

Jones, Timothy Paul

Christian History Made Easy (Rose Bible Basics)

9. What You Should Know About Christian History (AD 247–420)

A quick-reference chapter listing the key events, people, and terms of the early church from persecution to establishment. It covers Rome's turn from persecuting Christianity to legalizing it, the fights over who Jesus is, and how the New Testament and Latin Bible took shape.

Key takeaways

- Persecution peaked under Diocletian (the Era of Martyrs), then Constantine's Edict of Milan (313) legalized Christianity.
- The Council of Nicaea (325) rejected Arianism—the claim that Jesus is God's greatest creation, not fully God—and confessed the Trinity and Christ's full deity.
- Athanasius' Easter Letter (367) named the same 27 New Testament books we use today; the Synod of Carthage confirmed it (397).
- Jerome translated the Bible into common Latin (the Vulgate), the Catholic Church's official Bible for 1,000 years.