Christianity: Growth of Christianity Notes**

► Christianity begins when Jesus of Nazareth dies
  ▪ Twelve Apostles see him as the Messiah
► Twelve Apostles begin to spread Jesus’ teachings
  ▪ Peter becomes the most famous apostle
► Twelve Apostles greatly increase Christianity – and fast
  ▪ By preaching and writing
► Much of Jesus’ teachings were transferred by word of mouth at first
► Eventually the story of Jesus was written down
► Four main biographies are put into the Christian Bible
  ▪ Called the four Gospels
  ▪ Written by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
  ▪ Written anywhere from 30 – 100 years after the death of Jesus
► Paul was perhaps the greatest teacher after Jesus died
► Originally he was someone who killed Christians
  ▪ Has a vision – converts to Christianity
► Paul traveled all over the Roman Empire
  ▪ Preaches and writes letters
  ▪ Details teachings of Jesus
  ▪ Explains Jewish laws are not always necessary
► Paul is greatly responsible for spreading Christianity
► Originally, Christians spread their message only to Jews
► Paul introduced Christianity to non-Jews
  ▪ Called Gentiles
  ▪ Quickly expanded Christianity
► Within 100 years after death of Jesus, thousands of people followed Christianity
  ▪ Very rapid growth of this religion
► Christianity not well received by Roman officials at first
  ▪ Christians were arrested and killed
► Roman Emperors banned Christianity and persecuted Christians
  ▪ Persecute – punish a group because of its beliefs
  ▪ Afraid it would cause problems in the Empire
  ▪ Angry that they were not practicing Roman religion
► Despite Romans trying to eliminate Christianity, it continues to grow
► 312CE – Roman Emperor Constantine converts to Christianity
  ▪ Has a vision of how to win a battle
    ▪ Uses Christian symbols and wins battle – converts
  ▪ Ends persecution
Eventually, Christianity is official religion of Roman Empire
Roman Empire is rich and powerful
Christianity soon becomes powerful as well
Western Roman Empire adopts laws that are similar to Christian ideals
  - 10 Commandments
  - No working on Sundays
Bishops become leaders of communities
Eastern Roman Empire forbids women from learning Christian religion
  - Can be Christians, but cannot learn about it
Splits begin to appear in Christianity
  - Orthodox (East) and Roman Catholic (West)
Christian power continues to grow throughout the Roman Empire
As time goes on, Christians gain more and more power
  - And money!
  - Christian rulers show up all over Europe
  - Make Christianity the official religion of their countries
  - Spreads Christianity even more
Christianity sets up a capital city in Rome: Vatican City
Christian leaders want to control the Holy Land
  - Israel, Palestine, the city of Jerusalem
The Christians send warriors to try and capture it from the Jews and Muslims
  - Missions to control the Holy Land
  - Called Crusades
  - Take place between 1000CE and 1200CE
Ultimately, Crusades fail to gain Jerusalem for the Christians
During the Middle Ages, the Christian religion is the main religion throughout most of Europe
  - Very powerful and lots of money
Eventually, Church becomes corrupt
  - Corrupt – getting money through dishonesty
Some people begin to speak against Church
Most famous protestor – Martin Luther
  - Luther is responsible for Protestant Reformation
Martin Luther speaks against Christian (Catholic) Church
  - Very dangerous thing to do at this time
After trials and debates, a new religion forms
  - Luther’s religion is called Lutheranism
Eventually, more and more religions branch off from the Roman Catholic Church
  - Called Protestant Religions
  - Still Christians
Christianity is now a world religion with many different denominations
Christianity: Growth of Christianity Notes*

► Christianity begins when __________________________ dies

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► Paul traveled all over the _______________ Empire
  ▪ ______________ and writes letters

► __________ is greatly responsible for spreading Christianity

► Originally, Christians spread their message only to _____________

► Paul introduced Christianity to _____________

► Within 100 years after death of Jesus, ______________ of people followed Christianity

► _____________ not well received by Roman officials at first

► Roman Emperors ____________ Christianity and ____________ Christians
  ▪ _____________ – punish a group because of its beliefs

► Despite Romans trying to eliminate _____________, it continues to grow

► _____________ – Roman Emperor Constantine converts to Christianity

► Eventually, Christianity is official _____________ of Roman Empire
Empire is rich and powerful soon becomes powerful as well

Roman Empire adopts laws that are similar to Christian ideals

Eastern Roman Empire forbids from learning Christian religion

begin to appear in Christianity

- (East) and Roman (West)

As time goes on, Christians gain more and more

- Christian rulers show up all over
- Make the official religion of their countries

Christianity sets up a capital city in: City

Christian leaders want to control the

The send warriors to try and capture it from the Jews and

- Called

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Most famous protestor–

- Luther is responsible for

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- Called Religions

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