

A Light in Darkness: Part II

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Chapter 14.

❖ Between A.D. 500 and 1000, the Church became involved in a serious power struggle that hurt the Church's ability to carry out Jesus' mission. A bishop appointed by the king was responsible to the king, not to the pope. This practice of having political leaders assign jobs to bishops and priests is called lay investiture.

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❖ The Holy Spirit called forth saints to bring the Church back to holiness and to its spiritual responsibilities. After years of lay investiture, Pope Gregory VII told King Henry IV that he would no longer be part of the Church if he continued to defy the pope. Standing barefoot in the snow, the king begged for forgiveness.

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❖ In 1054, a tragic separation happened between the Eastern Church and the Western Church. This is known as the Great Schism. Differences separated the Church, disagreements over things such as the language for the liturgy, political rivalry, and the topics of Original Sin and marriage for priests.

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❖ Excommunication means that a person is separated from the Church, especially from the Eucharist.

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❖ Since the Great Schism, present-day popes and the Orthodox Church leaders have met to discuss reconciliation. We pray for this reconciliation each January during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

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❖ The Crusades began because Christians were being attacked while making pilgrimages to the Holy Land. The Crusades were expeditions, "holy wars," to regain the Holy Land. In 2000, Pope John Paul II issued an apology for the wrongs committed by some members of the Church during the Crusades.

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❖ In the 13th century, the Church established an official Catholic court, the Inquisition, to examine, investigate, and sometimes punish those accused of heresy. The Inquisition was generally successful in halting heresies, but it was known for excessive punishment.

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❖ The Franciscans were the first Mendicant Order because they were the first ones to live like Christ, without land or money. The Mendicant Orders serve as guides for spirituality and are good examples of how the Church adapts to the times.

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❖ Thomas Aquinas, a holy 13th century Dominican teacher, wrote the 21-volume work called the *Summa Theologiae* (Summary of Theology) in which he explains Catholic beliefs.

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