

Contents



Acknowledgments 9

Introduction: The Idea of Turning Points and Reasons for
Studying the History of Christianity 11

1. The Church Pushed Out on Its Own: The Fall of Jerusalem (70) 23
 2. Realities of Empire: The Council of Nicaea (325) 47
 3. Doctrine, Politics, and Life in the Word: The Council of Chalcedon (451) 65
 4. The Monastic Rescue of the Church: Benedict's Rule (530) 83
 5. The Culmination of Christendom: The Coronation of Charlemagne (800) 107
 6. Division between East and West: The Great Schism (1054) 129
 7. The Beginnings of Protestantism: The Diet of Worms (1521) 151
 8. A New Europe: The English Act of Supremacy (1534) 175
 9. Catholic Reform and Worldwide Outreach: The Founding of the Jesuits (1540) 197
 10. The New Piety: The Conversion of the Wesleys (1738) 221
 11. Discontents of the Modern West: The French Revolution (1789) 245
 12. A Faith for All the World: The Edinburgh Missionary Conference (1910) 269
 13. Further Turning Points of the Twentieth Century 295
- Box Notes 317
Study Questions 320
Index 337