The Fifth and Sixth Centuries
History: The Early Church
October 13, 2021

Theme: Five Highlights of the Fifth and Sixth Centuries

1. **The Rise of Barbarian Invasions and the Fall of Rome**
    - The Invasion of Modern **Northern Europe:** *Mongol Huns*
    - The Invasion of Modern **Italy, France and Spain:** *Visigoths*
    - The Invasion of Modern **NW Africa:** *Vandals*
    - The Invasion of Modern **Italy:** *Ostrogoths*
    - The Invasion of Modern **France:** *Franks, Burgundians, and Lombards*
    - The Invasion of Modern **Britain and Ireland:** *Angles, Saxons, and Jutes*

2. **The Rise of Missions**
    - **Evangelism of Ireland:** *Patrick*
    - **Evangelism of Germany:** *Boniface*
    - **Evangelism of England:** *Augustine of Canterbury*
    - **Evangelism of France:** *Clovis*

3. **The Rise of Papacy**
    - **Political Factors**
        - The Prominence of Rome as Original Imperial Capital
        - The Prominence of Roman Church as "Mother Church"
        - The Need for Unity Amidst a Crumbling Western Empire
    - **Theological Factors**
        - Apostolic Succession
    - **Biographical Factors**
        - The Formative Role of Leo the Great (400-461)
        - The Formative Role of Gregory the Great

- **Contradicting Factors**
  - Contradicts **Jesus' Teaching on Leadership:** Matthew 20:16
  - Contradicts **Biblical Wisdom on Leadership:** Plurality
  - Contradicts **New Testament Church Government:** Local Church Elders
  - Contradicts **New Testament Profile of Peter:** Far From Exemplary
  - Contradicts **Peter's View of Himself:** 1 Peter5:1, "A Fellow Elder"
  - Contradicts **New Testament's Profile of Rome:** Never Exalted
  - Contradicts **New Testament's Profile of Apostles:** Ephesians. 2:20, John 16:13
  - Contradicts **Christ as Foundation of the Church:** Matthew 16:18

4. **The Rise of New Heresies**

   - **Pelagianism:** *Is God Actually Sovereign?*

   - **Nestorianism:** *Can Jesus, Who Has Two Natures, Really Be One Person?*

   - **Eutychianism:** *Can Jesus, Who Is One Person, Really Have Two Natures?*

5. **The Rise of Eastern Christianity**

   - **Theological Drift**
     - **How God Saves You:** *Legal vs. Mystical Language*

     - **How God Is Worshipped:** *The Use of Icons*

- **Political** Drift
  - Began with **Emperor Constantine:** *Founding of Constantinople as the "New Rome"*

  - Accelerated with **Emperor Justinian**: *Byzantine Christian Culture*

- **Organizational** Drift: *Papal vs. Patriarchal Authority*

The Fifth and Sixth Centuries:
A Timeline

- 400 Jerome's *Latin Vulgate* Published
- 410 Rome Sacked by Alaric and Visigoths
- 430 Augustine of Hippo Dies
- 431 Council of Ephesus
- 432 Patrick Begins Mission to Ireland
- 440 Leo the Great Consecrated as Bishop of Rome
- 449 Second Council of Ephesus
- 451 Council of Chalcedon
- 453 Leo Before Attila the Hun
- 455 Rome Sacked by Vandals
- 476 Fall of Western Roman Empire; Romulus Augustus Deposed
- 496 Clovis I, King of the Franks, Baptized
- 529 Benedict of Nursia Establishes First Monastery
- 553 Second Council of Constantinople
- 589 Filoque Clause Added to Nicene Creed of 381
- 590 Gregory the Great Elected Pope