

TWENTY CENTURIES

A Survey of Church History



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THE ELEVENTH CENTURY

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- Medieval Bible Scholarship
- The Investiture Controversy & Gregory VII
- The First Crusade
- Anselm of Canterbury

Medieval Bible Scholarship



- **Renewed Bible Scholarship**
 - Fulbert of Chartres' Commentary on the whole Bible
 - Bruno of Wurzburg' Commentary on the Psalms
 - Peter Damian sought church reform according to the Scriptures, opposed moral decadence among priests
 - Bruno the Carthusian's Commentary on Psalms and on Paul.
- **Medieval Bible Interpretation**
 - Development of the *gloss* (marginal notes to explain the text).
 - First use of chapter divisions
 - Emphasis on allegorical interpretation

The Investiture Controversy



- The Struggle for Church Control

- In the 10th c. under the German emperors, control of the church passed to the feudal lords and kings.
- Rival factions began to appoint their own popes, throwing the church into confusion and division
 - ✦ From 1044-1046 there were three different popes claiming authority, each representing a certain power faction in Rome.
 - ✦ In 1044, Rome rebelled against pope Benedict IX because of his scandalous immorality. Sylvester III was made pope, but Benedict's political allies put Benedict back in power. Benedict then sold the papacy to a third person, Gregory VI, but then changed his mind and reclaimed the papacy. When Henry III arrived to be crowned, there were 3 rival popes to manage.
 - ✦ In 1046, Emperor Henry III – a godly and wise ruler – called a synod in which he deposed all the former popes and appointed a German, Clement II. Known as the “cleansing of the papacy.”

The Investiture Controversy

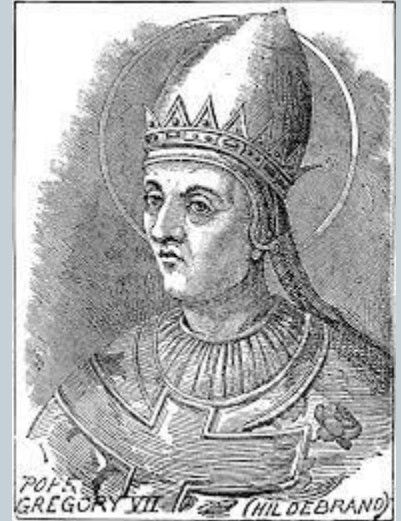


- In 1049, Pope Leo IX began to reform the church.
 - ✦ Vigorously reformed the papal church, seeking it to be a truly Christian institution with the highest moral standards.
 - ✦ Needed to free the papacy from the control of Roman aristocrats. Insisted that the college of cardinals must elect the pope, and then made sure that cardinals were drawn from the whole church and not merely from Rome.
 - ✦ Sought to free the papacy from the emperor, holding a series of synods in which the pope, not the emperor presided. (Succeeded because Emperor Henry IV was 9 years old and the empire was divided.)
 - ✦ Cardinal Hildebrand (Gregory VII) ramped up claims of the pope's spiritual descent from the apostle Peter: "I am Peter's vicar; he now lives in my body." Sought not only to free the church from secular control, but to impose church control over the civil rulers. Gave birth to the papacy that the Reformers would confront.
 - ✦ Leo condemned simony (the selling of church office)
 - ✦ In 1054, Leo excommunicated the Patriarch of Constantinople, Michael Cerularius, over the filioque clause, causing the final severing of the Western Church from the Eastern Church.
 - ✦ Mandated celibacy among the clergy over the objections of pro-marriage Milan.
 - ✦ Leo was captured in battle against the Normans in 1054 and died in prison the following year. The Normans later secured their legitimacy by guaranteeing the papal claims with their army.

The Investiture Controversy

- Hildebrand / Gregory VII

- 1073, Cardinal Hildebrand elevated as pope Gregory VII.
- Physically weak, he had an indomitable will and piercing eyes, a “holy Satan” (P. Damiani), with a burning zeal for the church’s purity (though not for doctrine).
- Despised the secular kings as “dressed up murderers,” so the church had to take control over them.
 - ✦ Prior to this, it was godly kings who held similar concerns about the church!
 - ✦ From “pilgrim church” to “church militant.”
- Held a deep sympathy for the poor.



The Investiture Controversy



- Excerpts from Hildebrand's 1075 papal decree:
 - The Roman Church was founded by God alone.
 - Only the Roman people is rightly called "Catholic"
 - The pope alone can depose bishops
 - The pope's feet must be kissed by all princes.
 - No council is valid without the pope's approval.
 - The pope may be judged by no-one.
 - The Roman Church has never erred, cannot err, and never will err, to all eternity.
 - The Roman pope is sanctified by the "merits" of St. Peter.
 - Anyone not in conformity with the Roman pope cannot be considered a genuine Christian.

The Investiture Controversy



- **Hildebrand vs. Henry IV**

- Pope Gregory VII had forbidden kings to invest bishops or abbots.
- But these bishops & abbots controlled wealthy and significant lands.
- Gregory VII ordered emperor Henry IV to cease investing clergy. Papist vs. Imperial Christendom
- Henry defied the pope, supported by his bishops, rejecting Gregory as pope.
- Gregory VII excommunicated the emperor and released his subjects from feudal loyalty. Most of Henry's allies abandoned him.
- In 1077, the pope's allies summoned a council to replace the emperor, with the pope presiding.
- Henry traveled to Italy, publicly abased himself before the pope, and was restored.
- Henry returned to Germany to fight a civil war against the new claimant. Winning the war, he turned south, conquered Italy, imprisoned Gregory and put Clement III on the papal throne.
- Gregory's Norman allies sacked Rome, and rescued the pope, who died in exile in 1085.
- Pope Urban II (1088-99) regained control over most of Western Europe. In 1110, pope Paschal II compromised with Henry V, surrendering control over church lands in Germany while Henry agreed no longer to invest clergy.



THE ELEVENTH CENTURY

The First Crusade



- **Sequence of Events**

- 1009, The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem was destroyed by Moslems
- 1095, Pope Urban IV preached the First Crusade at a council in France: “Take up the cross to liberate the Holy Land from Islam!”
- 1095, First Crusade departed from France, with 250,000 – 300,000
- 1097, Nicaea captured; 1098 Antioch
- 1099 Jerusalem captured, plundered, and people massacred.

THE ELEVENTH CENTURY

The First Crusade



- Assessment of the Crusade
 - Main point was to unify Europe under the Papacy
 - Princes and nobles were moved by desire for war, adventure, treasure, and spiritual reward.
 - Advanced and popularized the practice of indulgences



Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)



- Anselm's Life
 - Born, 1033 in Italy. Became monk in 1060. Prior of Bec, 1063
 - Turned down archbishopric and cardinal
 - Archbishop of Canterbury, 1093-1109

- Proslogion
 - Dealt with the question of Faith and Reason
 - ✦ “I am not seeking to understand in order to believe, but I believe in order to understand. For this too I believe: that unless I believe, I shall not understand.”
 - Developed *ontological argument* for God
 - ✦ God is “that than which no greater can be conceived.”

Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)



- Cur Deus Homo (“Why God Became Man”)
 - Series of dialogues centered on a biblical understanding of the atonement
 - Countered “ransom theory” of early church with “satisfaction theory” of the Reformation

“It would not have been right for the restoration of human nature to be left undone, and... it could not have been done unless man paid what was owing to God for sin. But the debt was so great that, while man alone owed it, only God could pay it, so that the same person must be both man and God. Thus it was necessary for God to take manhood into the unity of his Person, so that he who in his own nature ought to pay and could not should be in a person who could... The life of this one man was so sublime, so precious, that it can suffice to pay what is owing for the sins of the whole world, and infinitely more.”