

Today, we'll be having our 4th lecture on missiology. /Chapter 5, "Missions of the Early Church." /Missions of the early church can be divided into two time periods. /First, it is the time from the Apostle John's death to the time of Emperor Constantine. /Second, it is the time from Emperor Constantine to the time of Emperor Charlemagne.

/1. The Age of Missions of the Early Church. /This was the time of Christ's ministry, the time when the disciples' and the apostolic fathers were active. /The apostolic time extends from the Apostle John's death to the time of Emperor Constantine. /It is from 100 AD to 313 AD.

/In the history of missions, we call this time "The Age of Missions of the Early Church." /We will look at the missionary work that took place in this time frame.

/(1) The Expansion of Mission Work. /If we see the records of the book of Acts, /we learn about the expansion of missionary work, /during which many believers were scattered to preach the gospel. /In the apostolic age, the gospel was widely preached with the apostles at the center of the movement.

/Even after the apostles passed away, many leaders made the effort to preach the gospel. /Centered on the seven churches of Asia that appear in Revelation, the church planted many more churches.

/Missions work began to bloom in these churches. /Famous leaders and scholars, such as /Ignatius, Justin Martyr, Eusebius, and Jerome, greatly contributed to the work of spreading the gospel.

/Clement, Irenaeus, and the Apostle John's disciple Polycarp /played a central role in keeping the faith and in spreading the gospel.

/(2) The Center of Missions. /There were many central places for missions, but there are a few that stand out. /First, Jerusalem. /Jerusalem was the starting point of world missions. /However, it is a symbolic region rather than the center of missions.

/Next is Antioch. /Antioch was the headquarters for global missionary work. /It served as the center of faith of the East until the establishment of Constantinople. /The missions movement was based in Antioch, but it went as far as India to spread the gospel.

/The next region is Ephesus. /Paul and John continued to work in Ephesus, and it earned its position as a center for missions. /It also was the center of the Nestorian controversy.

/The fourth center is Alexandria. /Alexandria came to rise with the decline of Jerusalem, Antioch, and Ephesus. /It emerged as a center for Christianity. /Leaders like Clement and Origen came from Alexandria.

/Also during this time, Christian culture bloomed. /Christian schools were founded in Alexandria, /and the city made many efforts to teach proper faith and to train missionaries. /This played a big role in the growth of the church.

/(3) The Growth and Influence of Missionary Work. /Missionary work widely grew in the midst of hardship. /The gospel, powerfully preached to every people and every class, brought about a revolution of a new generation.

/The growth of missions influenced many people personally, /but it also changed society. /It is difficult to estimate the number of believers of this time. /However, some estimate that around 10% of the entire population were believers.

/(4) The Growth of Missionary Work and Persecution. /Beginning with the first martyrdom of Stephen, the church suffered under the persecution of the Roman government and pagan religions.

/At first, they considered Christians to be enthusiasts or fanatics. /However, as Christianity grew to be more powerful, the Roman government began to implement policies of persecution.

/In the history of the church, persecution during the Roman period was severe, and it produced many martyrs. /Believers who gathered in search of freedom first worshiped in the famous catacombs of the Roman times.

/2. The Age of Missions in Early Europe. /This period refers to the time between Emperor Constantine and Emperor Charlemagne. /The date is from 313 AD to 800 AD. /The Roman government continued to persecute Christianity, but in 313, Emperor Constantine declared Christianity the state religion.

/Christianity no longer faced persecution, but it enjoyed the freedom of faith and identity. /However, the church in its essence became secularized. /Because Christianity became the state religion, many nominal believers entered the church.

/Through these people, the church was secularized, and it saw many problems concerning the legitimacy of faith. /In the year 328, when Emperor Constantine relocated the capital to Byzantium, a place east of Rome, the church too separated into East and West.

/The Western Church evangelized immigrants who moved to their territory and tried to maintain the legitimacy of doctrine. /However, the Eastern Church, because of disputes about theological doctrine, did not carry out its calling to do missions work.

/In this period, the monastic system was established, and in order to train leaders of the church, monasteries became active. /But the church did not participate in missions. Evangelism happened only at the individual level.

/ (1) Missionaries of this Time. / The first missionary we'll talk about is Ulfilas. / He was born in the year 311 and died in 388. / His name means "Little Wolf." / Ulfilas was a great apostle who spread the gospel to the Goths of the North of the Danube River.

/ At the age of around 20, he followed the Goth king Alaric to Constantinople. / He remained there for about 10 years and grew into a great scholar of Christianity. / As a missionary, he returned to the Goths and evangelized until all people received the gospel.

/ In order to teach the Bible to the Goths, who did not have a written language, he created the Gothic alphabet. / He also translated the Bible into the Gothic language. / But in his translation of the Bible, he omitted the books of Kings and Samuel. / The reason is he worried that the Goths, an aggressive people, would be stirred up because of the Bible.

/ This Bible is the oldest Teutonic Bible. / Over half of the Gospel books are preserved in Sweden's Uppsala College, / and because it is written in silver on a purple background, it is sometimes called the "Silver Bible."

/ Our next figure is Martin. / Martin was born in 316 and lived until 396. / As Bishop of Tours, Martin, after invading the Franks and other Northern tribes, worked as a missionary who paved the way to the region of Gaul.

/ Early on, Irenaeus and other people introduced Christianity to this region. / Martin, who was a soldier, did missions work in military style. / With his base in Tours, he went to lead the monks to Gaul, where he destroyed their idols and preached the gospel. / Today, he is revered as France's "patron saint."

/ The next person is Patrick. / He lived from 396 to 493. / He was from Scotland, / but in his boyhood, he was taken captive to Glasgow / and sold to a chief in Ireland.

/ He escaped from slavery and received an education at a French monastery school. / Afterwards, he returned to Scotland. / One night, he saw a vision, and he went to Ireland in obedience to that vision. He served in missions work there.

/ For over thirty years, he proclaimed the gospel and planted numerous churches. / He also established a monastery school and raised up many religious workers.

/ Next we have Columba. / He lived from the year 521 to 596. / Born in Ireland, he was a godly, gifted, and devoted person. / To pay the debt of the gospel he incurred in Ireland and Scotland, / he and his disciples went to the northern regions of Scotland and the nearby islands to preach the gospel.

/ The last figure of this time period is Augustine. / He isn't the Augustine of Hippo. / He was a great pioneer of England's missions. / Leading forty something Benedictine monks, Augustine went to England and spread the gospel. / He practiced one-on-one missions.

/ Many others also preached the gospel. / In this way, missions in early Europe moved forward with vitality.

/(2) The Rise and Spread of Islam. /As the gospel began to spread in different parts of Europe, a new religion emerged in the East. /And this religion became Christianity's most powerful opponent.

/The founder of Islam, Mahomet, was born in Mecca in 570. /He married the wealthy widow Khadijah. /When his life found stability, he began to study the Arabs' pagan temples.

/Believing that Judaism and Christianity were teaching the Arabs strange things, at the age of 40, he declared that he saw a vision. /When he was 40, he said he saw a vision. /Mahomet claimed that he received a message that said, "There is no god but Allah."

/He also declared himself to be a prophet of Allah. /He named his belief "Islam," which means "submission to the will of God."

/He began to gain followers, /and because he strongly rejected idol worship, /he was persecuted by the rulers of Mecca. In 622, he fled to Medina.

/At first, he tried to remove idol worship from his home country. /However, when he and his small group of followers won in battle, /his ambition grew to a desire for world conquest.

/His Arabian army consisted of zealous fanatics /who were hungry for pillage and conquest. /If the prophet gave a command, they actively obeyed to conquer multiple regions and cities. /They made people choose between the Quran and death.

/Their attacks allowed for territorial expansion to the eastern region of the Roman Empire, several regions in Asia, Egypt, North Africa, and more. /In the West, they completely conquered Spain and began their attacks on France.

/But in 732, Charles Martel led the Frank army to defeat the Islamic army in Tours. /Because of this victory, they were barely able to prevent Islam's violence in Europe.

/Followers of Islam believe in the Quran, which they believe is Allah's revelation to Mahomet. /They also slightly change the doctrines of Christianity. /From the birth of Islam until today, Islam has continued its conflict with Christianity. /During the Middle Ages, Islam and Christianity warred with one another in the Crusade Wars.

/We have studied up to Chapter 5, Missions of the Early Church. /Next, we will study Chapter 6, Missions of the Middle Ages. /The Middle Ages span from the time of Emperor Charlemagne to Luther's religious reformation.

/It is the period from 800 AD to 1517. /We can define and explain missionary activity as happening in three ways.

/1. Direct Missionary Activity. /In the Middle Ages, many Christian leaders were involved in the work of spreading the gospel. /**(1) Missionary Leaders**

/Our first person is Ansgar. /Ansgar was born in 800 AD and lived until the year 865. /She was a female monk from a French female monastery. /She followed the orders of Emperor Louis to go to Denmark.

/She built Christian churches in Denmark and also did missions work. /She also travelled to Sweden to preach the gospel. /She suffered the attacks and persecution of pagans. /However, Ansgar is now praised as a propagator of the gospel in North Europe.

/Next we have Bishop Otto of Bamberg. /Otto spread the gospel to the people of 12th century Pomerania. /At this time, this region was under the rule of Poland, and it was suffering.

/Sponsored by the king of Poland, Otto extravagantly took his entourage and went to this region. /There, they destroyed the Slavic people's idols and temples, and they succeeded in preaching the gospel of Christ.

/Third, we have Cyril and Methodius. /They were Greek missionaries who were sent to Constantinople and Bulgaria. /Cyril was a philosopher, /and Methodius was a magician.

/They converted the emperor of Bulgaria, /and expanded the territory of missions to Moravia and Bohemia. /Thus, they came to be known as Moravians when they stopped being active, and they translated the Bible to the Slavic language to bring many people to convert.

/2) The Repentance of the People of North Europe. /The first region is Norway. /Norway was introduced to Christianity by England in the 10th century. /The brave Norman and his three princes, Haakon and the two Olaf's, forced Christianity on the people.

/They forbade the worship of the gods Odin and Thor. /They also destroyed huge idols and worked hard in evangelizing.

/Next we have Iceland. /Iceland became a colony to the noble Norseman family from the 9th to 10th centuries. /The Norseman clan brought to Iceland their gods Odin and Thor.

/Then, one Icelandic person accepted Christianity. /Afterwards, in 981, a monk landed in Iceland and began to evangelize. /Norway's King Olaf continued to send missionaries to Iceland, which gradually led to the evangelization of Iceland.

/Next we have Greenland. /Greenland received the gospel from Ireland. /The person who received the gospel was the son of a Norseman named "Lief the Lucky" /and a Greenland person named "Eric the Red."

/Next we have the Russians' Conversion. /As a group, the Slavs converted to Christianity, /and this happened in 988 with the baptism of King Vladimir. /The Russians received Christianity when Princess Olga visited Constantinople in 955 and received the gospel and was baptized.

/The conversion of royalty led to the conversion of all the people. /That is how Russia carried on the traditions of the Eastern Church.

/2. The Crusades. /Strictly speaking, we cannot say that the Crusade Wars are an evangelism movement. /However, the Crusade Movement did have a large impact on all of civilization. /This movement especially contributed to the globalization of Christianity.

/(1) The Motivation behind the Crusades. /The Crusades took place from 1095 to 1272 as an expedition to reclaim the Holy Land. /Followers of Islam captured the Holy Land of Jerusalem, /and they persecuted Christians and inflicted damage to pilgrims. /Because of this, there was a higher sense of the need to save the Holy Land from the hands of Islam.

/The enthusiastic "Peter the Hermit" started this movement. /Pope Urban II of the time greatly influenced the Crusades. /The audience that heard Urban's sermon shouted <Deus <Vult>, which means "God wishes."

/Multiple factors make up the motive behind the Crusades. /Freedom from sin, gathering the spoils of war, and religious zeal were all factors. /This yielded a sort of mixed army.

/(2) The Influence of the Crusades. /The results of the Crusades were tragic. /Many people died of fatigue and disease. Many were taken prisoners, and many were injured.

/They temporarily captured Jerusalem, but it was once again taken by Islam. /However, much was gained because of the Crusades Movement. /The biggest things that they gained are as follows.

/First, there was a deeper understanding between the East and the West. /Frequently, because of the difficulty in communicating, the East and the West misunderstood each other. /However, because of the Crusades, they came to understand and come in contact with each other.

/The Western people used to have prejudice against the Eastern people and hate them, but this changed. /They learned to understand and sympathize with them. /In this new situation, missions was able to expand.

/Second, they came in contact with ancient civilization. /The people who served in the Crusades made contact with the ancient civilizations of Greece and Saracen. /By learning the sciences and arts of the East, they were able to introduce these subjects to Europe.

/Third, the development of trade. /The development of communication and commerce brought the wealth of the East into Europe. /Also, because the Crusade Wars required much economic spending, the gap between the rich and poor shrunk.

/Next, there was change in the church system. /Because of the Crusades, religious workers had a more peaceful relationship with regular believers. /Unconditional respect for teachers disappeared at this time. /Next, the regular believers became more knowledgeable.

/This allowed for evangelism to happen. /The Crusades were not a missionary movement, but they /paved the way for missions to places that did not know Christianity.

/During this time, Christians chased out many believers of Islam, /and they spread the gospel of Christianity. /Raymond Lull (1235 – 1315 AD) was one of the leaders who worked for this cause.

/This concludes the 4th lecture on missiology. /Thank you.