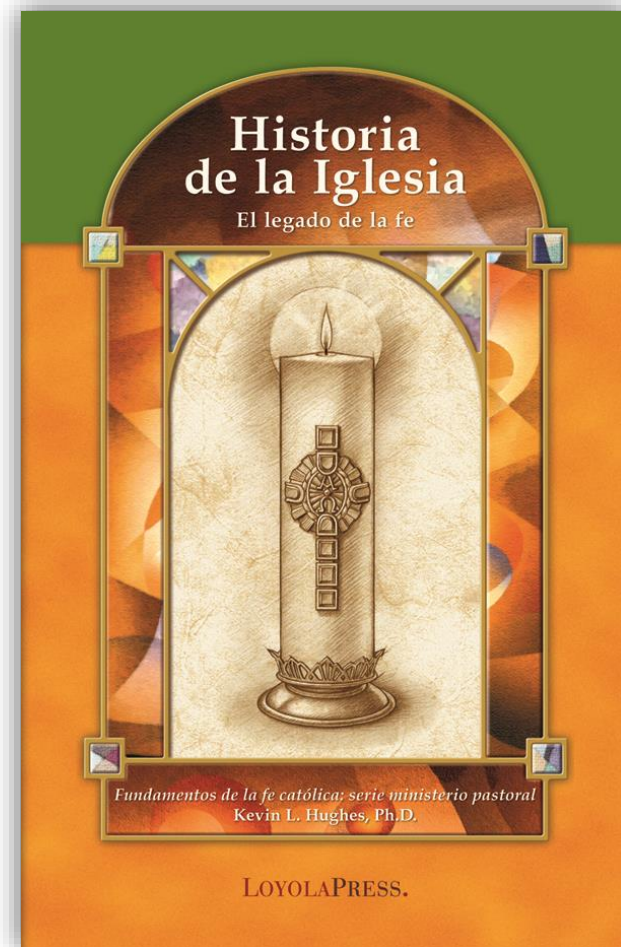


# The History of the Church: A Legacy of Faith



# Introduction

- There is history that belongs to us, and of which we are a part
- Nobody can exist without history –as a science–
- It's not possible to exist without personal history
- The two histories (salvation and the other one) are not separate; they are one and the same
- The history of one's nation as an identity
- The history we are writing together here and now in the United States

# Possible Prejudices

- Temptations regarding the study of the Church's history: black or white
- Chapters in public glory and embarrassment
- It's not just a history of an institution, but of our own family
- Christianity is the only religion that includes its own sins in its official history

# What is the History of the Church?

- Gather evidence, analyze it, interpret it, and put it in order
- It's an ordered narrative of facts with one main goal: to edify faith and bring about self-awareness.
- It's a history of "Christianity" in which the Church's path is told.
- Three stages:
  - Spreading the Gospels
  - Purposeful interpretation of the Gospels
  - Specific moments in the path of the Church
- Must be done from different fields.

# Chapter I: Formation of Faith

- The Gospels as history, not historiography.
- Acts of the Apostles: the history of a young Church
- Paul's dilemma: Christians and Jews in the 1<sup>st</sup> century
- Natives y strangers: was this the first Catholic Church?

# Chapter I: Formation of Faith

- Marcion of Sinope: conflict regarding the Christian Biblical canon.
- Montanism: a question of authority
- Gnosticism: questions about true doctrine
- Rome against the Christians: History of Perpetua
- Weaving the fabric: birth of the Catholic Church

# Chapter 2: Faith is Established

- Edict of Toleration, Galerius, 311 A.D.
- Edict of Milan, Constantine, 313 A.D.
- Church: from persecuted to protected
- Christianity: from domestic religion to religion of the state
- Tolerance and opposition
- Search for purity in a tepid Church

# Chapter 2: Faith is Established

- Arian controversy
- Establishment and collapse
- Eastern Christianity, after Arianism
  - The Christological question
- Western Christianity after Ambrosius
  - St. Augustine and his adversaries
- The Church at the end of the empire



# Chapter 3: Christian Faith

- Beginning of the medieval world (500 – 700 A.D.)
- The monastic world in the West
  - Friar Benito and his rules for monks
- Carolingian Renaissance and Christian ideals (800 – 1000 A.D.)
- Gregorian Reform (1050 – 1120 A.D.)
  - The Pope as a father to the world
- High Middle Ages (1100 – 1300 A.D.)

# Chapter 4: Faith Divided

- What are schisms?
- Which are the most notable ones?
- What is a schismatic (person or movement)?

# Chapter 4: Faith Divided

- The popes of Avignon and the Great Schism
- Papal indulgences and laical piety
- Tension regarding the indulgences
- Formation of clergy
- Liturgical excess
- Biblical ignorance
- Construction of St. Peter's Basilica

# Protestant Reformation

- Martin Luther: intellectual and pastor
- The 95 Theses
- Reading schemes
- Bible reading in Protestant Tradition
- Church pews
- Deuterocanonicals in Protestant tradition
- Variety of Reformations

# Council of Trent

- Contribution of the Council of Trent
  - An innovative Council
  - Reaction to the Reform
  - Definition of Biblical canon
  - Seven sacraments
  - Approval of liturgical books
  - Theology of transubstantiation
  - Latin as the official language
  - Prohibition of Bible reading
- Reformation and Counter-Reformation

# Chapter 5: Faith in a New World

- St. Ignatius of Loyola and his “way of proceeding”
- Asian missionaries
- Missionaries in the American continent
  - Franciscans
  - Jesuits
  - Augustinians
  - Dominicans

# Discovery of America

- Controversy
- Importing the Christian European faith
- A religious people, with identity
- The influence of the religious orders
- The great missionaries
- The Jesuits in South America
- The process of indoctrination
- December 12, 1531

# The Church in USA

- African-American presence in the Catholic Church in the United States
- Hispanic presence
  - California missionaries
  - Father Eusebio Kino, S.J.
  - The Republic of Texas
  - The social question
  - Formation of leadership
  - Meetings: birth of theology and pastoral activity



# Hispanic Presence

- Documents of the Bishops
- Leaders
  - César Chávez
  - Archbishop Lucey
  - Archbishop Patricio Flores
  - Archbishop José H. Gómez

# Hispanic Theology

- Father Virgilio Elizondo
  - As a pastor and his activities
  - As a theologian and his theology
  - Crossbreeding and Guadalupanism “on the other side”
  - Influence on theological thinking
  - Disciples
    - Allan Figueroa-Deck, S.J.
    - Eduardo Fernández, S.J.

# World at War

- Europe in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century
- The Catholic Church on the eve of the French Revolution
  - A Movement for liberty, peace and equality
  - Predominance of reason over faith
  - Anti-Catholicism
  - Reason takes over... in science and philosophy

# Chapter 6: Faith in Revolutionary Times

- The Church and the scientific revolution
- French Revolution and the United States
- French Catholicism
- Pius IX: Reform and reaction
- “Americanism”
- Mexican Revolution: first revolution of the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- American Catholicism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

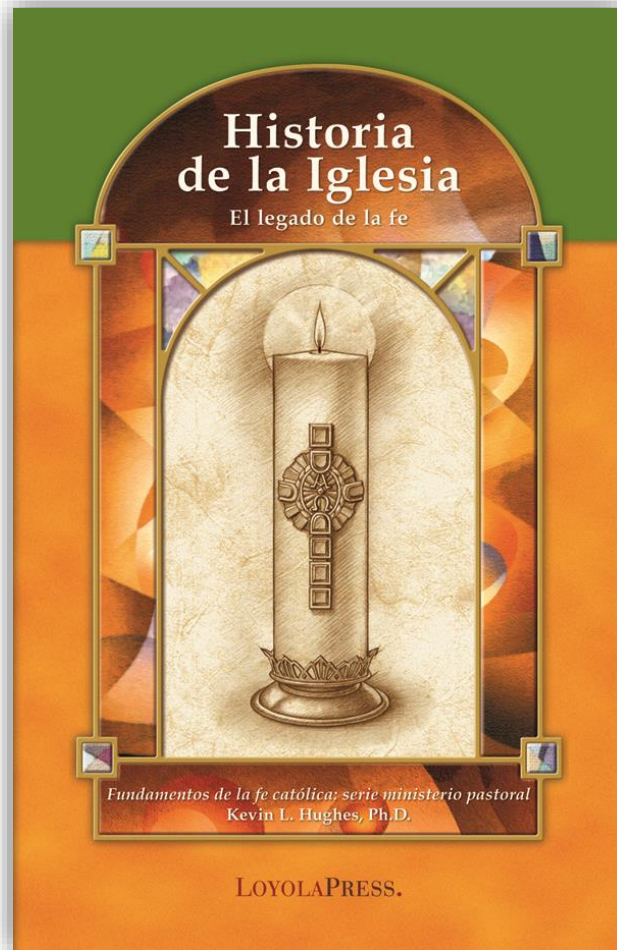
# Hispanic Presence in the USA

- Number of Catholics
- 50% of Catholic population in the US
  - Diocese of San Bernardino: challenge
  - California: two out of every three births will be Hispanic (2020)
- Growing number of Hispanic bishops
- Ecclesiastic movements
- The challenge of Protestantism and evangelical Churches

# Conclusion

- Second Vatican Council
- Liturgical Reform
- Laical participation in ecclesial life
- A Church in constant movement
- A Church in constant reform
- The Church is still the mystical body of Christ and the new Israel.
- We are the Church

# Our text



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