

## **MASTER OF CHURCH HISTORY**

### **Purpose**

This exciting program is designed to expose the student to the overall training that is suitable to Ministry preparation in the field of Church History. The candidate must have a high interest in Church history because the student will be compelled to discuss the historical development of Christianity in the in the Old Testament up to the first century. The candidate will discuss the role of Church history from the First century to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and apply events to the current state of the Christian church.

### **Program Requirements**

A Bachelor's degree from approved University, College or Seminary. It is a 90 credit-hours program. All assignments must be emailed to [winninglifetheory@gmail.com](mailto:winninglifetheory@gmail.com).

### **DEGREE DISTINCTIVENESS**

1. Ability to apply theological studies to any field of endeavor to enhance Biblical, Academic and business programs.
2. Apply Biblical and Theological Research tools to any field of specialization.
3. Incorporate Biblical and theological knowledge with research, and preaching skills to communicate Biblical doctrines, exegetical methods, Evangelism, and scriptures with accuracy and relevance to the teeming flock.
4. Grow professionally, academically, scripturally, pastorally, and develop leadership skills as you do term papers, and undertake committed academic work.
5. Develop skills that lead to Church growth, and planting of Churches in America and in the world.
6. Articulate Evangelical, Charismatic, Pentecostal Reformed doctrinal beliefs with coherence, accuracy, relevance, and with clarity.
7. Articulate analytically in business and in Church teaching.

**CHS 520:** Everything about Gnosticism has been debated over the years. What is Gnosticism? Discuss the influence of Gnosticism on Christianity. Highlight the following:

- Doctrine
- Names of Gnostic teachers: Valentinus, Basilides, Cerinthus, Simon Magnus.
- Teachings and Doctrine of Christianity

**CHS 530:** Discuss the significance of Hegesippus (C. 110-180 AD), Irenaeus (C. 130-200) A.D.), Montanus, around AD 170. Teachings of Montanism, and Tertullian (C. 160-220 A.D).

**CHS 550:** Deliberate on the impact of First Century persecution on Christianity. Accentuate the role of Emperors Claudius (41-54 AD), Nero (54-68 A.D), and Domitian (81- 95 AD).

**CHS 580:** The third century experienced a wide spread of persecution orchestrated and perpetrated by emperors Decius (248-253 AD), Valerian (257 AD), and Diocletian (284-305 AD). Discuss forms of persecution, Martyrdom, and catacombs.

**CHS 650:** Explain events leading to the persecution of Bishop of Antioch, Ignatius through beastly devouring method, and circumstances surrounding the persecution and popular proclamation of Polycarp ” ***For eighty and six years, have I been his servant, and he has done me no wrong, and how can I blaspheme my king who saved me?”***

**CHS 660:** Describe the development of **ante-Nicene Theology**, spelling out the theology of **clement of Alexandria (C150-215 AD)**, **Origen (C. 184-254 ad)**, **Cyprian (C 200-258 AD)** and their influence on the development of the Church.

**CHS 670:** The conversion of Constantine marks a turning point in the history of the Church and of Europe. Describe events leading to his conversion and his policies that favored evangelism and spread of Christianity. Student must explain **the edict of Milan, the pontifex Maximus, and corpus Christianum.**

**CHS 680.** The Council of Nicea (325 AD) forms a watershed for the growth and development of Christianity. Describe the place and adoption of decrees and statutes, and highlight **post-nicean Trinitarian debate**. Define and explain **Semi-Arian Party, Eusebius, Cappadocean Fathers** as well as Council of Constantinople (381 AD).

**CHS 690:** Identify the following Church Fathers and explain the role they played in the advancement of Christianity: **Ambrose (340-397 AD), John Chrysostom (347-406 AD).**

**CHS 700:** During the middle ages, the papacy developed and strengthened until it reached the zenith of its power in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Describe factors that led to the supremacy of the papacy.

**CHS 710:** Explain events that led to both the First and second crusades and their consequences on both Christianity and Islam.

**CHS 720:** Elaborate on the **biography, life before conversion, Manichaeism, the conversion, ordination, and influence of St. Augustine on the Church.**

**CHS 730:** The Forerunners of the **Reformation** played a pivotal role in the advancement and spread of Christianity. Describe the influence of the following:

(a) John Wycliffe (1324-1384), (b) John Hus (1369-1415).

**CHS 740:** Research **Puritanism, pietism, and the doctrines of Anabaptists**, and describe their contributions to advancement of Christianity in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries.

**CHS 750:** Christianity in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century is often referred to as “*The First Great Awakening*.” Explain the contribution of the great awakening to the advancement and growth of Christianity in America.

**CHS 760:** Protestantism experienced wide spread and acceptance in Europe and America in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Explain factors that led to the growth of Christianity in the Century.

**CHS 770:** Elaborate on the Tran-Sahara slave trade and discuss the spread of Christianity from 1400 A.D. to 1900 A.D. Accentuate legacy of colonialism for the African continent.

**CHS 780:** It is historically authenticated that from 1900 to 2000, Christianity in the African Continent increased more than sixty times. Describe the current and historical factors that led to the spread and acceptance of Christianity.

**CHS 790:** Latin America is generally considered a nucleus of Catholicism. Consider factors that led to the spread of Catholicism and accentuate the late emergence of Protestantism in the Middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.