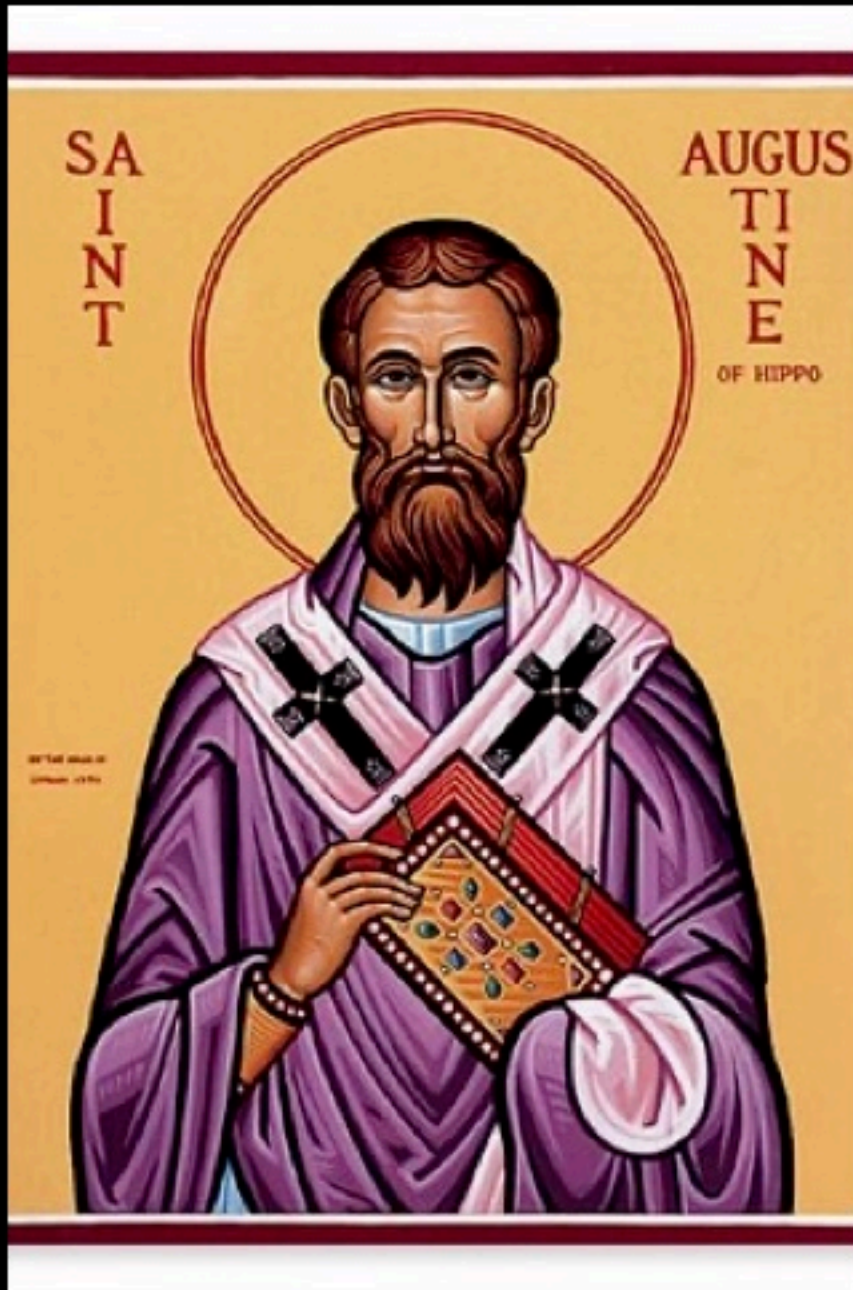


**CLOUD OF WITNESSES
CHURCH HISTORY
WEEK 5**



**Augustine
354-430**

Student/teacher of rhetoric

**Had a long journey
towards the faith**

Became Bishop of Hippo

Refuted Pelagianism

***Confessions & City of God* plus
tons of other writings**

Manichaeism

Persian adaptation of Christianity, which added in Gnosticism, Zoroastrianism, speculative philosophy and superstition.

Each human there were two principles, light and dark.

Dark has been fighting to defeat the light.

Everything from the waist down is part of darkness.

**Everything from the waist up is the kingdom
of light**

**Salvation consists in separating the two
elements, and in preparing our spirit for its
return to the realm of pure light**

**Manichaeism was the belief system of the
intelligent**

They ridiculed the Bible.

"I was saying these things and weeping in the most bitter contrition of my heart, when suddenly I heard the voice of a boy or a girl (I know not which) – coming from the neighboring house, chanting over and over again. 'Take up and read, take up and read.'"

"I wanted to read no further, nor did I need to. For instantly, as the sentence ended, there was infused in my heart something like the light of full certainty and all the gloom of doubt vanished away."

Pelagian Controversy

Pelagius was a monk from Britain who was famous for his piety

Sin was a result of ignorance of what is right and sin is learned by example

He claimed humans could live a sinless life

He believed that humans are free to act righteously

He did not believe we needed the special enabling power of the Holy Spirit

Pelagius saw the Christian life as a constant effort through which one's sins could be overcome and salvation attained

Pelagius was a moralist- concerned with promoting strong moral attitudes and behaviors in the church

**Where do we hear this kind of talk today?
And how do we answer this charge?**

Augustine's Refutation

Augustine said no one could provide the moral effort to save themselves, because all are dead in sin

Pelagius viewed salvation as a life preserver

Augustine said we can't grab the life preserver because we are a dead corpse

The only way we could be saved is if God jumps in and drags the person to shore and brings them back to life

**The Fall of Adam has so corrupted all of
man, that all man could do is sin**

**The only thing we could choose is the thing
we wanted most, sin**

**We could not choose God unless his grace
intervened in our lives, and made us
spiritually alive**

Augustine's Impact

**Gave us reflection on how to talk and think
about God**

**Augustine's doctrine of man as sinner who is
in need of radical grace is central to
understanding Scripture**

Augustine is considered the Doctor of Grace

**The grace of God transforms our hearts that
effectively moves us to obey God for
salvation**

**We need not be worried and distraught if we
depend on God**

***"You have made us for yourself [O God], and
our hearts are restless, until they find rest in
you."***

The Medieval Church

**An 1,000 year or so experiment in building a
Christian civilization**

Emperor Justinian
482-565
(527 – 565)

His reign would set the stage for the Eastern Empire

First Christian emperor really determined that there would be uniformity in the empire on the matter of orthodoxy

Had a great building program to build great churches to honor God

Built Hagia Sophia in 537

**Great administrator, he saw to the
codification of the Roman law**

**This became the foundation of much legal
theory in the whole medieval period**

**Tried to retake control of Italy, but could not
retake it all**

**Gregory
540-604**

**590, Gregory the Great became pope of
Rome**

**Would make a huge impact on the authority
of the Roman Catholic church**

**Began to change the idea of grace received
from Augustine**

Grace starts in baptism and one must hold onto this grace throughout life

Launched a huge missionary effort to convert the people of Britain and the Arian tribes of Europe

He began an effort to convert Europe and begin a Christian civilization

Also insisted on the superiority of Rome over all other Christian sees

Struggle Between Pope and Emperor

The church in the East was ruled by an emperor. This is called caesaropapism

Any emperor was to submit to the Pope in spiritual and temporal matters

The pope crowned Charlemagne as emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in 800AD

**Charlemagne wasn't happy as this would
leave the impression he received the Empire
from the pope**

Of course the pope was happy

**The pope was operating on the basis of a
document called the Donation of
Constantine**

**The document said that Constantine had
donated the Western half of the Empire to
be ruled by the pope**

**Ironically, the pope who wanted superiority
over the emperor, got his superiority from
the emperor**

**The document was a fake, made around
750AD**

**But the pope didn't hesitate to use it to
show his power**

Slow Divide between East and West

EAST

The Emperors were tied with the church

East spoke and wrote Greek

**The East was more mystical and focused on
piety and worship**

**The East focused more on a cooperative
view of salvation**

WEST

Rome and the pope would steadily gain power

The West spoke and wrote Latin

Focused on theological issues that were more practical

Emphasized grace and a God-alone view of salvation

The Filioque Controversy

...We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified...

Filioque is latin for, *and the son*

No one knows when the filioque clause was first added to the creed but it became official in the West in 589

**The East said who is Rome to add or change
an official creed that has been accepted by
the church worldwide without consent from
others?**

**The West said the pope had the authority to
change the creed**

The Schism of 1054

**Patriarch of Constantinople
excommunicated the pope**

**The pope's delegates excommunicated the
patriarch and all those in league with him**

**Historians say this is when the Great United
church had now split into two churches**

**The Eastern Orthodox (right belief)
Roman Catholic (universal) Churches.**

Reasons For Split

Rome's claim to supremacy

Distinction of language

Distinction in philosophy

Filioque

Who has final authority?

**Rome would continue to assert its authority
and gain more power**