

# Living the Agape Life



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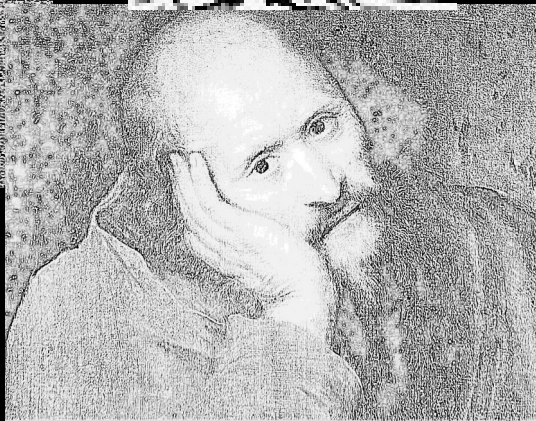
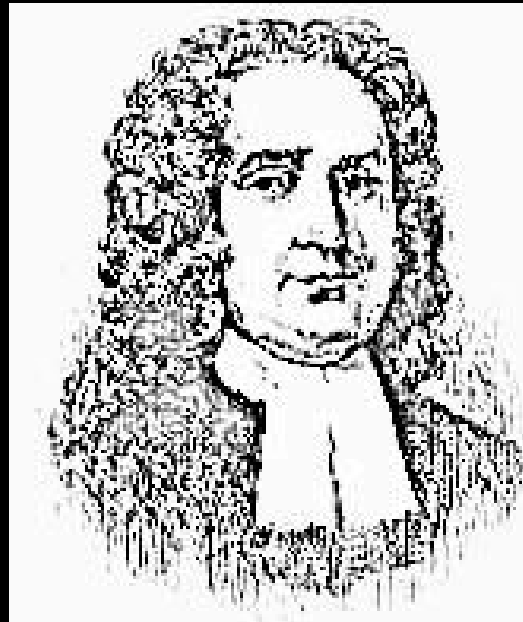
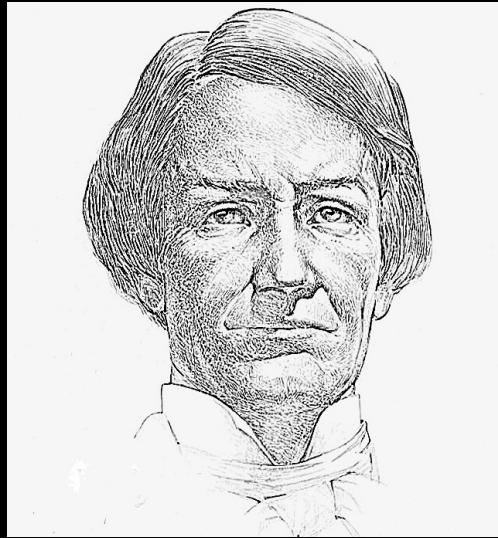
**From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond**

- I. The Early Years – Persecution and Peace**
- II. Roman Empire Declines – Roman Catholicism Rises**
- III. Bible Translation through the Centuries**
- IV. The Radical Reformation**
- V. Baptists Come to the Party**
- VI. Southern Baptists Become the Life of the Party**
- VII. Our Future and Our Legacy**



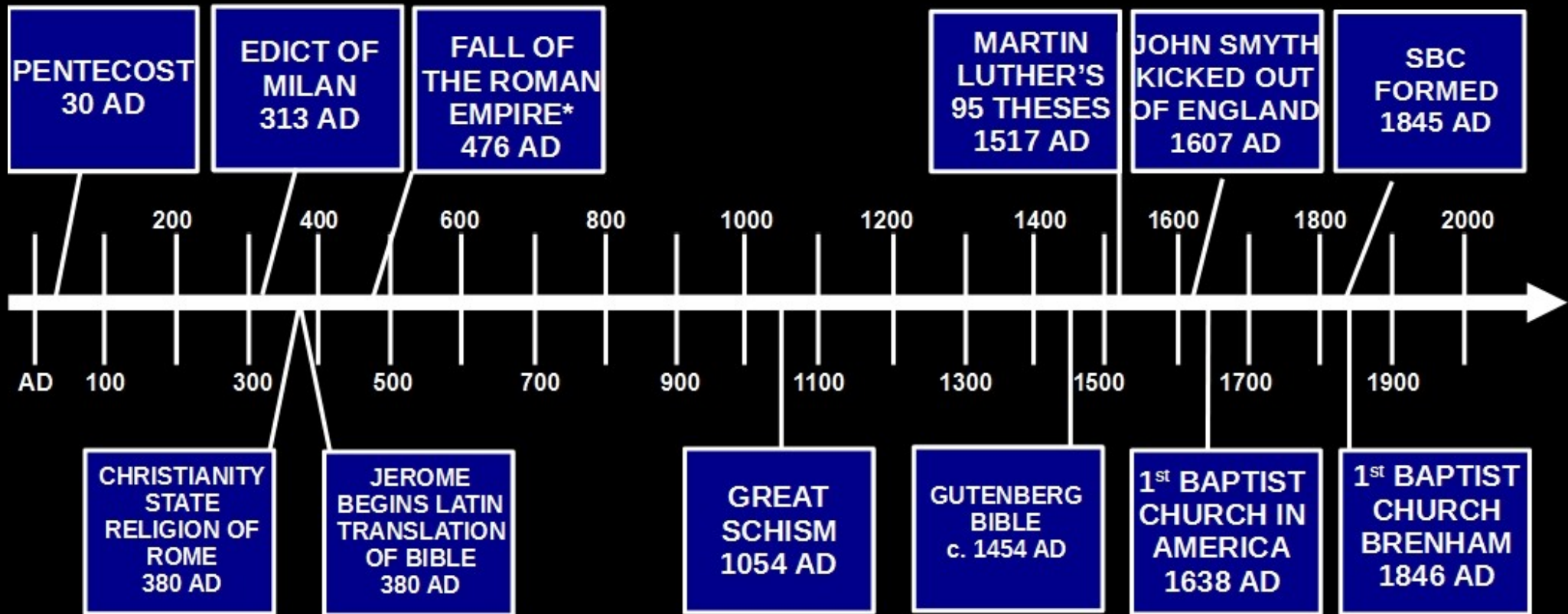


# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond



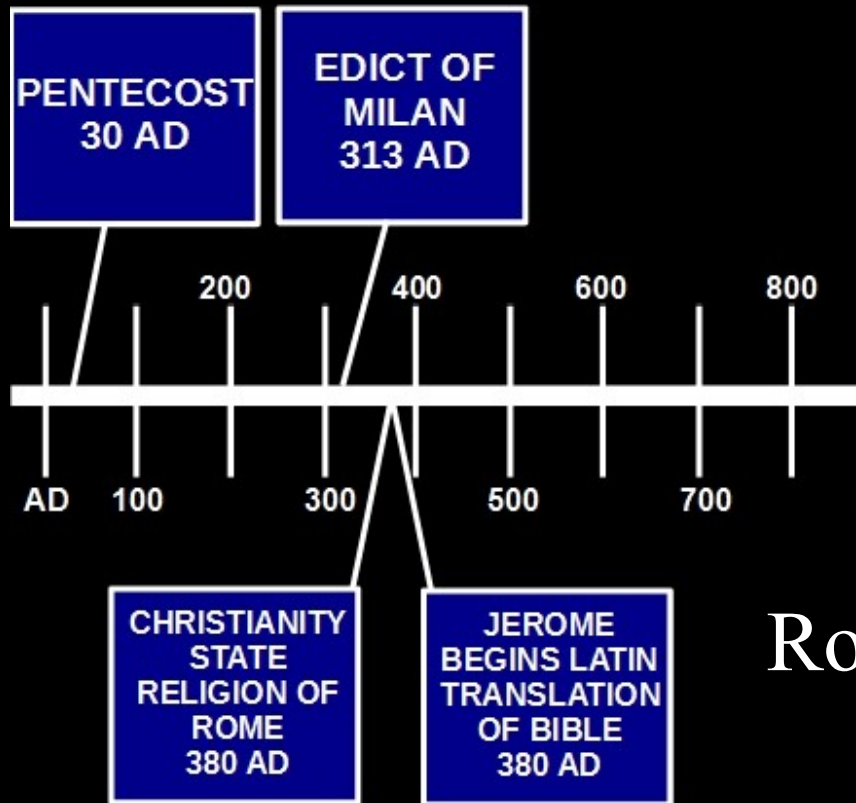


# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond



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## I. The Early Years – Persecution and Peace

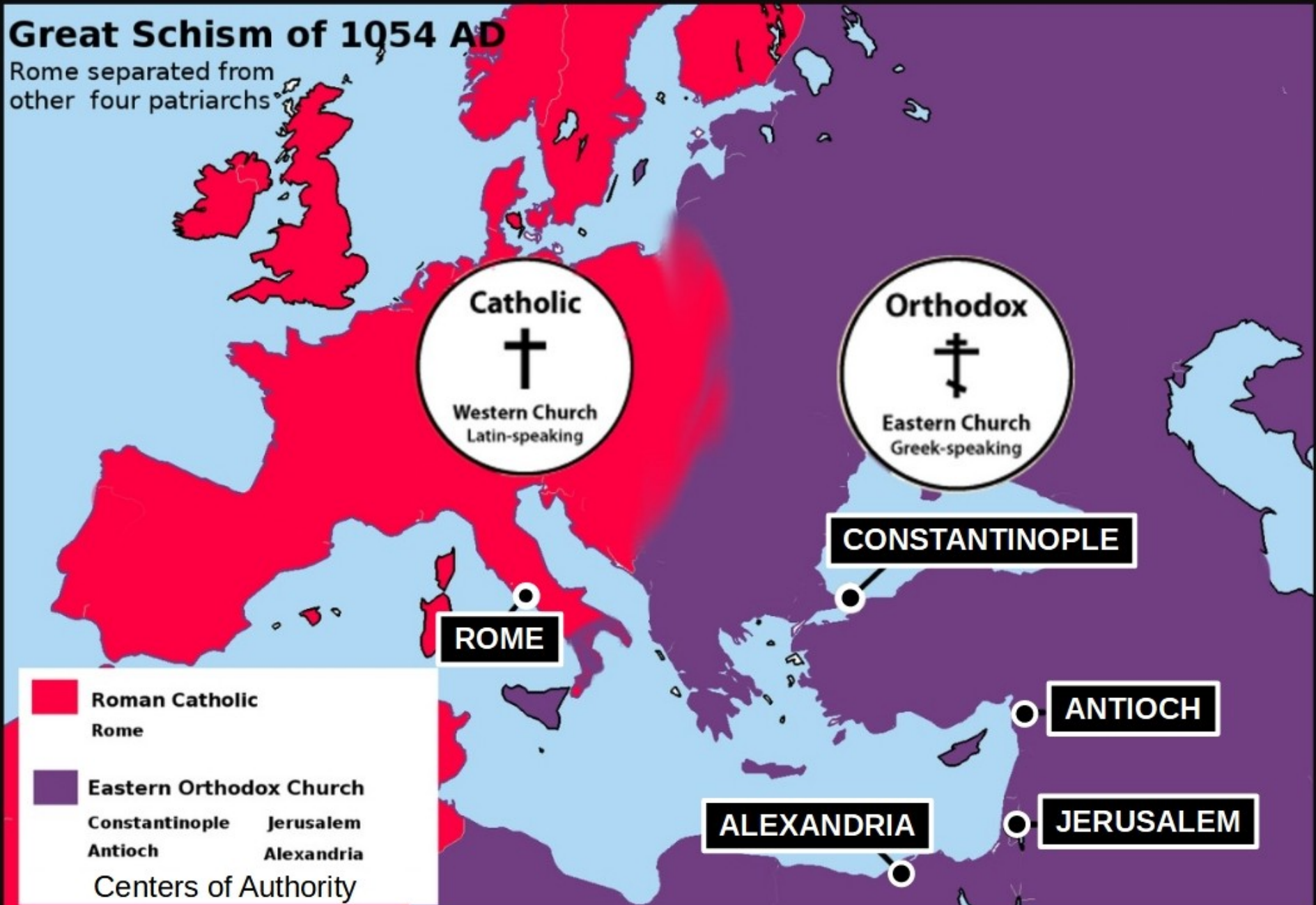


Roman persecution of Christians was sporadic through about 250 when it heated up. Constantine, in 312 after the Battle of the Milvian Bridge against Maxentius, saw Christianity in a new light.



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

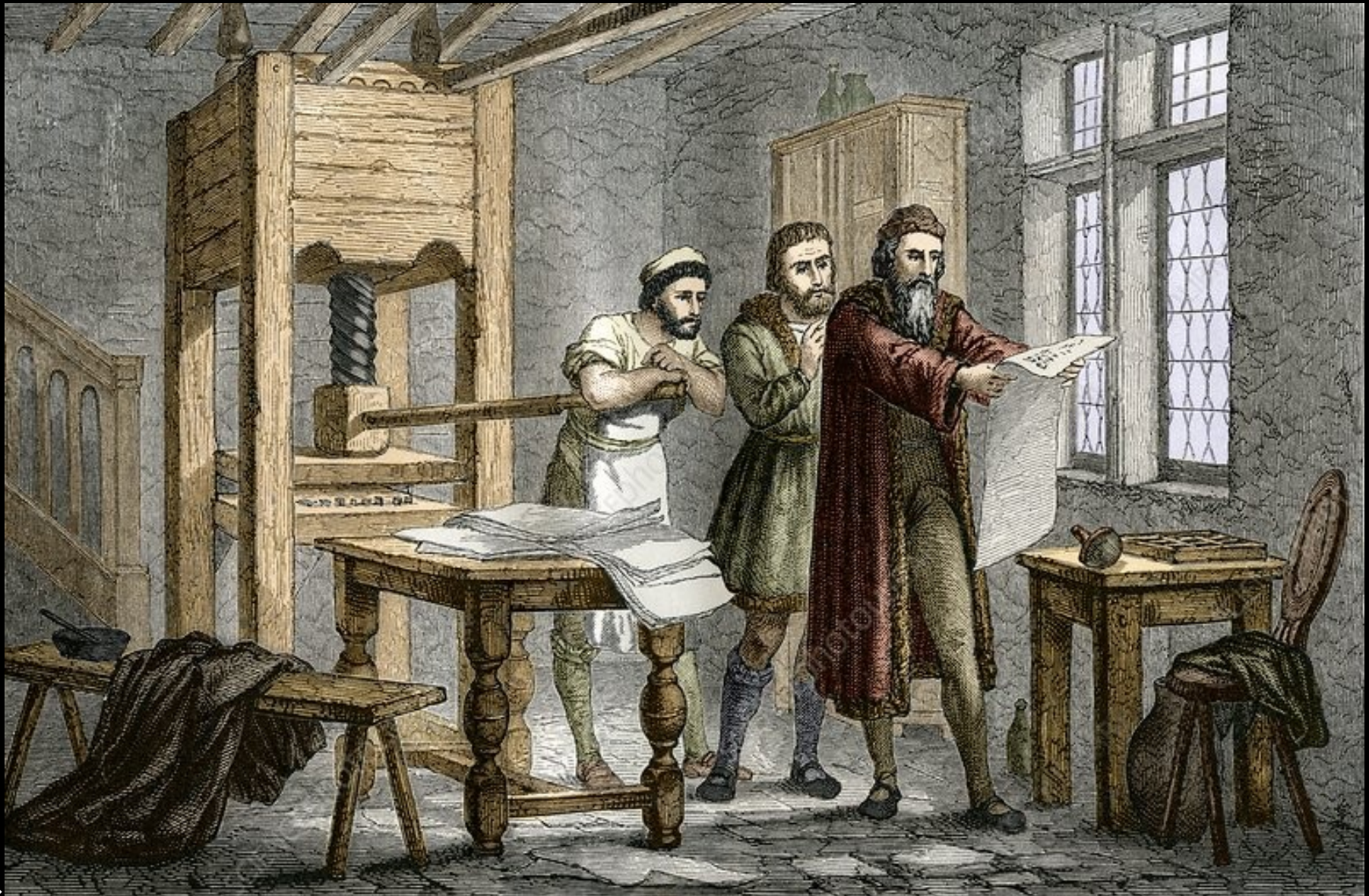
## II. Roman Empire Declines – Roman Catholicism Rises





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

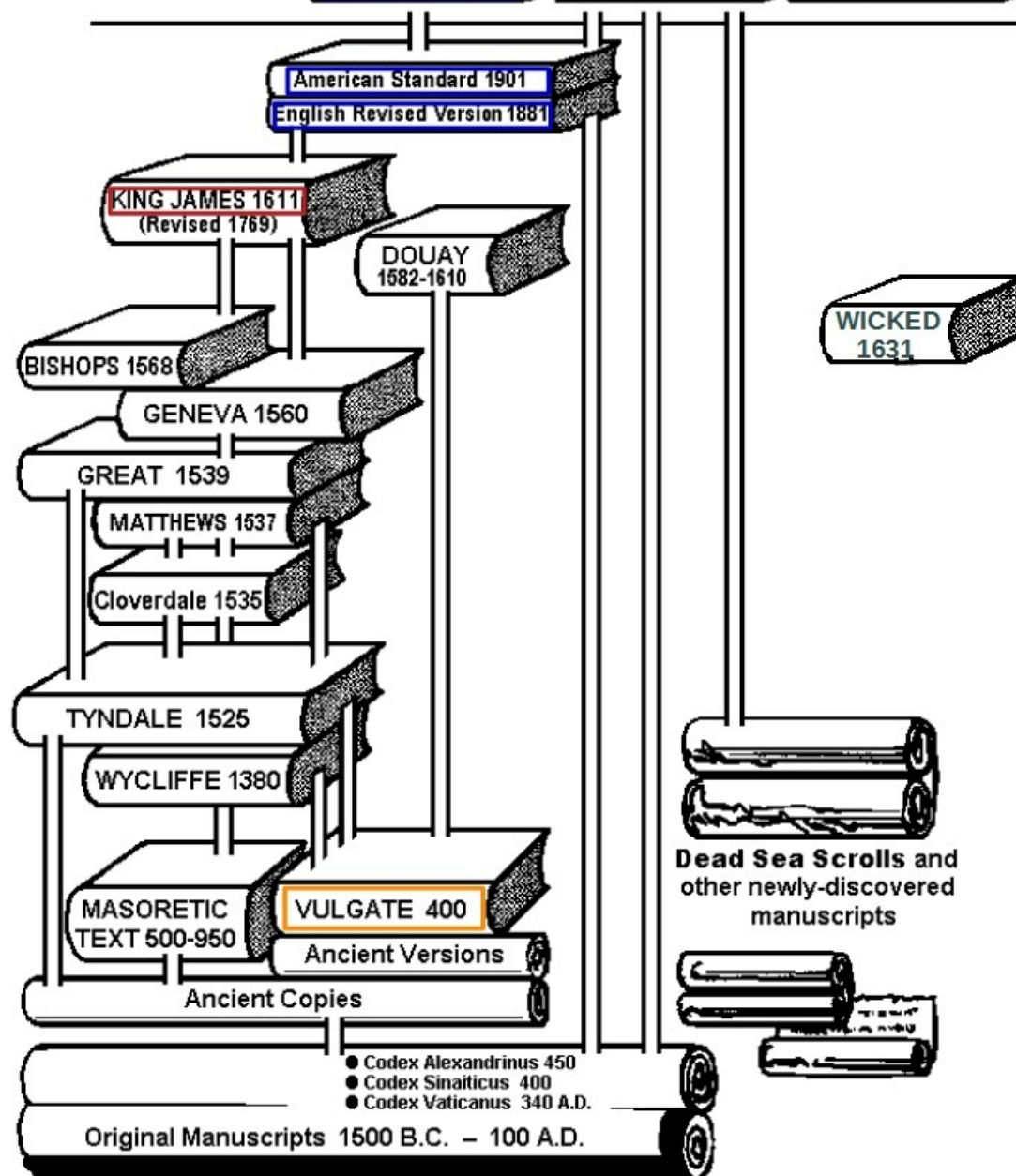
## III. Bible Translation through the Centuries





MODERN  
ENGLISH  
TRANSLATIONS

BYEV Ongoing	HCSB 2004	CSB 2017
ESV 2001	Message 2002	New Century '05
REB 1992	CEV 1995	NLT 1996
NIV 1978-84	NKJV 1982	NRSV 1989-90
NASB 1971	Living 1971	TEV/GNB 1976
Jerusalem 1966	NEB 1970	NAB 1970
RSV 1952	Berkeley MLB '59	Amplified 1965





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## IV. The Radical Reformation



## IV. The Radical Reformation

**Protestants** – protested the Roman Catholic Church rule and corruption

**Anabaptists** – began during the Reformation – adult baptism was the distinguishing belief – led to many other “denominations” such as Mennonites and Hutterites





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## IV. The Radical Reformation

### Meanwhile in England:

Henry VIII – 1534 – created the Church of England

Bloody Mary – 1553 – 1558 – Sought to force England back to Catholicism

Elizabeth I – 1558-1603 – Sought to restore religious tolerance in England

James 1 – 1603-1625 – King James Bible 1611 – contained all 80 books (including Apocrypha)

Puritans – wanted to purify the Church of England

Separatists – wanted to separate from the Church of England



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

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## IV. The Radical Reformation

**Baptists are thought to have originated in England in the early 1600's among the Puritans and did not consider themselves protestants, but Rome considered them protestants.**

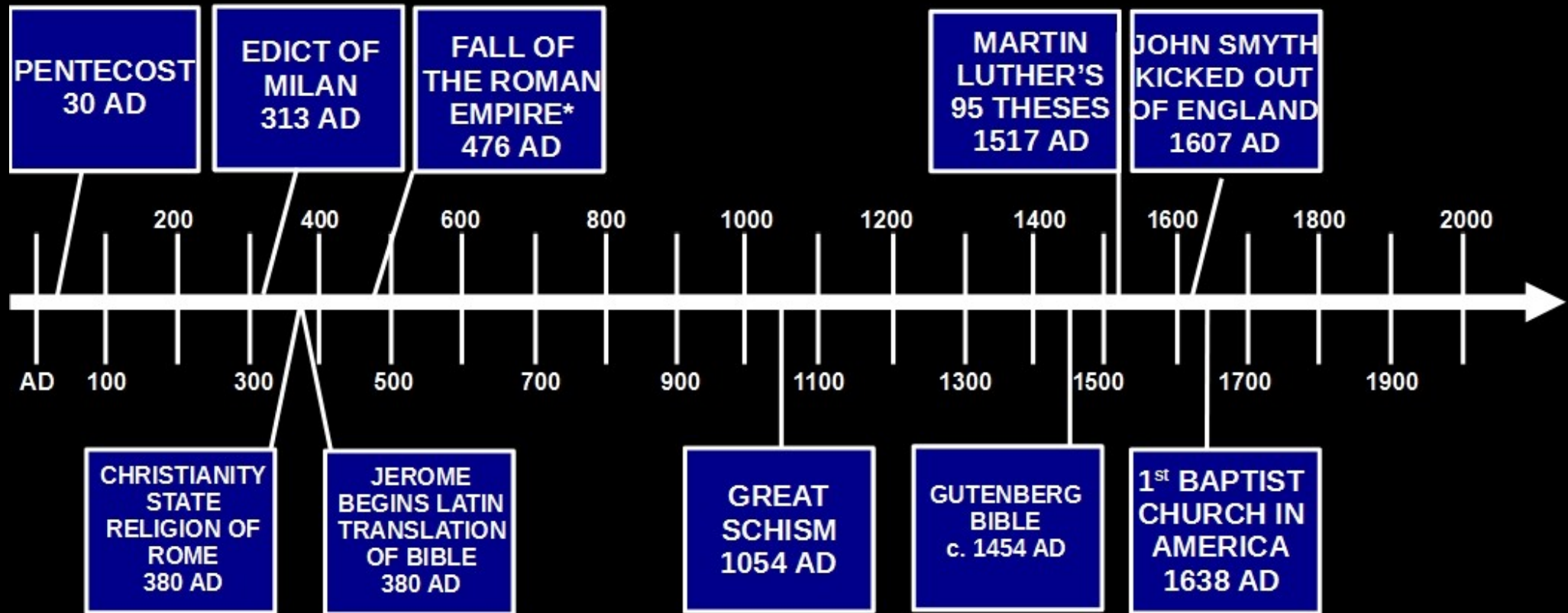
**Their theology was influenced by Anabaptist theology concerning adult baptism and church/state connections, but there are no links between Baptists and Anabaptists except for John Smyth who visited with an Anabaptist group. He was influenced somewhat by their teachings.**





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptist Come to the Party



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptists Come to the Party



**Began as a puritan and then  
became a separatist**

**Kicked out of England – 1607**

**Set up shop in the Netherlands**

**Met up with the Anabaptists**

**Started as a Particular Baptist  
and then changed to  
General Baptist**

**Organized, with Thomas  
Helwys, the first Baptist  
Church in 1609**





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

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## V. Baptist Come to the Party

**Calvinism**  
(Particular Baptists)

**Total Depravity**  
**Unconditional Election**  
**Limited Atonement**  
**Irresistible Grace**  
**Perseverance of the**  
**Saints**

**Arminianism**  
(General Baptists)

**Total Depravity**  
**Conditional Election**  
**Unlimited Atonement**  
**Resistible Grace**  
**Conditional Security**



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

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## V. Baptist Come to the Party

### Calvinists

John Calvin  
Roger Williams  
Jonathan Edwards  
John Knox  
George Whitefield  
Charles Spurgeon  
Charles Swindoll  
John MacArthur

### Arminians

Jacob Arminius  
John Smyth  
John & Charles Wesley  
Charles Finney  
Dwight Moody  
C. S. Lewis  
Billy Graham  
Rick Warren





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptists Come to the Party

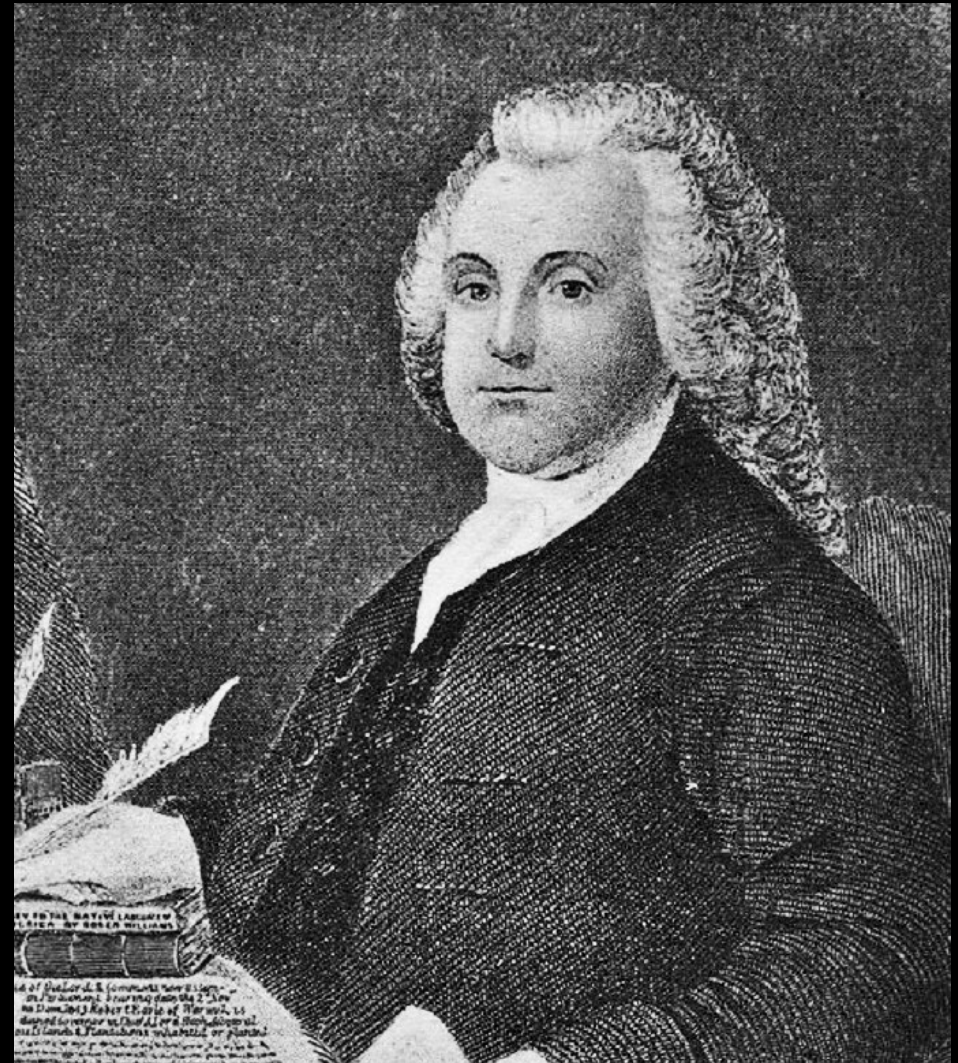
**Was a Particular Baptist**

**Fought for Religious Liberty**

**Didn't want taxes to support  
the established religion**

**Believed land of Native  
Americans should not be  
taken**

**Forced to leave Salem – moved  
to Providence to establish the  
First Baptist Church in  
America – 1638**

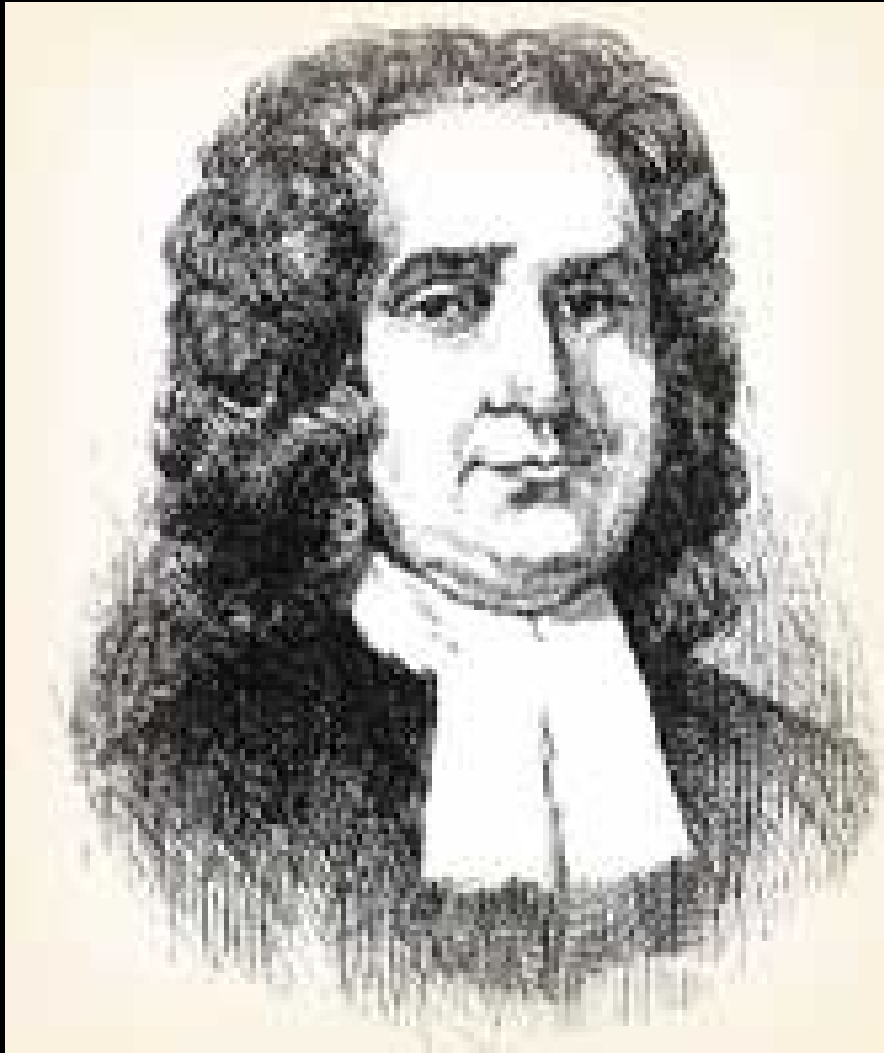


**Roger Williams**



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptists Come to the Party



**Worked as a glass maker in Plymouth and gathered some Baptists together where he taught against infant baptism**

**A grand jury – including William Bradford, John Alden and Miles Standish – indicted him for heresy**

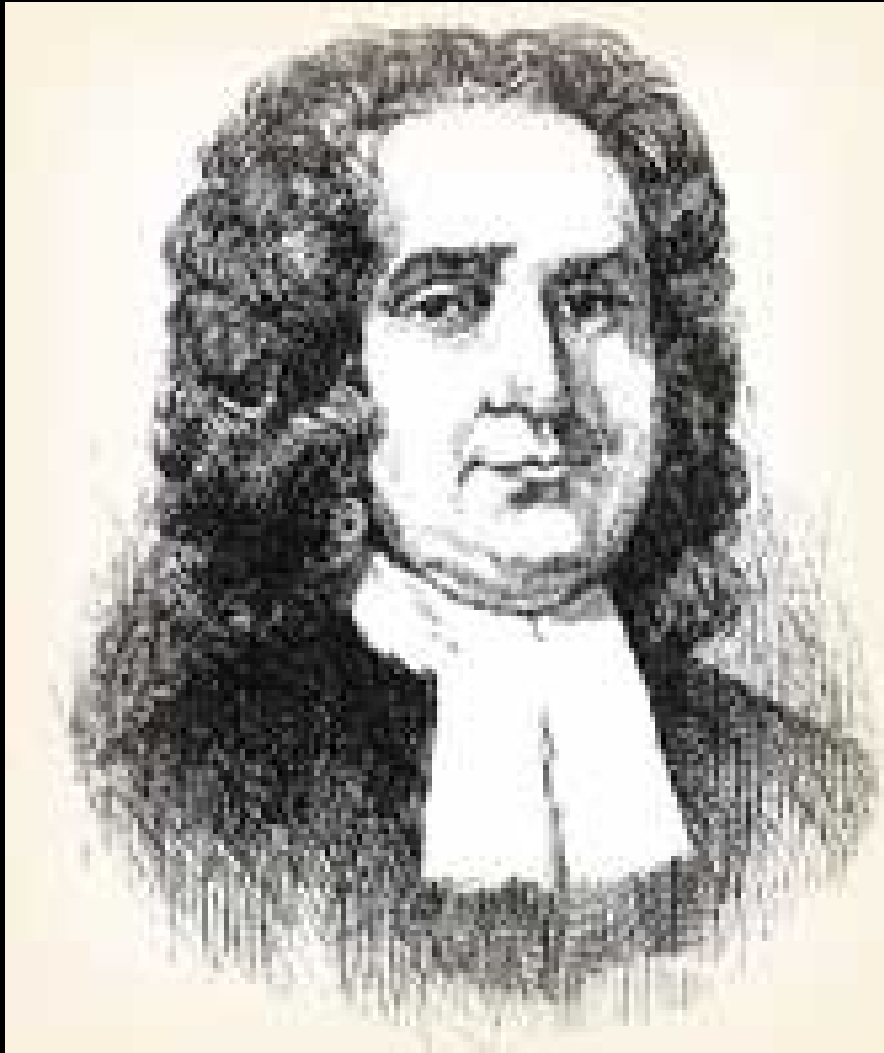
**After the indictment he moved to Newport, R.I.**

## Obadiah Holmes



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptists Come to the Party



**He, John Crandall & John Clarke  
advocated for religious freedom**

**They went to Lynn, MA where they  
were arrested for heresy – 1651**

**Crandall & Clarke paid their fines  
but Holmes refused**

**He was sentenced to 30 lashes**

**Roger Williams spoke out about  
this attrocity**

**His great-great-great-great-great-  
grandson was Abraham Lincoln**

# Obadiah Holmes





# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

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## V. Baptists Come to the Party

**“The magistrate is not by virtue of his office to meddle with religion, or matters of conscience.” - John Smyth**

**“All civil states, with their officers of justice, in their respective constitutions and administrations, are proved essentially civil, and therefore not judges, governors, or defenders of the spiritual, or Christian, state and worship.” - Roger Williams**

**Baptist preacher John Leland, a friend to both Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, helped ensure the inclusion of the First Amendment in the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing religious liberty.**



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## V. Baptists Come to the Party

### First Amendment

**Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.**

### Danbury Baptist Association – Connecticut – 1801

**Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature would "make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.**

**- Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States**



# From 30 AD to 2023 AD and Beyond

## VI. Southern Baptists Become the Life of the Party

