



## Church History Post Class Assignment

The Apostle Paul tells the Corinthians, "For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received" (1 Cor. 15:3). The Christian tradition has always consisted of first receiving a tradition from those who came before us, and then handing on that tradition to others who follow us. As you think of the four major eras of the Christian tradition covered by Hillerbrand's book-- 1. The First Four Centuries, 2. The Medieval Church in the West, 3. The Western Church Divides: The Protestant Reformation, and 4. The New Challenge: Modernity (which for this paper will include Christianity in the Americas-- what is the element of the Christian tradition of each era that you would want to hand on to others, and why? What is the aspect of the tradition of each era that you would not want to hand on to others, and why? Please devote one paragraph to each question for each era, so that your paper is at least four but no longer than five pages. You should examine the primary sources in the back of the book (pp. 358-401) as well as the main chapters in developing the answer to the question for each era.

Please refer to the text as you make your arguments, by page number at the end of the sentence, i.e., "And this is why I would not want this part of the tradition to be handed on to others" (351).

Your paper would therefore have the following outline:

The First Four Centuries:

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would want to hand on, and why

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would not want handed on, and why

The Medieval Church in the West:

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would want to hand on, and why

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would not want handed on, and why

The Church Divides: The Protestant Reformation:

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would want to hand on, and why

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would not want handed, and why

The New Challenge: Modernity and Christianity in the Americas:

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would want to hand on, and why

One paragraph on one element of the tradition from this era you would not want handed on, and why

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