

# God's Prevailing Work

## Scope & Sequence for Volume 1: AD 30–1517

Chapter	Objectives	Notable Points
<b>1. Life in the Early Church</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate continuity between the early and modern church</li> <li>• Emphasize the love and unity central to biblical descriptions of the church</li> <li>• Discuss the priorities of the early church, comparing them with Christian activity today</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Apostles</li> <li>• Papias</li> <li>• Tertullian</li> </ul>
<b>2. The Persecuted Church</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the basis for Christian persecution, along with examples in the early church</li> <li>• Discuss common responses to persecution, as well as the view encouraged by Scripture</li> <li>• Note ways that God can turn the evils of persecution toward good</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polycarp</li> <li>• The Early Persecutions</li> </ul>
<b>3. Living in the World</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss ways Christians have related with the world</li> <li>• Discern appropriate ways to respond to opposition from unbelievers</li> <li>• Challenge students to develop an answer for their hope in Christ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Anthony</li> <li>• The Apologists</li> </ul>
<b>4. From Persecution to Privilege</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain how Christianity became a legal religion in the Roman Empire</li> <li>• Discuss the benefits of religious freedom</li> <li>• Examine some dangers of religious privilege</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constantine</li> <li>• Eusebius of Nicomedia</li> <li>• The Edicts of Milan and Thessalonica</li> </ul>
<b>5. Heresies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe some of the heresies faced by the early church</li> <li>• Review biblical teaching on heresies and false teachers</li> <li>• Briefly note major ecumenical councils</li> <li>• Discuss the response to major heresies, including God-given opportunities to clarify truth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ecumenical Councils</li> <li>• The Nicene Creed</li> </ul>
<b>6. No Earthly City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce the life and work of Augustine</li> <li>• Note the distinctions between what Augustine called earthly and heavenly cities</li> <li>• Discuss Augustine's later controversies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Augustine</li> <li>• The Sack of Rome</li> </ul>
<b>7. To the Regions Beyond</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce several early Christian missionaries, including the ministry of Patrick</li> <li>• Note the importance of the Great Commission</li> <li>• Discuss the nature and goals of biblical discipleship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrick</li> <li>• Boniface</li> <li>• Cyril and Methodius</li> </ul>

Chapter	Objectives	Notable Points
<b>8. Light for the Dark Ages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note God’s use of monasteries to preserve His Word</li> <li>• Introduce the split between the Eastern and Western Churches</li> <li>• Explain the foundations of the Holy Roman Empire</li> <li>• Emphasize God’s sovereignty over governments and leaders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcuin</li> <li>• Charlemagne</li> <li>• John Asser</li> </ul>
<b>9. Christendom Divided</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the causes and catalyst for the Great Schism</li> <li>• Review attitudes that lead to conflict in the church</li> <li>• Discuss essential points of agreement for Christian unity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pope Leo IX</li> <li>• Humbert</li> <li>• Kasia</li> </ul>
<b>10. The Crusades</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the origin and early expansion of Islam</li> <li>• Define a crusade</li> <li>• Review biblical teaching on Christians and warfare</li> <li>• Outline several crusades and their impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pope Urban II</li> <li>• Pope Innocent III</li> </ul>
<b>11. Out of the Cloister</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the growing divisions between clergy and laity in the Middle Ages</li> <li>• Explain the rise and mission of mendicant orders</li> <li>• Discuss the importance of service to the Christian life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dominic de Guzmán</li> <li>• Francis of Assisi</li> </ul>
<b>12. A Turbulent Darkness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the difficulties of fourteenth-century Europe</li> <li>• Explain the origin and course of the Western Schism</li> <li>• Discuss the impact of the Council of Constance</li> <li>• Introduce the teachings of John Wycliffe and John Hus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Avignon Papacy</li> <li>• Catherine of Siena</li> <li>• John Wycliffe</li> <li>• John Hus</li> </ul>
<b>13. The Light of the Word</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the state of the Roman Catholic Church at the beginning of the sixteenth century</li> <li>• Discuss the centrality of Scripture to the dawning Reformation</li> <li>• Note a few significant figures of the early Reformation</li> </ul>	<p>Briefly introduces . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pope Leo X</li> <li>• The Council of Trent</li> <li>• Erasmus</li> <li>• Ulrich Zwingli</li> <li>• Martin Luther</li> </ul>