take long for him to realize that the two brothers, grandsons of the apostle Jude, pose no material threat to the empire. Their callused hands are evidence not of insurgents but of farmers whose net worth wouldn't provision even a small band of rebels.

It seems the mighty emperor feared the coming of Christ as had King Herod before him. Both men ultimately failed to grasp how Christ's message of love would transform the world far more than either could possibly imagine.



(Illustration is
from Page 18 of
A Pinch of Incense.)

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FEBRUARY 2024

*What
Readers
Are Saying*

These books from the Christian History Project are beautiful, magnificent, inspiring. They make outstanding gifts for special occasions. I also recommend them as textbooks for high school courses within the Christian Tradition. — John Cobb, Chair, Committee for Culture and School, German Lutheran Ministerium (ALC), Minot ND, Lutheran

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday (Christian)	14 Ash Wednesday (Christian)	15	16	17
18	19 Washington's Birthday (USA Stat)	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



Is eternal life in Heaven worth experiencing hell here on Earth?

There was only one way to escape the fate that awaited Christians under the emperor Decius: obtain an official certificate (a *libellus*) declaring that one had offered the imperial sacrifice. As this wealthy woman realizes, the danger of the imperial authorities discovering the forgery, along with the shame of being found out by fellow Christians, made the faked *libellus* a miserable option.

Jesus is recorded in the New Testament describing Hell more than Heaven. Hell is a place of terrible torment, of unquenchable fire, where people will gnash their teeth in agony for eons. There's no denying that Jesus knew, believed, and warned about the terrible reality of hell.



(Illustration is
from Page 46 of
By This Sign.)

TheChristians.com

MARCH 2024



The Prophet Jeremiah once said, 'Ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.' The series of books called 'THE CHRISTIANS' will help you find those ancient paths that have been laid out for us by the Apostles, Church Fathers, Saints, and Martyrs. — Fr. Vincent Lehr, Priest, St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church, Edmonton AB

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Savings						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St. Patrick's Day						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday (Christian)						
Easter Sunday 31	Annunciation Day (Christian)				Good Friday (CAN Stat)	



Living alone in the extremes for our Lord

Domenico Morelli's late nineteenth-century version of some of the lustful temptations that the ascetic monk Anthony of the Desert battled internally is based on Anthony's personally recorded accounts.

Asceticism is believed to be an effective weapon to combat habitual sin. If one struggles to control a desire for something one tends to abuse (food, drink, sex, comfort, etc), practicing such strict self-denial serves to build "spiritual muscles" against it.



(Illustration is
from Page 73
of *Darkness
Descends*)

APRIL 2024



I particularly enjoyed Volume 4: Darkness Descends (A.D. 350 to 565) The Fall of the Western Roman Empire. It's essential reading at a time when Western civilization's Christian moorings are collapsing and dragging us into a new dark age. The volume gives hope that a renewed Christian civilization can, with God's leading, emerge into sunlit uplands of the future.

— Mark Pickup, Author, advocate for life & disability issues, Beaumont AB, Catholic

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
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Saving our Savior's Cross from the Infidel

Heraclius's triumphal return to Jerusalem with the true cross (from a painting by Palma Giovani), the fruit of his successful treaty with Chosroes's surviving son, Seroes. Legend relates that as the emperor tried to enter the city, an angel barred his way, reminding him that Christ entered Jerusalem with humility. Heraclius removed his shoes and expensive clothing, and was allowed entry.

Helena, Roman Emperor Constantine's mother, is credited with recovering the cross upon which Jesus was crucified, at the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem around 326 AD. When the city fell to the Muslims in 638, Byzantine Emperor Heraclius retrieved the True Cross but did not attempt to retake the city.



(Illustration is
from Page 142
of *The Sword of
Islam*)

MAY 2024



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, Founder of Prison Fellowship (deceased), Quantico VA, Baptist

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Orthodox Good Friday (Christian)	4
5 Orthodox Easter Sunday (Christian)	6 Orthodox Easter Monday (Christian)	7	8	9 Ascension Day (Christian)	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Pentecost Day (Christian)	20 Victoria Day (CAN Stat)	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



The vastness of Viking voyages

Viking raiders attack a manor in the Seine Valley of north-central France. The attacks prompted Charles the Bald, king of the West Franks, to begin a program of massive fortification of towns, monasteries and even bridges, the walls and towers of which would become emblematic of the Middle Ages.

These fur-clad pirates reached as far west as Canada, all over the Mediterranean Sea, and as deeply east through the Russian river systems so as to touch the edges of the Persian empire. Although seeking eternity in Valhalla at first, enlightenment would follow, so that virtually every land they settled would become Christian.



(Illustration from
Page 100 of *The
Quest for the City.*)

TheChristians.com

JUNE 2024



The history of Christianity, from a Biblical worldview, is a key foundation for a well-grounded education. What you will discover in THE CHRISTIANS is a comprehensive compilation of two thousand years of history, written with extraordinary depth, substance, and heart. — Suzanne Knoch, Home maker, mother of six, Raymond AB, Evangelical

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	21	22
Father's Day			Juneteenth Independence Day (USA Stat)			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Louis IX, the only French king to ever be sainted

Louis as a crusader is seen surrounded by his men in this nineteenth-century Doré lithograph. He was fiercely loyal to them. After the successful capture of the port city of Damietta, the French set off to take Cairo. To secure that victory, however, they needed first to take the lesser city of Mansourah. It was during this siege that Louis was captured because of his steadfast refusal to leave his sick and wounded soldiers.

Following his death and without awaiting the judgment of the Roman Catholic Church, the people considered Louis IX to be a saint and prayed at his tomb. Pope Boniface VIII canonized Louis IX, the only king of France to be numbered by the Roman Catholic Church among its saints, in 1297.



(Illustration is from Page 142 of *A Glorious Disaster*.)

JULY 2024



History is interesting if it's a story. THE CHRISTIANS series arrestingly tells the history of the Church in exactly this way: As the epic tale of God's redemptive activity from Jesus to today. — Brett Fawcett, History teacher, Chesterton Academy of St. Isidore Learning Center, Edmonton AB, Catholic

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Canada Day (CAN Stat)	2	3	4 Independence day (USA Stat)	5	6
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			



Arguably the most human of statues ever fashioned

La Pietà was the twenty-four-year-old Michelangelo's first mature work, some say his most sublime. "It is certainly a miracle," wrote Vasari, "that a formless block of stone could ever have been reduced to a perfection that nature is scarcely able to create in the flesh."

Michelangelo claimed inspiration for this astonishing experience of human nature captured in stone from a passage in Dante Alighieri's Divine Comedy: "O virgin mother, daughter of your Son...your merit so ennobled human nature that its divine Creator did not hesitate to become your creature" (Paradiso, Canto XXXIII).



(Illustration is from Page 233 of *The Renaissance: God in Man*)

AUGUST 2024



This beautifully produced 12-volume masterpiece deserves a place in every Christian home, school and college. For the “so-far-uncommitted,” it unrolls the 2000-year tapestry of the Faith that undergirds western civilization. It is worthwhile for the many specially-prepared illustrations alone. Historically sound, based on the scholarship of a panoply of experts, the writing is dense and the editing superb. For us, it is the capstone of Ted Byfield’s 70-year career as Canada’s Mr. Valiant-for-Truth.
— Roland & Valerie Priddle, Former chair of Canada’s National Energy Board, Ottawa ON, Evangelical

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Civic Holiday (CAN Stat)	6	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



The man who shook the Church to its core

Martin Luther's statue, standing huge and heroic in Hesse, Germany, points the way to heaven. Salvation is gained through faith alone, he proclaimed—through total surrender to the will of God—and not through so-called good works or papal injunctions. This was a message that resonated deeply with so many Germans it ignited the Protestant Reformation.

Through the vessel of Luther, major moral reform occurred in churches throughout Christendom, both Catholic and Protestant alike.



(Illustration is from Page 10 of *Century of Giants*.)

SEPTEMBER 2024



Everywhere we see the shameful and destructive consequences of decisions made and actions taken due to the indolent neglect and wilful obfuscation of history. THE CHRISTIANS fosters an awareness of history that would counteract such ignorance and help us all to avoid such errors. — Benjamin Garstad, PhD, Professor of Classics, MacEwan University, Edmonton AB, Lutheran

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



Theological diversity may have been the founding fathers' 'secret sauce'

The Writing of the Declaration of Independence, by the early twentieth-century American painter Jean Leon Gerome Ferris, depicts (from left) Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson at Jefferson's lodgings in Philadelphia, reviewing a draft of the document that would lead to the creation of the United States.

Most historians agree that the leaders who founded America shared at least a deist theology (i.e. that there is a creator but not necessarily one with personal interest in every living soul). Nevertheless, the republic they established now approaches the remarkable milestone of a quarter millennium. Their theological diversity may have played a key role in the creation of this extraordinary democracy.



(Illustration is from Page 196 of *We the People*.)

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OCTOBER 2024



Reading these twelve volumes greatly enhanced my appreciation for the accomplishments of Christians in making the world a better place. — Michael Wagner, PhD, Author of the Christian Citizenship Guide, Edmonton AB, Presbyterian

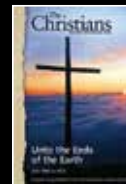
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Columbus Day (USA Stat) Thanksgiving Day (CAN Stat)	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



The French Reign of Terror ends soon after the beheading of “angels”

Among the most celebrated of the tens of thousands guillotined during the Reign of Terror in 1794 were the Carmelite sisters of Compiègne. Described by some in the crowd as angels, the sisters went resolutely to their deaths, singing their own version of La Marseillaise as they climbed the scaffold. “Let us rejoice,” said one, “that we shall die for our holy religion.”

The crowd seemed to realize the tragedy of the massacre that had occurred. In fact, Maximilien Robespierre, a key leader of the revolution, was himself guillotined ten days after the nuns, signaling the end of the Reign of Terror.



(Illustrations from
Page 2 of *Unto
the Ends of the
Earth.*)

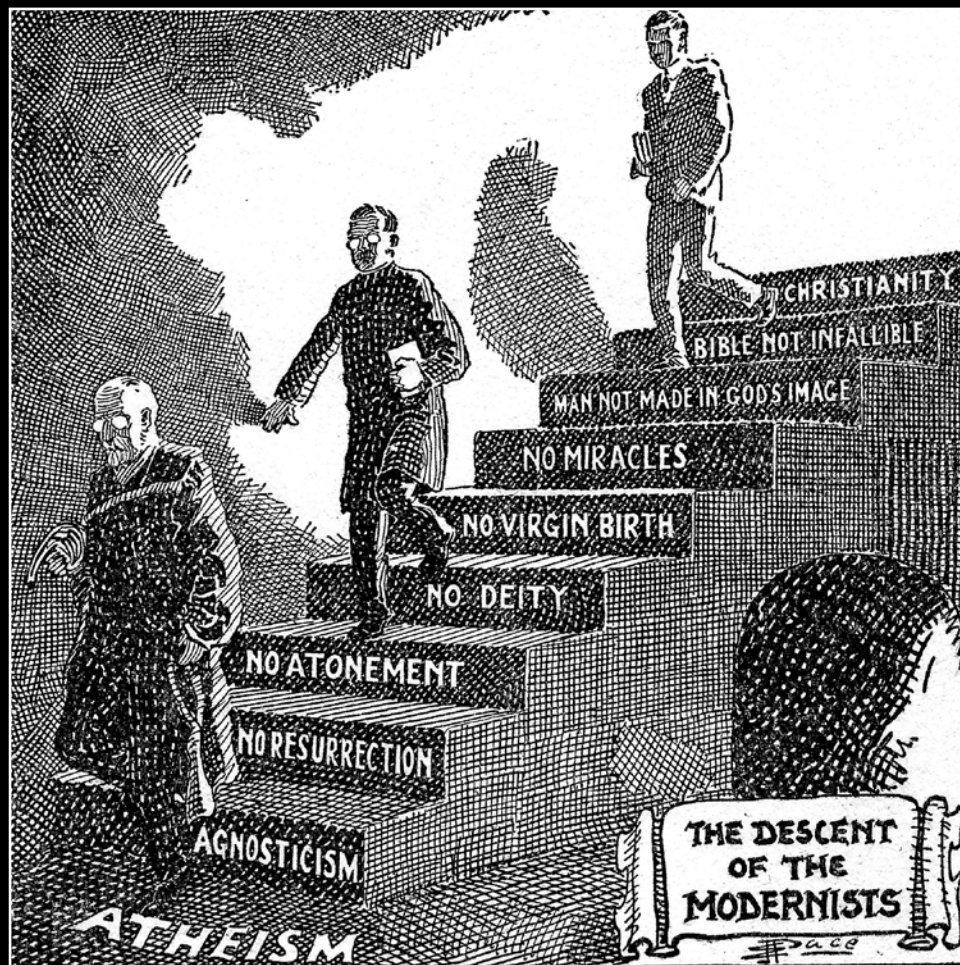
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NOVEMBER 2024



I have always wanted and never found a popular history of the Christian religion that begins when it began and continues to the present. Now I have found one. It is very valuable.
— Anne Bourassa, Retired religion and social studies teacher, Leduc AB, Catholic

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



The damnable descent of modernists

A 1922 cartoon by the fundamentalist cartoonist E. J. Pace graphically depicts the descent of the Modernists down an infernal staircase leading to atheism. Pace's views were shared by Clarence Macartney (center), who was elected moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly in 1924, and by J. Gresham Machen (right), whose attack on liberalism led to his dismissal from the Princeton Theological Seminary.

By 1940 most Protestant leaders, seminaries and publishers had embraced modernism. Conservative Christians, however, went on to found their own publishing houses, universities and seminaries. In the 1970s conservative Protestantism emerged on an even larger scale through the Southern Baptists, Presbyterians, and Pentecostals.



(The illustration is from Page 50 of *The High Tide and the Turn*.)

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DECEMBER 2024



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.
— Marvin Olasky, Editor, World Magazine (retired), Austin TX, Presbyterian

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Advent Sunday (Christian)	2	3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day (USA/CAN Stat)	26 Boxing Day (CAN Stat)	27	28
29	30	31				



The 20th-century power of fervent Pentecostalism

A young member of the Great I Am Church of God in Claremont, California, reacts tearfully during prayers at a Pentecostal service in 2006. In the course of a century, Pentecostalism, with its direct appeal to the spirit, has burgeoned into a “third force” among churches—after Catholicism and Orthodoxy (viewed as one) and historical Protestantism—with more than two hundred million adherents worldwide.

Pentecostal worship is famous for its spontaneous outpourings of the Holy Spirit through singing, speaking in tongues and divine healing. Now nearly a half a billion strong worldwide, many Christians perceive this form of Christian worship to best deliver what every human soul badly craves: hope.



(Illustration from Page 294 of *The High Tide and the Turn*.)

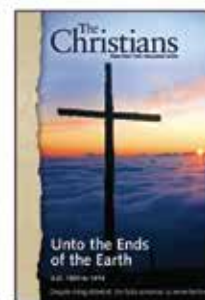
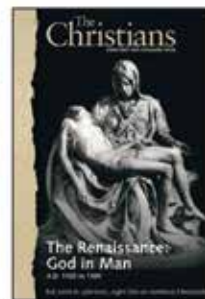
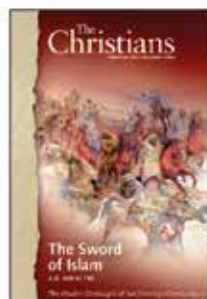
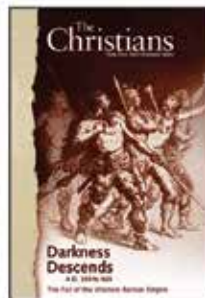
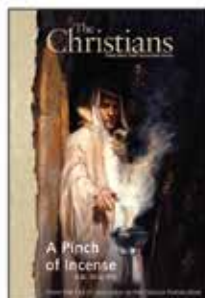
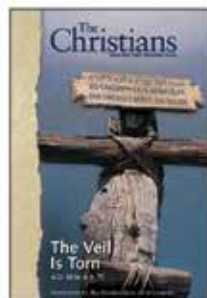
JANUARY 2025



... 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."

— James I. Packer, Professor of Theology, Regent College (deceased), Vancouver BC, Anglican

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



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You can help by taking advantage of this year's calendar rate for a set (the lowest possible rate we can offer for these books) to donate a set to a Christian school of your choice or

one on our long list of schools wanting them. In return we can offer you a charitable tax receipt for the entire amount for your generous donation.

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Book is checked out each Year

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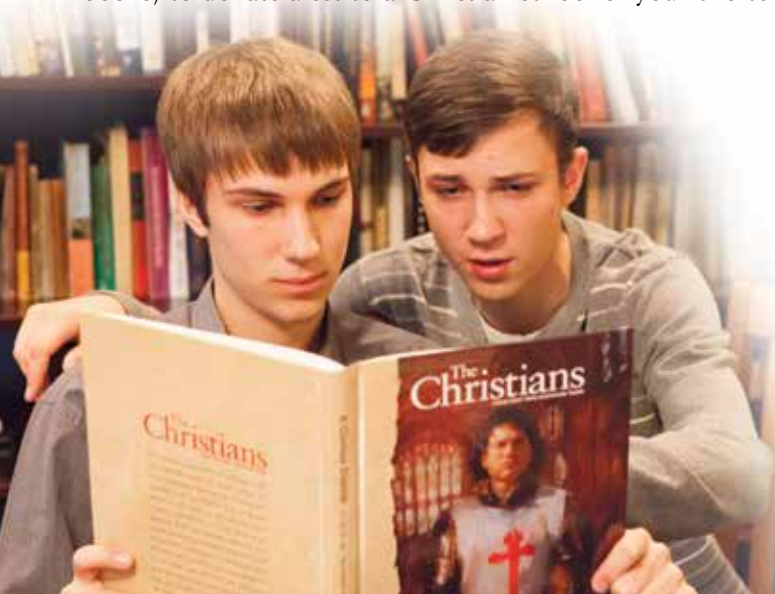
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The narrative unfolds in compelling language, more characteristic of magazines than formal histories. The emphasis is always on the Christians who made the events happen, often heroically, sometimes to their historic discredit. (The series is not a "whitewash." Where the Christians erred, we say so.) They are written nearly entirely by seasoned journalists and practicing Christians along with indispensable academic historians, consulted closely on the text throughout.

The goal of this series is to make Christians both knowledgeable of their history and sufficiently perceptive to refute erroneous accounts of it. History is addictive, and the story of Christendom is essentially the most captivating narrative of all. It 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 US and Canada. 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.

Vince Byfield, SEARCH Manager

