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Saint Mark's Church
Youth Meeting

The History of the Christian Church

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (Matt. 16:18)

The Church is the **“BODY OF CHRIST”** (*Eph.1:22-23*) Started with the Jewish Church (Acts 7:38) , then became the Christian church after the day of Pentecost

The Birthday of the Christian Church : On the day of Pentecost , in Jerusalem at the upper room of the house of St. Mark (Acts 1:12 , 2:1)

How it was spread

- 1. Through the power of the Holy Spirit (the 2nd Comforter)** *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*
- 2. Through the obedience of the Disciples to the instructions of the SON** *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ,teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.” (Matt.28:19-20)*

The Church and time

- 1. United 5 centuries till 451AD (THE COUNCIL OF CALCHIDON)**
There were equal Centres . Jerusalem , Alexandria , Rome , Antioch , Constantinople , Cortège ,...
- 2.The first division resulted in Catholic Church and Oriental Orthodox Churches**
Catholic means universal Orthodox means “The Wright or strait faith”. The division was about the nature of Christ
“Miaphysites” or “Monophysites” Dyophysites
Alexandria , Syrian , Armenian , Ethiopian , Indian are the “ oriental churches”
- 3. The 2nd division 1054 AD** , when the Eastern Orthodox churches separated fro the Church of Rome . These churches are , Constantinople (Greek) , Jerusalem , Russia , Romania, Bulgaria , Cyprus .
- 4. The 3rd . division 1520 AD** , when the church of England separated from the Catholic Church

5. **The 4th. Division 1534 AD** , when Martin Luther separated from the Catholic church and started the Protestant church

The Characteristic of the church

1. Carry the glory of her GROOM

- ❖ Converting the whole world , since the Apostles' era till now
- ❖ Beautified with the “FRUITS AND GIFTS” of the Spirit.

2. Carry the CROSS of her Master

- ❖ **Persecutions**
 - 1. From Inside**
 - + **Heretics**
 - + **Interference between politics and religion.**
 - 2. From Outside**
 - The devilish power worked in**
 - + **Jewish nation**
 - + **Pagan Roman Empire**
 - + **Byzantine Christian Empire and the Egyptian Church**
 - + **Islam in the middle East , Yemen , Constantinople ,**
 - + **Russian Revolution in Russia**
 - + **The revolution of freedom and Sex**

in the West and the Political

Islam in the East

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