

*freedom  
political wrangles*

- and weaker and eventually falling to the Turks.
- b. Together Constantine and Licinius gave the Edict of Milan in 313..giving Christianity legal status and in many ways introducing it as a state religion. The state accepted the church and the church accepted the patronage of the state. No doubt a bad arrangement but if you had been there awaiting torture or martyrdom you might not have thought it so bad.
  - c. Great waves of dissent were soon apparent in the church as every ecclesiastical party sought the favor of the state. Church leaders began to look for imperial advancement and political power. The little band of believers had become a hotbed for troublemakers.
  - d. The results of the Edict of Milan, et al, were that there was greater freedom for Christians, less total commitment to the Lord, and a lot more seeking for prestige and power. Many great servants of God served in this period...they were often at variance with the "powers that were."

3. **The Mediaeval Period** (476-1500) There are several sub-divisions to this period but in a short course you just have to believe me....there is no time to demonstrate.

- a. The Fall of Rome...it happened over a period of years and to a large degree the internal collapse enabled the coming of the external conquest. What is most noteworthy is that the church in Rome survived and the city of Rome survived. Lots of intrigue in this and I cannot resist telling some of the events.
- b. Politics east and west...Well, in the east the empire continued until 1453 AD. A host of rulers of varying skill governed the Empire and the church became increasingly dependent on the state. There was a very complete fusion of the position of the emperor and the ruling patriarch of the church. In the west the church will grow stronger...it has to in order to survive while in the east the church grows weaker, increasingly dependent on a mercurial government.
- c. Missions in this period are important:
  - "Greek" missions
  - "Celtic" (followers of Patrick)
  - "Roman"

*developing authority  
mission zeal  
sacramental  
syncretism*

*Cybil  
Methodism*

*Russia  
Luther*