Free Methodist Church Membership Class Session 3

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A Mighty Fortress is Our God and And Can it Be, Used by permission. Center for Church Music, www.songsandhymns.org

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The History of the Church

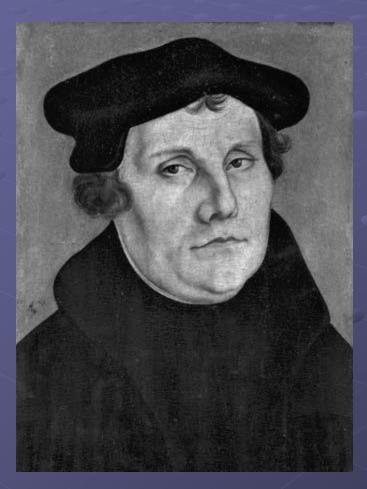
Christianity Becomes Favored



Constantine I 312 A.D.

Constantine I. [Photograph]. National Geographic Online: www.nationalgeographic.com/lostgospel/timeline_10.html Photograph copyright Guenter Rossenbach/zefa/Corbis

The Protestant Reformation



Martin Luther 1517 A.D.

Luther, Martin. [Photograph]. from Encyclopædia Britannica Online: www.britannica.com/eb/art-95194

The Methodist Church

John Wesley 1738 A.D.

And Can It Be — Charles Wesley, 1738

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood! Died he for me? who caused his pain! For me? who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

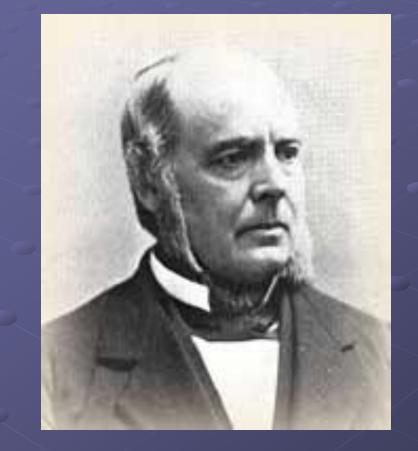
'Tis mystery all: th' Immortal dies! Who can explore his strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore; let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above so free, so infinite his grace!, emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night; thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; my chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine; alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach th' eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

The Free Methodist Church



B.T. Roberts 1860 A.D.

Reflections on Church History

1.What can we learn about God from church history?

2. How is our Free Methodist heritage different from what many evangelical churches practice and preach?

3. How is our local church doing with regard to our Free Methodist heritage?