



A History of Christianity in America

A Survey of the Most Significant People, Issues, and Events That Influenced America's Unique Religious and Spiritual Heritage

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Breshears.

Time and Location:

- Sunday mornings, beginning August 4th
Johnson Ferry Baptist Church
11:15 a.m. / Room 270.

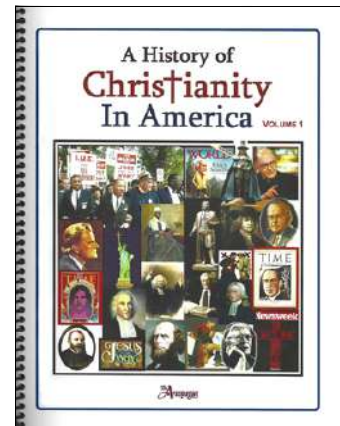
Study Guide and Supplemental Readings:

- Jeffrey D. Breshears, *A History of Christianity in America* (\$20)

Course Fee: No registration required.

Course Synopsis:

“A History of Christianity in America: From the Colonial Era to the Present” is a Sunday morning course that focuses on the major people, issues and events in American Christianity from the colonial era to the present. In addition to being an in-depth survey of Christianity in America, this course provides an overview of the significant social and political issues in major periods of American history and how Christians impacted – and were affected by – these forces and events. This study also addresses on the ongoing controversies over the proper relationship between church and state, and the challenges and opportunities of living in a society that is becoming increasingly pluralistic, secularistic, and hostile toward traditional Christian beliefs and values.



Some Major Topics in American Christian History:

- The evolution of Britain's religious and political heritage, and how it impacted America;
- Religious diversity in colonial America;
- The founding of the thirteen British colonies, and the impact of Christianity in early colonial history;
- Roger Williams, William Penn, and the early controversies over separation of church and state;
- The Salem witchcraft trials;
- Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, and the Great Awakening;
- The Christian involvement and influence in the American Revolution;
- The Christian influences on the founding of the American Republic;
- The faiths of the Founding Fathers;

- The growth of evangelical Christianity in the early 1800s;
- Princeton Theology;
- Charles Finney and the Second Great Awakening;
- The origins of American theological liberalism;
- Major issues and events in African-American Christianity in the 19th century;
- The Christian involvement and influences on abolitionism and other reform movements of the 1800s;
- The Christian involvement and influence on the Civil War;
- D. L. Moody, C. I. Scofield, R. A. Torrey and other major people, issues and events in evangelical Christianity in the late-19th and early-20th centuries;
- Christian responses to Darwinian evolutionary theory;
- Christian socialism and the Social Gospel movement of the late-19th and early-20th centuries;
- The Holiness and Pentecostal movements of the late-19th and early-20th centuries;
- The Modernist/Fundamentalist controversies of the late-19th and early-20th centuries;
- Billy Graham and the emergence of the modern neo-evangelical movement;
- Martin Luther King Jr. and the Christian involvement in the Civil Rights Movement;
- The modern charismatic renewal movement;
- The Jesus Movement of the 1970s;
- The new Christian Left;
- The modern mega-church phenomenon;
- The emerging/emergent church movement;
- Recent trends and challenges in evangelical Christianity; and
- Much more...

Note on the Teacher:

Dr. Jeffrey Breshears is an historian, a former university professor, and the founder and president of The Areopagus, a Christian study center and education ministry in the Atlanta area. As a history professor, Dr. Breshears taught specialized courses in Christian history, U. S. history, Political Theory, and Christian Apologetics.



Dr. Jeffrey Breshears is an historian, author, and the president of The Areopagus, a Christian study center and education ministry in the Atlanta area. As a university history professor Dr. Breshears taught courses in United States history and political philosophy in addition to ancient history, philosophy and religion with a special emphasis on Christian history. The Areopagus offers substantive courses on a wide variety of subjects in Christian history, apologetics, and contemporary cultural issues.

JBreshears@TheAreopagus.org