

UNDERSTANDING THE REFORMATION

Part One:
The Background

Class Schedule

March 26th – Background of the Reformation – Pt 1

April 9th – Background of the Reformation – Pt 2

April 23rd – The Life of Luther

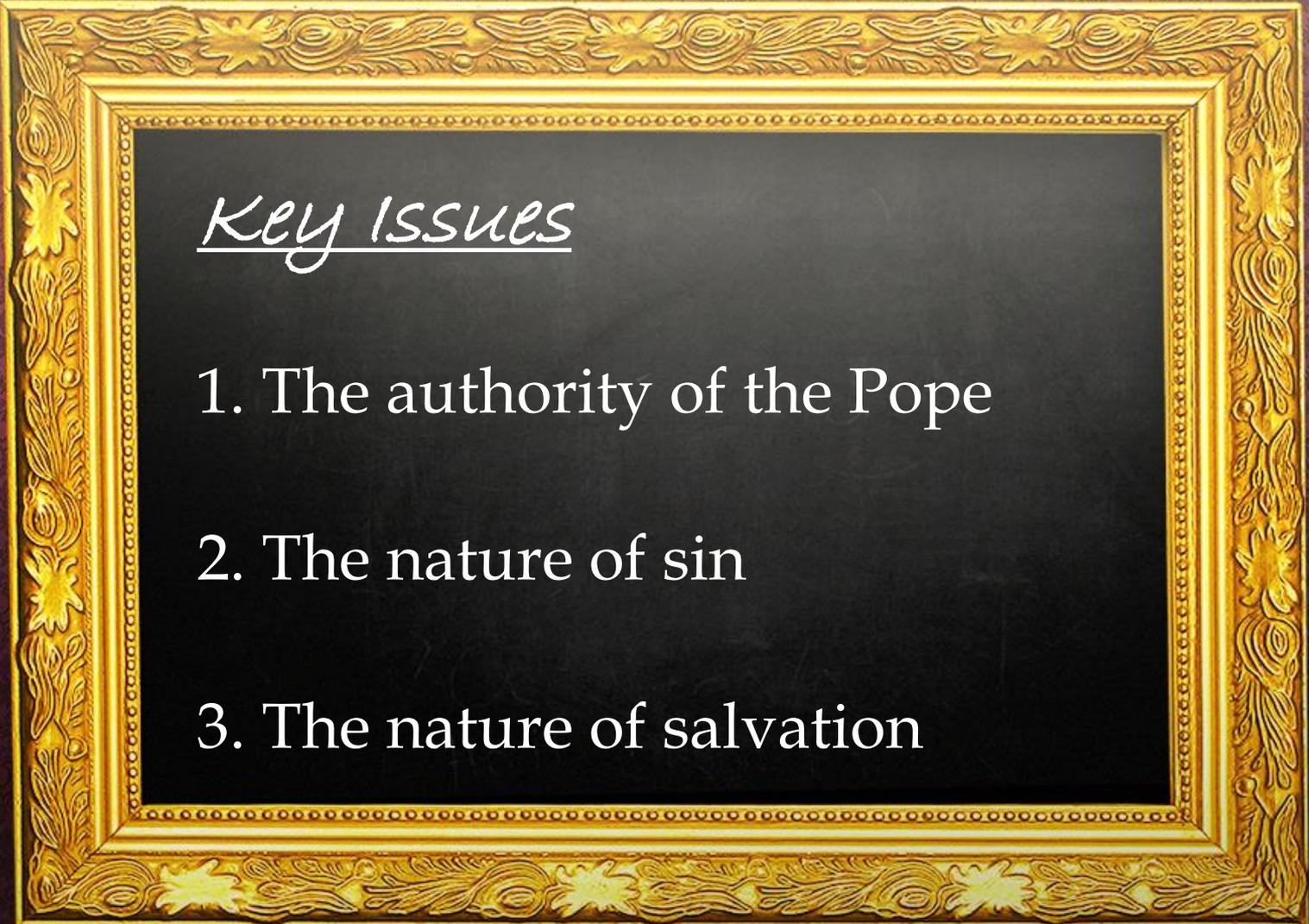
April 23rd – Germany Trip Team Prep with Dr. Behle – after 2nd service

Difficulties in Understanding the Reformation

- **Many Christians often have a lack of knowledge about Church History**
 - ❑ How did the Church go from a persecuted minority of the NT to the State religion?
 - ❑ How and why did the Church get to the point of needing to be reformed?
- **We are 500 years removed from the problems Luther addressed.**
 - ❑ What was the current political and religious climate?
 - ❑ What were the key issues Luther addressed?

Difficulties in Understanding the Reformation





Key Issues

1. The authority of the Pope
2. The nature of sin
3. The nature of salvation

Church History Timeline

100 to 800 A.D.

- The end of the Apostolic era to Charlemagne's Crowning on December 25, 800 A.D.

100 to 800 A.D.

800 to 1516 A.D.

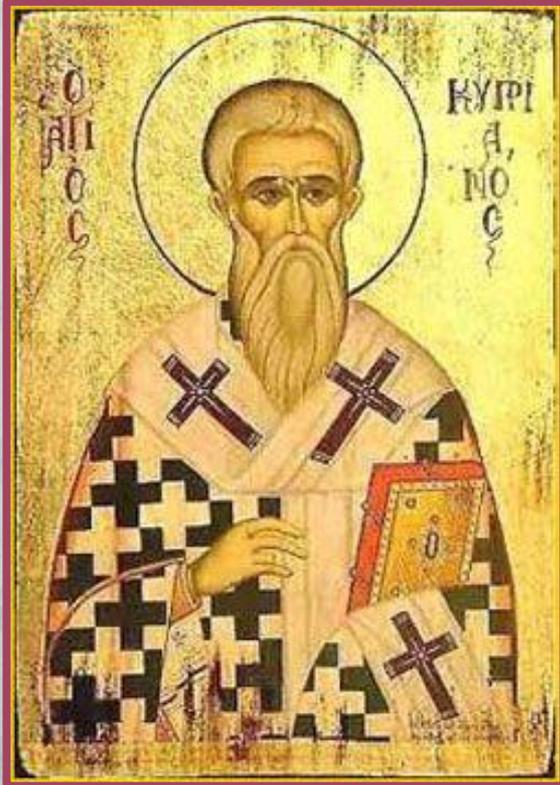
- Charlemagne to the printing of Erasmus' Greek Text in 1516

100 to 800 A.D.

Key people, Events and Issues

- Cyprian (200-258 A.D.)

Cyprian



- Organized the church and argued for the authority of the bishops.
- No salvation outside of the Church.
- Promoted baptismal regeneration that removed original sin from infants which moves them into an innocent and pure state.
- Emphasized penance.

100 to 800 A.D.

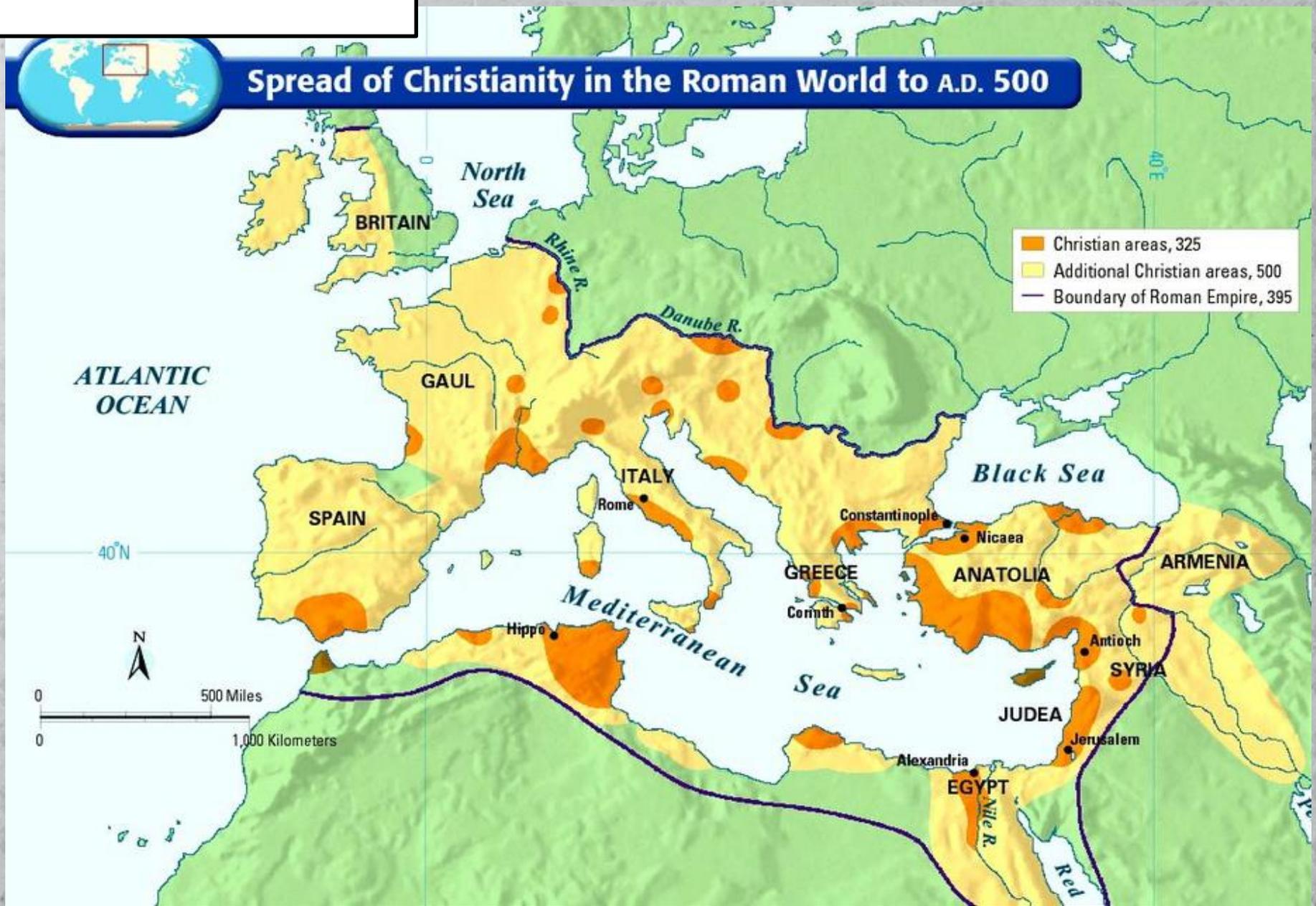
Key people, Events and Issues

- Cyprian (200-258 A.D.)
- The **Edict of Milan** (313 A.D.)
- Capital of the Empire moves to **Constantinople** (330 A.D.)
- The **Edict of Thessalonica** (380 A.D.)

100 to 800 A.D.



Spread of Christianity in the Roman World to A.D. 500

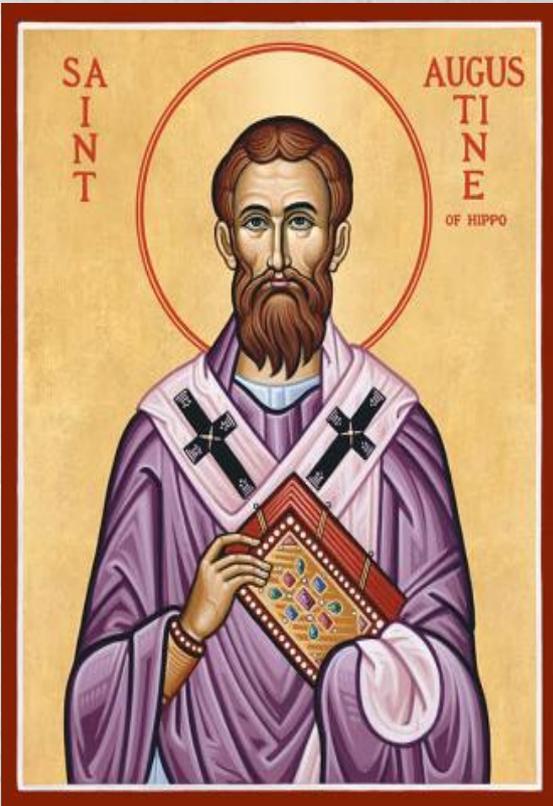


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- **Augustine & his theology** (354-430 A.D.)

Augustine of Hippo



- Emphasized the depravity of man – All of mankind has a corrupt nature and guilt passed down from Adam – Romans 5.
- God is the sole active agent and energy in Salvation (Monergism) and not man (Synergism).
- Salvation is a gracious work of God by which He justifies a person.
- He is the forerunner of the Reformation

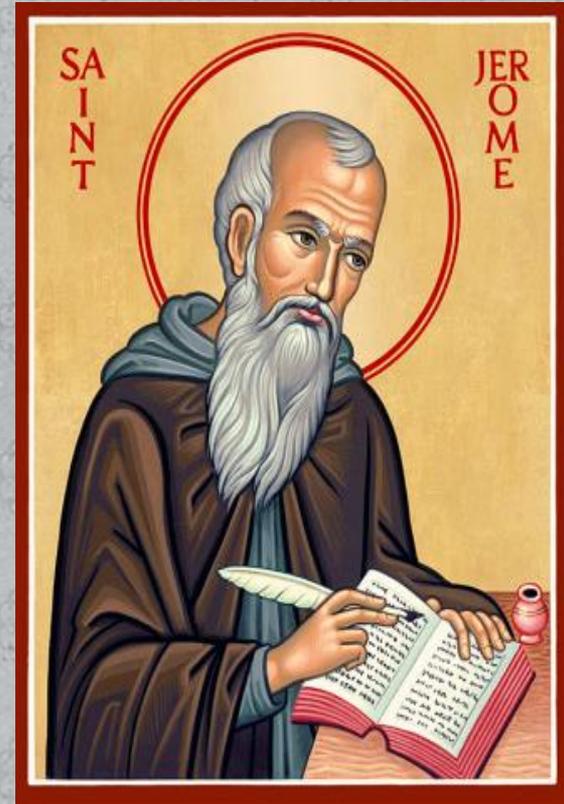
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- Augustine & his theology (354-430 A.D.)
- **Jerome** (327-420 A.D.)

Jerome

- A biblical scholar and Bible translator
- One of a few who knew Hebrew
- He revised an old Latin version and translated the OT from Hebrew.
- This Latin version – called the Latin Vulgate, included the apocrypha and was the official Bible of the Western Empire.
- This version has several mistranslations that impact doctrine.



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- Jerome (327-420 A.D.)
- **Gregory The Great (540-604 A.D.)**

Gregory the Great



- He ushered in a new era for the papacy and insisted on the authority of the Roman bishop.
- Held that the pope was Peter's successor and head over the whole church.
- He is considered the first medieval pope.
- He put tradition on the same level as Scripture. He systematized RCC doctrine that would last until Luther.

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- **Charlemagne** (742-814 A.D.)

Charlemagne

- Known as the Father of Europe.
- His grandfather – Charles the Hammer defeated the Muslims who were advancing from Spain in 732.
- The Pope and the Roman church join with the Germanic Kingdom.
- His Father – Pepin gave lands to the Pope –which became the papal states.
- He was crowned Emperor of the Romans by Pope Leo III.



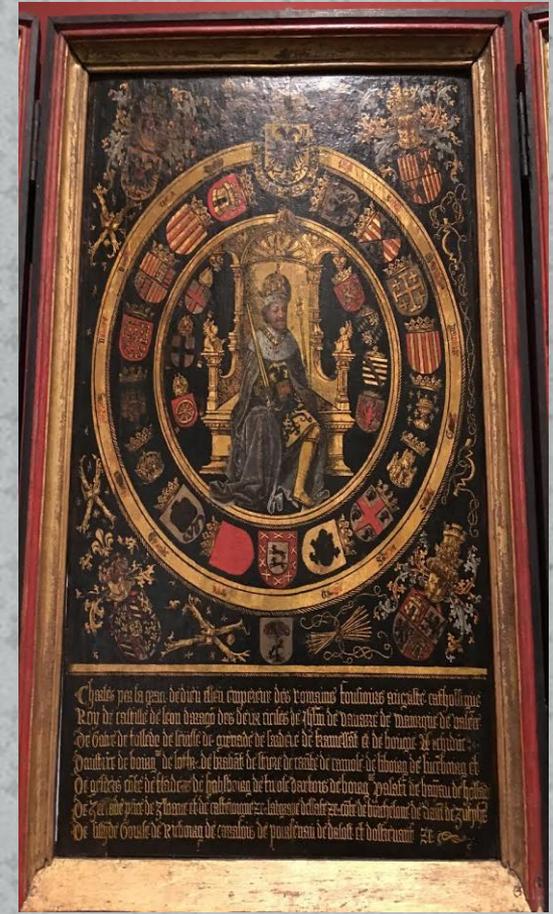
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Medieval Catholic Concept of Salvation

