

NAME: _____

*The Theology and Practice of
Singing In Church*

A Journey Faith & Life Seminar

November 13, 2018

Journey Purpose Statement

The Journey exists to give the people of New York City
the best opportunity to become fully
developing followers of Jesus by

Inviting them to an intimate relationship with God,

Connecting them in healthy relationships with other Christians,

Guiding them toward an authentic commitment to God,

Involving them in life-changing ministry and mission in our city and
the world that they may

Honor God completely.

At The Journey we fulfill the Purpose Statement through 2 types of meetings:

- Large Group (Sunday Service)
- Small Group (Growth Group)

*“(They met) day after day, in the **Temple courts** and from **house to house**.”*
– Acts 5:42

*We believe events like Faith and Life Seminars enhance the Sunday Service and Growth Groups.

WARNING: This is a Dangerous Class!

This is a very dangerous class. More information about God does not necessarily lead to a closer relationship with God. Knowledge alone can lead to arrogance and immaturity. The word Jesus used for such people is “hypocrite.”

“Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.” – 1 Corinthians 8:1

- More Information + No Application = _____

- More Information + More Application = _____

The Theology and Practice of Singing In Church

GOALS FOR THIS SEMINAR:

We want you to walk away from this seminar with an understanding of:

- The Biblical purposes of singing in church.
- Why singing in church is important to your spiritual growth
- A brief history of singing in church
- How to sing confidently, joyfully, and passionately
- The powerful effect singing in church has on the rest of your week
- Practical ways to experience God more through singing in church

ADDITIONAL PERSONAL GOALS:

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Why Do We Sing in Church?

1. Singing in church _____.

- “Christian singing is far more than doing our duty, but it is never less... Repeatedly and throughout scripture, we are commanded to be a singing people. There are more than four hundred references to singing in the Bible...” (14, *Sing!*)

“Sing to the LORD a new song, his praises in the assembly of saints.”

– Psalm 149:1

- “The command to sing leads us to Christ with joy to praise and follow Him. How kind of God to command us to do something so wonderful!”
(20, *Sing!*)

2. Singing in church_____.

“Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.” Ephesians 4:3

- When choirs sing in unison with others, their hearts actually begin to beat together as one, and in tempo with the song they are collectively singing.

“With praise and thanks, they sang this song to the Lord: “He is so good! His faithful love for Israel endures forever!” Then all the people gave a great shout, praising the Lord because the foundation of the Lord’s Temple had been laid.” - Ezra 3:11

3. Singing in church_____.

*“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.”
– Colossians 3:16*

4. Singing in church_____.

- “The songs we sing on Sunday provide the soundtrack for our week. Singing files away the messages the lyrics convey in our minds and hearts... They support us when we lack courage and need to bolster our faith” (38, *Sing!*)

*“O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever?
How long will you look the other way?” – Psalm 13:1*

*“No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice.
My body rests in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead
or allow your holy one to rot in the grave.” – Psalm 16:9-10*

A Brief History of Singing in Church

Old Testament

Worship in the Old Testament Trivia

1. Who was the first musician mentioned in the Bible?

_____ (**Genesis 4:20-21**)

2. What was the first song mentioned in the Bible?

_____ (**Exodus 15:1**)

3. Name three prominent places that singing appears in the Old Testament:

1. _____ (*1 Kings 8:22-23*)

2. _____ (*2 Chronicles 20:20-26*)

3. _____ (*Deuteronomy 6:4-9*)

Brief history of the Psalms

This book, the most lengthy one in Scripture, may be aptly summarized by five key words –

1. **Praise** – The Psalmist worships, extols, and with heart-filled gratitude, thanks the sovereign God of Israel for His Person, His Word, and His mighty works in regard to both creation and redemption.
2. **Prophecy** – The Psalmist often writes of the coming Messiah, foretelling His zeal, suffering, death, resurrection, ascension, high priestly work, and coming millennial reign.
3. **Pain** – The Psalmist describes in graphic fashion his personal doubts, fears, pain and problems.
4. **Petition** – The Psalmist offers up many requests, crying out for relief, forgiveness, reassurance, direction, protection and strength.
5. **Poetry** – The Psalmist pens his words in poetic fashion meant to be sung.

Other facts about The Book of Psalms

- The greatest collection of songs ever composed and prayers prayed all included in a single book.
- In no other writings, whether sacred or secular, are the heart and soul of man more clearly revealed than in the Psalms. The sighs, sobs, and songs buried deeply within human spirits find their release and utter their message through these 150 Psalms. They review the past, view the present, and preview the future.
- Nearly half of all the direct quotes taken from the Old Testament and quoted in the New Testament come from the Psalms. In fact, the book of Psalms is either quoted from or alluded to 103 times in the book of Revelation alone, and 149 times in the four Gospel accounts.
- Our Lord began and concluded his earthly ministry by quoting from the Psalms. Compare Psa. 69 with Jn. 2:17; Psa. 31:5 with Lk. 23:46.

(What You Need to Know About The Book of Psalms)

(30 A.D. – 100 A.D.)

Three places of singing in the New Testament Church

“All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.”
– Acts 2:42

- _____
- _____
- _____

Songs of Scripture

- Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-56) – became the Magnificat
- Song of Zacharias (Luke 1:67-80) – became the Benedictus
- Song of Simeon (Luke 2:27-32) – became Nunc Dimittis

Other Songs quoted in Scripture

- 1 Corinthians 2:9
- Ephesians 5:14
- Philippians 2:6-11
- 1 Timothy 1:17
- 1 Timothy 3:16
- 2 Timothy 2:11-13

(c. 300 A.D. – c. 1500 A.D.)

- Constantine's Rule: The Christian Emperor (312 A.D. – 337 A.D.)
- Latin Worship Services
- Fall of the Roman Empire (476 A.D.)
- Chant (Gregorian Chant)
- Not accessible to the common person
- *Audio Sample: Gregorian Chants*



(1483-1546)

- Johannes Gutenberg invents printing press (1450 A.D.)
- Luther's Impact on Christian Worship
 - Songs and services in the vernacular
 - Luther took the Bible and gave it back to the people
 - The Bible was translated into German
 - Luther was also a musician
 - The first evangelical hymn writer
 - Congregational Singing is encouraged
 - Use of secular sources for melody as well as hymns and liturgy
 - Songs in major keys
- *Audio Sample: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

A Mighty Fortress
EIN FESTE BURG

Martin Luther, 1529 Martin Luther, 1529

1. A might - y For - tress is our God, A Bul - wark nev - er fail - ing; Our
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing; Were
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un - do us, We
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them a - bid - eth, The

Help - er he a - mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For
 not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos - ing. Dost
 will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us. The
 Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sid - eth; Let

still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are
 ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus it is he, Lord Sab - a - oth his
 prince of dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en -
 goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may

great; And, armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 Name, From age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.
 dure, For lo! his doom is sure; One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 kill: God's truth a - bid - eth still; His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Public Domain

(1674-1748)

- J.S. Bach
- Introduction of songs that were written from a personal perspective
- Isaac Watts Major Impacts
 - Nicknamed The Father of English Hymnody
 - Songs not limited to the literal singing of scripture
 - Songs should express the emotions of those who sang
 - First to connect the music with the message of the day, and even wrote songs to connect with the message
- *Audio Sample: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross*

PASSION AND DEATH

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 213

Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. Phil. 3:7

Descant

4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,
 Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.
 count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1707
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824, based on plainsong; desc. Donald P. Hurad, 1989
 Desc. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

HAMBURG
 L.M.

(1703-1791)

- Mozart and Beethoven
- 1st Great Awakening
- The Wesley's Major Impacts on Christian Worship
 - Wrote over 6,500 hymns
 - Hymns had an evangelical focus
 - Wrote songs from personal experience (subjective style)
 - Music has always accompanied the great movements of God
- During this era, Christmas Carols became popular and began being used in church services
- *Audio Sample: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

CHRIST'S LIFE

80 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3 Hail the heaven - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild, he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.
 Music (MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7. D refrain 7.7): Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; adapt. William H. Cummings, 1856, P.D.

(1830's-1920)

- Dwight Moody and Ira Sanky
- Fanny Crosby (wrote over 8,000 hymns)
- Impacts on Christian Worship
 - Simple words and simple melodies
 - Repetitive words
 - Appealed to everyone
 - Evangelical in nature
- *Audio Sample: Blessed Assurance*

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Blessed Assurance

FANNY J. CROSBY

PHOEBE P. KNAPP

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of
 2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, Vi-sions of rap-ture now
 3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav-ior am

glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,
 burst on my sight; An-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove,
 hap-py and blest; Watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,

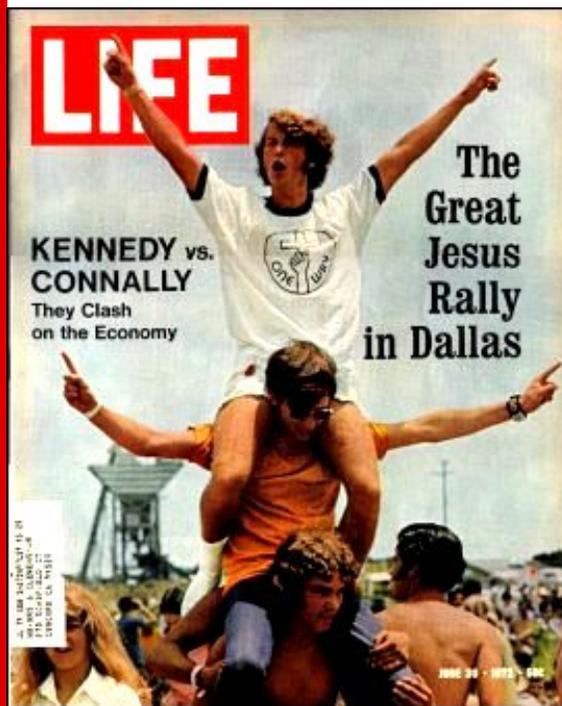
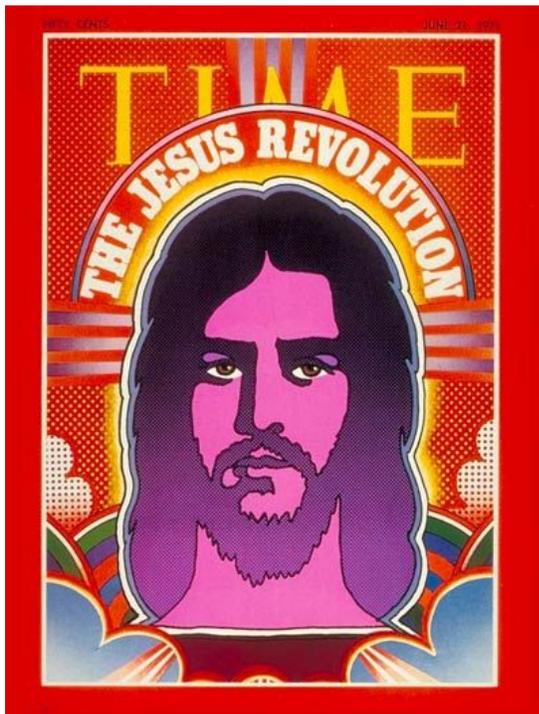
CHORUS

Born of His Spir-it, washed in His blood.
 Ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. This is my sto-ry, this is my
 Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

song, Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long; This is my sto-ry,
 this is my song. Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

(1960's-1970's)

- Vietnam War
- Hippie Movement
- Beginning of the Modern Worship Movement
- The Jesus Movement Impact on Christian Worship
 - The radical lifestyle-approach the “Jesus people” took led to the development of Christian Culture. Paved the way for the modern worship movement
 - Added more instrumentation – drums, bass guitar, electric guitar, keyboard synthesizers, etc.
 - New Churches – Calvary Chapel, Vineyard, Maranatha
- *Audio/Video Sample: Why Should The Devil Have All The Good Music*



How to Best Sing in Church

P _____

- What am I doing throughout the week to prepare my heart for worship?
 - _____
 - Prayer life
 - _____

P _____

- Singing worship music in the car, shower, at home
- Listening to worship music at my desk, in the car, etc.

P _____

P _____

- How can I be ready to sing when I walk in on Sunday?
 - Sunday morning begins _____.
 - The Sabbath intentionally begins at sundown to allow appropriate preparation for Sabbath worship.
 - Listen _____ on my way to church
 - Arrive _____
 - Won't feel rushed
 - Be able to focus on God's voice
 - Have time to lay aside my worries

- There is no “_____” in worship
 - Raise hands, or don't
 - Sit or stand

- _____
 - Physical engagement brings spiritual engagement.

- _____ I am singing
 - How do these lyrics enhance my worship of God?
 - What do these words mean to me this week and in general?

Sing Together

Grateful

Verse 1

This is the day, that You have made
Whatever comes, I won't complain
For all my hope, is in Your name
And now Your joy, awaits my praise

Chorus

I give thanks, for all You have done
And I will sing, of Your mercy and Your love
Your love is unfailing
Lord, I am grateful

Verse 1

When I was down, You brought me out
You set my feet, on higher ground
So here I stand, You are my God
Your faithfulness, my Solid Rock

Bridge

And as we lift our hands up
The heavens open, heavens open
So let our lives declare the love
Our God has spoken over us

Songwriters: Steven Furtick / Christopher Brown / Matthews Thabo Ntele / Stefan Green
Grateful lyrics © Essential Music Publishing, Capitol Christian Music Group

Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
T'was blind but now I see

Verse 2

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Verse 3

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
T'was grace that brought us safe thus far
And grace will lead us home,

Songwriters: John Newton / Traditional

Your Grace Finds Me

Verse 1

It's there in a newborn cry
There in the light of every sunrise
There in the shadows of this life
Your great grace
It's there on the mountain top
There in the everyday and the mundane
There in the sorrow and the dancing
Your great grace
Oh, such grace

Chorus

From the creation to the cross
There from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me

Verse 2

It's there on the wedding day
There in the weeping by the gravesite
There in the very breath we breathe
Your great grace
It's the same for the rich and poor
The same for the saint and for the sinner
Enough for this whole wide world
Your great grace
Oh, such grace

Chorus 2

From the creation to the cross
There from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me
There in the darkest night of the soul
There in the sweetest songs of victory
Your grace finds me
Yes your grace finds me

Bridge

So I'm breathing in Your grace
And breathing out Your praise
I'm breathing in Your grace
Forever I'll be

Appendix

RESOURCES

Books & Further Reading

Revolve: A New Way to See Worship by Dr. Nelson Searcy, Jason Hatley, Jennifer Dykes Henson

Sing!: How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, and Church by Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty

The Purpose Driven Life: Chapter 10 The Heart of Worship by Rick Warren

2013 Swedish medical study about the effects of group singing:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2013/07/09/200390454/when-choirs-sing-many-hearts-beat-as-one>

John Wesley's 7 Rules for Congregational Singing:

<http://www.journeynyc.com/JohnWesley>

What You Need to Know About The Book of Psalms" (2008). What You Need to Know About.... Paper 45. http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/will_know/45 by Harold Willmington

Online Audio/Video

Journey Worship Music Playlists:

www.BocaJourney.com/Spotify

www.BocaJourney.com/YouTube

Music from tonight's seminar:

www.BocaJourney.com/SingingSeminar

Why Should I Sing in Church?:

www.lifeway.com/en/articles/why-should-i-sing-in-church-getty

Worship in the Early Church: Christian History Timeline

DAVID F. WRIGHT

The Early Church

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-37/worship-in-early-church-christian-history-timeline.html>

- c. **30** Distinctives of “Jesus People” in Jerusalem include daily temple worship, prayers, apostles’ teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, baptism
- c. **33** First “deacons” appointed in the church, later to become those who take Communion to the sick
- c. **37** Christian worship spreads; a church established in Antioch
- c. **55** Paul describes Lord’s Supper and informal worship in 1 Corinthians (ch. 11, 14)
- c. **90–100** Jewish Christians virtually excluded from synagogue services
- c. **95** “Book of Revelation” written, a Christian prophecy given “in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day”
- c. **96** 1 Clement (a letter from the church of Rome to the church of Corinth) echoes Communion prayers
- c. **100** (or earlier) *Didache*, earliest church service book, describes agape meal (and Communion?) Scandalous rumors begin that Christians in their worship practice cannibalism and incest Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, in letters against the Docetists (those who say Christ only seemed human), stresses the “reality” of Christ’s flesh and blood in the Eucharist
- c. **112** Pliny, Roman governor in Bithynia, interrogates Christians about their meetings
- c. **125** 2 Clement, the earliest extant Christian sermon
- c. **150–180** Controversy over the proper day (Sunday or weekday?) to celebrate Easter (quartodeciman controversy)
- c. **150–250** Development of “rule of faith,” a loose summary of Christian belief, especially for use against gnostics
- c. **155** Justin’s Apology explains Christian worship to critics

- c. **170** Melito, bishop of Sardis, writes sermon “On the Pascha.” First evidence of Christians’ venerating martyrs’ remains and celebrating anniversaries of their deaths (“birthdays”); Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, martyred; memorials to Peter and Paul at Rome
- c. **172** Montanist movement (which emphasizes ecstatic prophecy, the end times, and strict discipline) begins
- 197** In Carthage, Tertullian’s *Apology* explains conduct of Christian assemblies, and he writes the first exposition of Lord’s Prayer
- c. **200** Eastern church begins to celebrate Christ’s nativity and baptism on January 6; frescoes in Roman catacombs begin to depict agape/Eucharist (or heavenly banquet)
- c. **200-240** *Didascalia of the Apostles*, a “church order” from Syria that uses *Didache*
- c. **207** Tertullian describes Montanist-style visions received in worship
- c. **215** Hippolytus of Rome writes *Apostolic Tradition*, a developed and influential set of guidelines for church practice
- 230-50** Origen’s homilies form first collection of Christian preaching
- c. **232** Earliest surviving example of house converted for use in Christian worship, in Dura-Europos (in modern Iraq)
- c. **255** Cyprian of Carthage insists that Communion cup contain wine (and water); he promotes priestly and sacrificial views of ministry and worship
- 260** Emperor Gallienus restores church property confiscated in recent persecution
- 321** Roman Emperor Constantine makes the first day of week a holiday as “the day of the sun”
- 325** Council of Nicea, first general council of church, affirms deity of Christ, sets date for celebration of Easter, and gives norms on liturgy
- 336** First evidence (at Rome) of December 25 celebration of Christ’s birth
- c. **350?** Addresses to newly baptized Christians in the Church of Holy Sepulcher, Jerusalem, by bishop(?)

Other Church & Empire Events

c. 30 Crucifixion of Jesus; Pentecost

35 Stephen martyred; Paul converted

c. 37 Temple of Divus Augustus for emperor worship consecrated

42 Apostle James beheaded

43 London founded by the Romans

46 Paul begins missionary journeys

48 Council of Jerusalem

49 Jews expelled from Rome (for disturbances with Christians?)

64 Nero persecutes Christians in Rome; Paul and Peter martyred

70 Temple at Jerusalem destroyed by Romans

79 Mt. Vesuvius erupts, destroying Pompeii

106 Rome conquers Dacia (Rumania); Empire reaches greatest size

110 Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, martyred

118 Population of Rome exceeds 1 million

132–135 Second Jewish War led by Bar Kokhba

140–160 Heretic Marcion and gnostic teacher Valentinus active

c. 160–180 Ptolemy studies astronomy and geography; findings remain useful until 16th century

164 Fifteen-year plague breaks out

177 Severe persecution at Lyons

c. 180 Irenaeus of Lyons (writing against the gnostics in *Against All Heresies*) emphasizes goodness of gifts of creation, including bread and wine

c. 212 Roman citizenship extended to every freeborn person

230 First Persian War

248 Goths attack Rome

250-1 First empire-wide persecution of Christians, by emperor Decius

257 Emperor Valerian hounds clergy

258 Cyprian martyred

c. 260 About 6,000,000 Christians in the Empire

c. 270 Antony, monastic pioneer, takes up life of solitude in Egyptian desert

285 Roman empire divided East and West

303-4 Emperor Diocletian begins the Great Persecution

312 Constantine converts to Christianity; Donatist schism begins

313 “Edict” of Milan gives Christians full toleration

324 Constantine becomes sole ruler of Empire

c. 318 Arian controversy begins

330 Constantinople made capital of Roman Empire

David F. Wright is dean of the faculty of divinity at the University of Edinburgh and a member of the editorial advisory board of Christian History.