



23 The Savior Restored His
Priesthood, Church, and Gospel

According to a 2011 Pew Research Center survey, there were 2.19 billion Christians around the world in 2010, more than three times as many as the 600 million recorded in 1910.

Demographics of major traditions within Christianity (Pew Research Center, 2010 data)^[6]

Tradition	Followers	% of the Christian population	% of the world population	Follower dynamics	Dynamics in- and outside Christianity
Catholic Church	1,094,610,000	50.1	15.9	▲ Growing	— Stable
Protestantism	800,640,000	36.7	11.6	▲ Growing	▲ Growing
Orthodoxy	260,380,000	11.9	3.8	▼ Shrinking	▼ Shrinking
Other Christianity	28,430,000	1.3	0.4	▲ Growing	▲ Shrinking
Christianity	2,184,060,000	100	31.7	— Stable	— Stable

LDS

2010s

2016: 15,882,417

2015: 15,634,199

2014: 15,372,337

2013: 15,082,028

2012: 14,782,473

2011: 14,441,346

2010: 14,131,467

2000s

2009: 13,824,854

2008: 13,508,509

2007: 13,193,999

2006: 12,868,606

2005: 12,560,869

2004: 12,275,822

2003: 11,985,254

2002: 11,721,548

2001: 11,394,522

2000: 11,068,861

1940s

1949: 1,078,671

1948: 1,041,970

1947: 1,016,170

1946: 996,505

1945: 979,454

1944: 954,004

1943: 937,050

1942: 917,715

1941: 892,080

1940: 862,664

1830s

1839: 16,460

1838: 17,881

1837: 16,282

1836: 13,293

1835: 8,835

1834: 4,372

1833: 3,140

1832: 2,661

1831: 680

1830: 280

1830: 6—The Church was officially, and legally, established on April 6, 1830.

Joseph's question and the response –
Joseph Smith—History 1:18–20





Brief Review of the Primitive Church

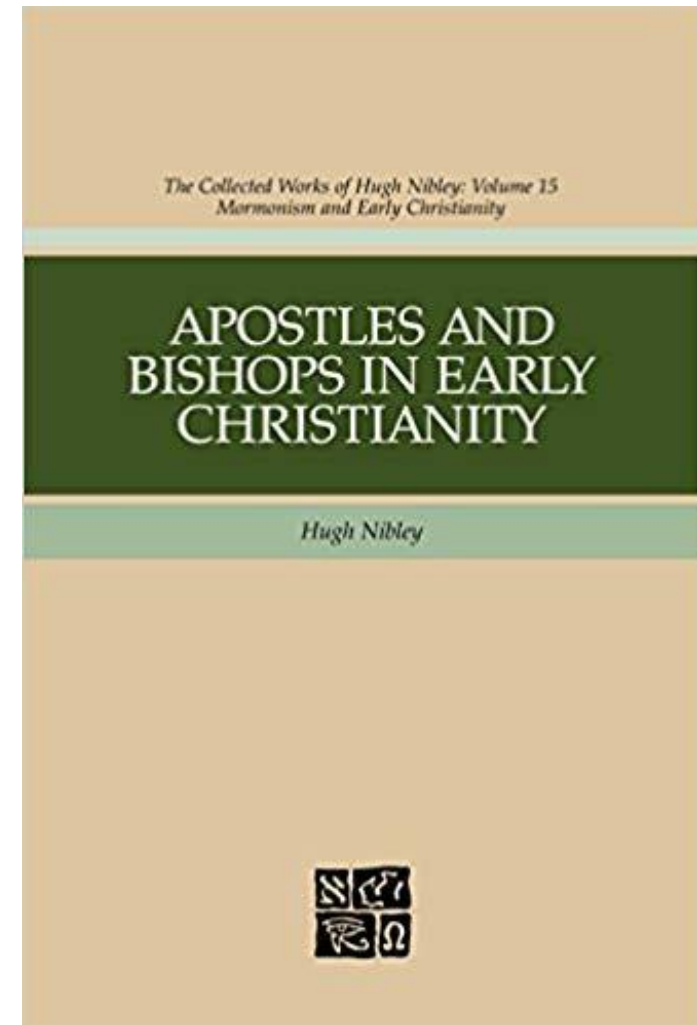
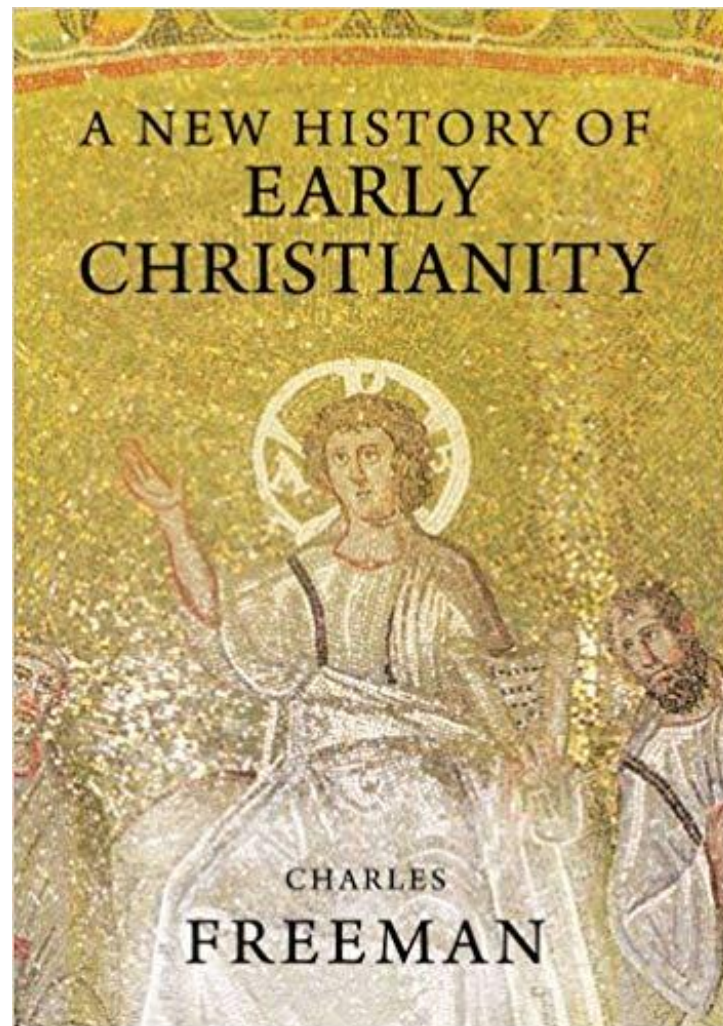
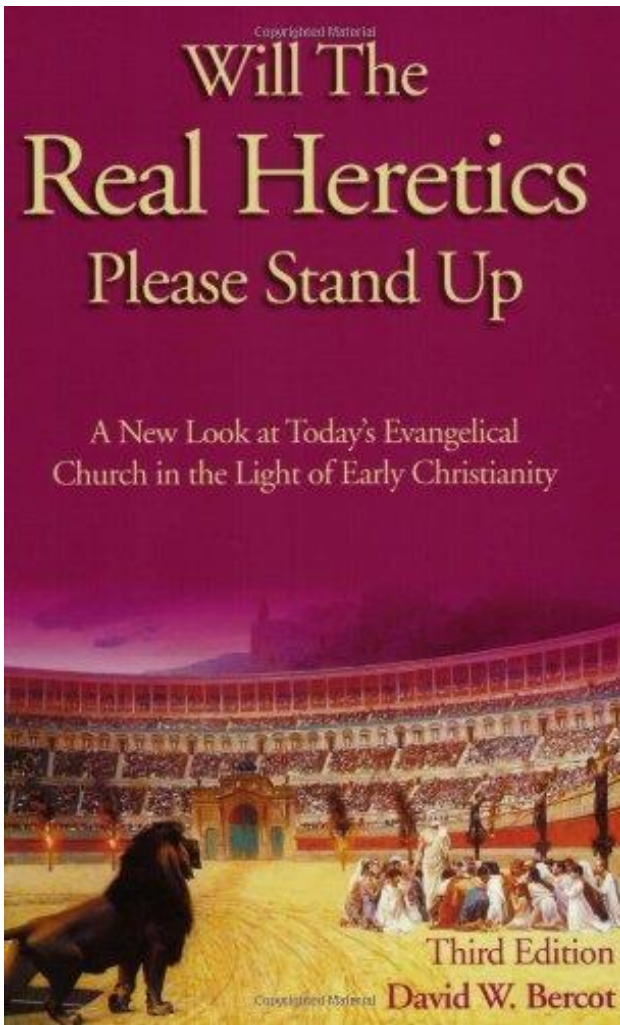
Luke 6:13; 10:1

Acts 14:23

Ephesians 4:11

Philippians 1:1

Titus 1:5



Early Christian Beliefs – 125 A.D.

The Christians, then, trace the beginning of their religion from Jesus the Messiah; and he is named the Son of God Most High. And it is said that God came down from heaven, and from a Hebrew virgin assumed and clothed himself with flesh; and the Son of God lived in a daughter of man. This is taught in the gospel, as it is called, which a short time was preached among them; and you also if you will read therein, may perceive the power which belongs to it. This Jesus, then, was born of the race of the Hebrews; and he had twelve disciples in order that the purpose of his incarnation might in time be accomplished. But he himself was pierced by the Jews, and he died and was buried; and they say that after three days he rose and ascended to heaven (Apol. 2). – Aristides' apology to Hadrian, 125 A.D.

See: <https://www.michaeljkruger.com/one-of-the-clearer-and-earliest-summaries-of-early-christian-beliefs/>

Doctrine and Covenants 1:17, 38; 18:34–35



"All revelation since the fall has come through Jesus Christ" (*Doctrines of Salvation*, comp. Bruce R. McConkie, 3 vols. [1954–56], 1:27).

The Pattern

“The Doctrine and Covenants is a latter-day testament of the ministry of Jesus Christ to the children of God through prophets and servants of God, and it illustrates the divine pattern of revelation that guides the **Church and its members today**” (Elder Gary

J. Coleman, “You Shall Have My Word: The Personal Ministry of Jesus Christ in the Restoration,” in *You Shall Have My Word: Exploring the Text of the Doctrine and Covenants*, ed. Scott C. Esplin, Richard O. Cowan, and Rachel Cope, The 41st Annual Brigham Young University Sidney B. Sperry Symposium [2012], 3).



The Savior Directs the Work

1. Doctrines
2. Ordinances
3. Leadership

Doctrines of the Church	Ordinances of the Church	Leadership of the Church
<p>Doctrine and Covenants 76 section heading and summary (Kingdoms of glory, life after death)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 20:37, 72–74 (Requirements for and correct mode of baptism)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 20:38–59 (Duties of priesthood offices)</p>
<p>Doctrine and Covenants 84:33–39 (Oath and covenant of the priesthood)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 20:70 (Blessing of children)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 20:61–62 (Conducting of regular Church conferences)</p>
<p>Doctrine and Covenants 128:1, 15, 18 (Proxy baptism for the dead)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 20:75–77, 79 (Administration of the sacrament)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 26:2 (Common consent)</p>
<p>Doctrine and Covenants 131:1–4 (Celestial marriage necessary for exaltation)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 124:33–39 (Temple ordinances)</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 107:22–27, 33–35, 64–67, 85–91 (Duties of Church leadership)</p>
<p>Doctrine and Covenants 137:6–10; 138:29–35 (Those who die</p>	<p>Doctrine and Covenants 132:7, 15–20 (Eternal marriage)</p>	

Major Doctrinal Changes

NUMBER ONE: THE TRINITY

WE BELIEVE

1. . . .in God the Eternal Father, and in his Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.

2. EARLY CHURCH

2. Teachings of Jesus:

- a. Baptism of Christ

Matt. 3:16-17

Luke 3:21-22

- b. Jesus refers to His Father

Matt. 20:23

Matt. 26:39

John 5:19-26

John 8:17-18

John 14:28

John 17:3, 20-23

John 20:7

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3. The Apostles:

Acts 2:32

Acts 7:55-56

1Corinthians 8:4-6

2Corinthians 4:4

Ephesians 3:14

Colossians 1:12-15

Hebrews 11-3

FALLING AWAY

1. **90 Cerinthius:** Gnostic teacher, stressing that Jesus was not divine. Divinity descended upon Jesus at his baptism, but left him at the cross. Many gnostics stressed *a human*, not divine Jesus. On the other end of the spectrum were the **Docetists**, who taught that Jesus was so divine that he could not have died, he only *seemed* to do so.
2. **215 Bishop Sibellius:** Jesus is not God of himself, but the man Jesus partook of the glory of God, the Father
3. **319 Bishop Alexander:** The Son is equal in every way with the Father. They are the same essence and substance.
4. **319 Presbyter Arius:** Because Jesus is the Son of God, he was created by Him and must have less essence, in fact, be subservient to the Father.
5. **325 Council of Nicea:** The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are proclaimed *homoousios*, or same substance.
6. **350 Athanasian Creed**
7. **381 Constantinopolitan Creed**
8. **Creeds of the Reformation**

Major Doctrinal Changes

NUMBER TWO: ORIGINAL SIN AND THE FALL

WE BELIEVE	2. EARLY CHURCH	FALLING AWAY
1. . . .that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.	2. Teachings of Jesus: Matt. 16:27 <hr/>	1. 354 Augustine: Man is in all his parts inherently perverted by sin.
	3. The Apostles: Romans 5:2-21 Romans 8:5-9 1Corinthians 15:21-22 1John 3:4 1John 5:19 Revelation 22:12	2. 354 Pelagius: Man is born on the same plane as Adam, sin is the result of Adam's bad example, it is possible for humanity to live a sinless life, the grace of God is only an aid.
		3. 529 The Council of Orange: Mankind has fallen from grace.
		4. 1546 The Council of Trent: Adam "transmitted to us a sin with which we are all born afflicted, a sin which is the death of the soul," and captivity under the devil. Because of this "the Church baptizes for the remission of sins even tiny infants who have not committed personal sin."
		5. John Calvin: "We believe that all the posterity of Adam is in bondage to original sin, which is a hereditary evil."

Major Doctrinal Changes

NUMBER THREE: THE ATONEMENT

WE BELIEVE	1. EARLY CHURCH	FALLING AWAY
1. . . that through the atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.	2. Teachings of Jesus: Matt. 20:28 26:28 26:38-46 Luke 22:19-46 John 3:14-18 6:37-40, 51 10:15-18 11:25-26 17:4, 19	1. Pelagius 412 Humans could do right without the aide of divine grace which only enlightens man to do better.
	3. Teachings of the Apostles: Matt. 1:21 John 1:29 Acts 4:10-12 5:30-32 13:38-41 Rom. 3:23-28 5:6-21 8:32 1 Cor. 15:19-22 Eph. 2:11-18 Phil. 2:12-1 Col. 1:14, 22 1 Tim. 1:15 2:6 4:10 2 Tim 1:9-11 Titus 2:14 Heb. 5:6-9 7:27 9:14-28 1 Pet. 1:18-19 3:18 1 John 1:17 4:10-14	2. Augustine 412 God's free gift requires our free response. . . also the merits of others help us expiate our sins.
		3. 668 Indulgence, Penance, and the sale of indulgences. (668, Irish missionaries; 1095 Pope Urban II; 1513 Pope Leo X)
		4. Martin Luther 1517 In order to counter the practice of selling indulgences Luther posted his Ninety-five Theses. . . <i>sola fide; sola gratia; sola scriptura.</i>

Major Doctrinal Changes

NUMBER FOUR: THE ORDINANCES

WE BELIEVE	2. EARLY CHURCH	FALLING AWAY
1. . . .that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth: Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.	2. Teachings of Jesus Matt. 3:13-16; 4:17; 9:13, 29; 17:19-20, 21:21-22, 28, 19 Mark 1:15; 3:13-16; 23; 11:22-24; 16:15-18 Luke 13:2-9; 15:11-32; 24:46-47 John 3:3-18, 36; 5:24; 6:29, 40, 47; 7:37-39; 8:24; 11:25-26; 12:44-46; 14:11-14; 20:29 Acts 1:5 Rev. 2:5 Sacrament: Matt:26:26-29, John 6:51-58.	1. Baptism by sprinkling 2. Authority in Baptism 3. Infant Baptism 4. Penance and Indulgences 5. Transubstantiation 6. Word for the dead
	3. Teachings of the Apostles: John 20:31 Acts 2:37-38; 3:19; 8:36-39; 10:43-48; 17:30; 19:1-5; 22:16 Rom 1:17; 3:28; 4:3-4; 5:1-2; 6:1-6; 10:17 1 Cor. 13:13; 15:29 2 Cor. 7:9-10 Gal. 2:20; 3:11, 27 Eph. 2:8 Col. 2:12 1 Tim. 4:10 Heb. 6:1-2; 11:1-40 James 1:5-6; 2:14-26; 4:8-10 1 Peter 3:21 2 Peter 3:9 1 John 3:23; 5:5-6, 13 Sacrament: Acts 2:40, 20:1,7 Cor. 11:20-23	

Major Doctrinal Changes

NUMBER FIVE: AUTHORITY

WE BELIEVE

1. ...a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

2. EARLY CHURCH

2. Teachings of Jesus

Matt 4:18-22
10:1-4
John 15:16

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3. Teachings of the Apostles:

Acts 1:23-26
6:3-6
9:15-18
1 Tim. 2:7
Heb. 5:4-10

FALLING AWAY

1. Papal succession

74...Death of the Apostles
67...Administration of Bishops
88 **Clement**...discusses Bishop ordination by common consent.
401 **Pope Innocent**
1...supremacy of Roman Bishop.

2. Corrupt clergy

380 **Theodosius**...makes Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.
...Bishops become princes.
Dante's (1300) Peter castigates several popes and priests for not serving freely and for making a sewer of the sepulcher of Peter by selling priesthood appointments (Paradiso 27:22-57).
Chaucer observed that greed for personal gain and glory often replaced genuine priesthood service.
Milton's Lycidas condemning a clergy who "for their bellies' sake, I Creep and intrude, and climb into the fold" (II 114-15) sum up the evil of priestcraft:
"The hungry sheep look up, and are not fed,/ But swoln with wind and the rank mist they draw,/ Rot inwardly, and foul contagion spread" (II. 125-27)

3. The Reformation

1517 **Martin Luther**- Every believer in Christ is a priest.



Acts 2.1–6, 14–26; 4.1–13, 18–
21; Acts 10.9–20, 25–28, 34–35,
44–48; Acts 15.1–20

After His Resurrection and Ascension to heaven, Jesus Christ guided the Apostles through the ministration of the Holy Ghost.



The Power to Decide

D&C 107.78-79

Matthew 10.1–4; 16.19; 17.3–7; 18.18;
Ephesians 2.19–20; 4.11–14





The Pattern Today

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