

Some kind of a figure showing

REDUCTION IN THE AREA OF STUDY IN THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

(Read from the bottom and upwards)

The present church...1940 and onwards..a tiny percentage of the total Christian community

The Church in the Americas..1781-1940...about 1/3rd of the English speaking community.

The English speaking churches with only a quick look at the continent. About 1/10 of the total professed Christian community. ( 1648-1781)

The Protestant churches of western Europe with only an occasional glimpse of Rome and Greece. About 1/5 of the professed community (1520-1648)

The Roman church as distinct and separated from the Eastern church following the division of 1054 and we are now studying about 1/2 the community.

The Catholic body united east and west following the mono-physite schisms at 451 and following. The great bulk of the community is still in view.

The Catholic body after the Donatian and Novatian divisions (250-314)..the vast majority still in focus.

The Christian community..minus a couple of minor cultic groups and a syncretism or so...the whole family known as Christian from Pentecost to 250 AD. The "old catholic" church.

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This diagram (or whatever) simply shows how the study narrows from the earliest times until today when we can see only a tiny fraction of the church, whatever our other orientations may be.