

The History of Christianity

(taken from Eerdmans' Handbook to the History of Christianity)

Vol. 1, Issue 18

(excerpts from Robert D. Linder's introduction)

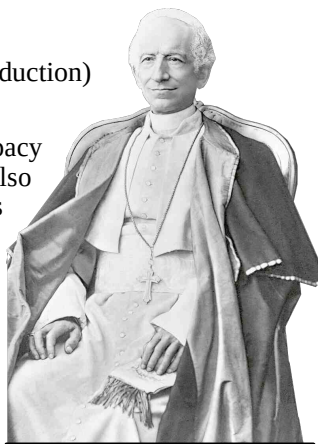
Into the twentieth century

With the coming of Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903) the papacy began to come to terms with the modern world. Leo was also the first major Christian leader to face some of the charges and concerns raised by the growing Marxist movement in Europe.

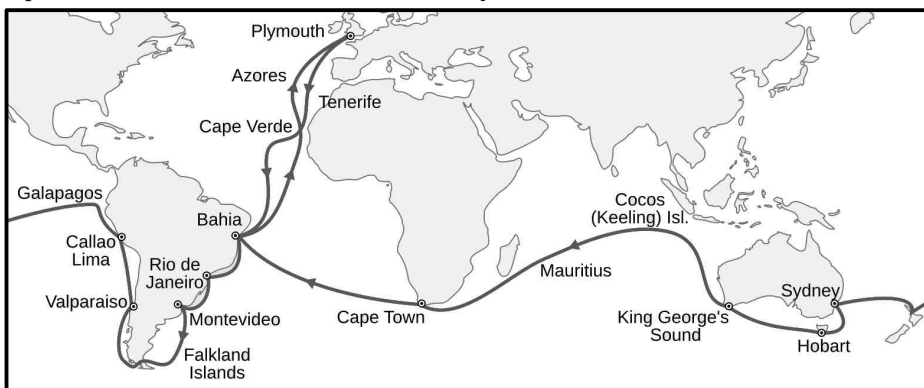
With the arrival of large numbers of Christian missionaries from Europe and America, significant minorities of believers began to appear in previously non-Christian countries. These national Christians often suffered reprisals or outright persecution from their fellow countrymen. Sometimes these outbursts of persecution and alleged mistreatment of missionaries led to European intervention in the internal affairs of non-European powers – for example, in the so-called Boxer Rebellion in China in 1900. More often, foreign missionaries simply created native Christians 'in their own image', thus making it difficult or impossible for them to continue to live in their own homelands.

As in other periods, there were intellectual attacks on Christianity in this era. Moreover science and religion seemed to draw further apart with the increasing acceptance of Charles Darwin's views on evolution in the second half of the nineteenth century. The new geology and the wider application of scientific methods to society also created new tensions – especially between Darwinism and evangelical Christianity.

Clashes between Darwinists and Christian thinkers became more and more bitter and continued well into the twentieth century. But steps were made to bring the biblical and scientific worldviews closer together. At the same time as these forces were apparently threatening the traditional strongholds of Christianity, new developments made the Christian faith more truly worldwide.



Pope Leo XIII encouraged Bible study, and made an approach to the Church of England.



Charles Darwin's round-the-world voyage on the Beagle, 1831-1836 (Graphic © Sémhur)

“Shout to the Lord!”

Psalm 100

October 12, 2025

Hartford Bible Church, Elder Bob Cobleigh

Commitment / Praise / Victory over sin

Psalm 47 – Five times the psalmist says “Sing Praises!”

Clap your hands and SHOUT with JOY

Shofar / Make a great noise to the LORD/Enemy Scatters

Psalm 100:1

Ruwa / Teruah Blow an alarm / Make a joyful noise

Battle cries by our Military

Hooah Army Hooyah Navy Oorah Marines Hua Airforce

Joshua 6:1-5 – Jericho

Psalm 100:2 – Serve

Psalm 100:3 – Our Creator

He created you to become like sheep

Isaiah 40:11

RUWA – Give the Lord a Shout of Praise!