

# Christian History – Where did we come from

Ancestry.com - 23 and Me – People want to know where they come from

Hebrews 12:1-15 – Great cloud of witnesses have gone before us by faith...

Eccl. 1:9 – *There is nothing new under the sun...*

Isa. 43:19 – *See I do a new thing!.....*

- Scripture is the source of change in the world of Christianity

Texts that Linger Words that Explode – Walter Bruggeman

The true meaning of scripture is the solid historical reality of the continuum of actual meanings over the centuries to actual people. It is as mundane, or as transcending, or both, as have been those actual meanings in the lives and hearts of persons....The scripture....is dimly or vividly recognized as meaning not only such-and-such but at the same time more even than that, more than the reader or hearer has as yet discerned. What is Scripture, W. Smith 1993

In this subsequent moment of re-utterance and rehearing, both the speaker and the hearer recognize intuitively that this is “the right text” in this moment, even if it is taken out of canonical or critical context. In that moment of utterance, the text is offered by the speaker and received by the listener as revelatory. That is, it discloses something about this moment, that would, without this utterance, not be known, seen, heard, or made available.

1. Martyrdom and Expansion 33 AD to 312 AD
2. The Age of the Christian Empire 312 AD – 540 AD
3. The Christian Middle Ages 540 AD – 1516 AD
4. The Age of Reformation 1517 CE– 1700 CE
5. The 3 Great Awakenings – Revival Stirrings 1700 CE – 1900 CE
6. 3 Waves of the Holy Spirit in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Revivals, Movements and Outpourings 1900 CE - Today

*Acts 3:17-21*

*19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you — even Jesus. 21 He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. NIV*

*Bruce Stratton*

*June 2017*

## *10 Lessons from Christian History*

Martyrdom and Expansion - All the Apostles martyred, except John

The Age of the Christian Empire - Constantine the Great

1. God is One - in Trinity
2. God is the God of the whole Bible - Old Testament & New Testament
3. The Church and Church Authority matters - Ante Nicene Fathers
4. There is Heresy and Truth                      Originals and Counterfeits

The Christian Middle Ages - The Mystics

5. Nothing can separate us from the love and intimacy of God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit

The Age of Reformation - Luther and Pietism

6. The Scripture, Faith, Grace and Jesus Christ - Alone

The Great Awakenings- The development of Preaching

7. Your belief in God will change you and your worldview  
3 Great Awakenings - Holiness & Power Movement - Divine Healing

3 Waves of the Holy Spirit

8. Power and gifting comes from the Holy Spirit who calls us to holiness
9. Everyone can hear God for themselves and sometimes for others
10. There is More - Always

1 Cor 2:9-11 *But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. NKJV*

Jer. 33:3 *'Call to me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know'.*

Revelation that is initiated by God are perpetuated