

# **Warm Up Questions**

- **What is monotheism?**
- **Lets pretend that Aliens exist. If aliens existed on several worlds that have never heard of your god, then would the aliens go to Hell when they die?**

# Origins of Christianity

The background of the slide is a photograph of the interior of a Gothic cathedral. The image is dominated by a warm, golden-yellow light that filters through the high, vaulted ceilings and the intricate tracery of the windows. The architecture features pointed arches and ribbed vaulting, characteristic of Gothic design. The perspective is looking down a long aisle, with the lines of the ceiling and walls converging towards the distance. The overall atmosphere is one of grandeur and historical depth.

# History of Jesus of Nazareth

- Christian history begins with Jesus of Nazareth, a Jew who was born in a small corner of the Roman Empire.



- Little is known of his early life, but around the age of 30, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist and had a vision in which he received the blessing of God.

# Jesus Becomes a Minister

- After this event, he began a ministry of teaching, healing, and miracle-working. He spoke of the "kingdom of God," condemned religious hypocrites and interpreted the Mosaic law in new ways.



# The Messiah

- He spoke before crowds of people, but also chose 12 disciples whom he taught privately. They eagerly followed him, believing him to be the long-awaited Messiah who would usher in the kingdom of God on earth.



# Romans Execute Jesus

- After just a few years, however, opposition mounted against Jesus, and he was ultimately executed by crucifixion by the Romans.



# Why Was Jesus Killed?

- Jesus was a threat because his speeches could inflame those eager to end Roman rule
- Roman Emperor's were afraid people would stop obeying them and start obeying Jesus demands.

# Jesus Rises From the Dead

- Most of Jesus' followers scattered, dismayed.
- 3 days later, women who went to see his body reported that the tomb was empty and an angel told them Jesus had risen from the dead.
- The Gospels go on to say that Jesus, after commanding his disciples to spread his teachings to all people, ascended into heaven

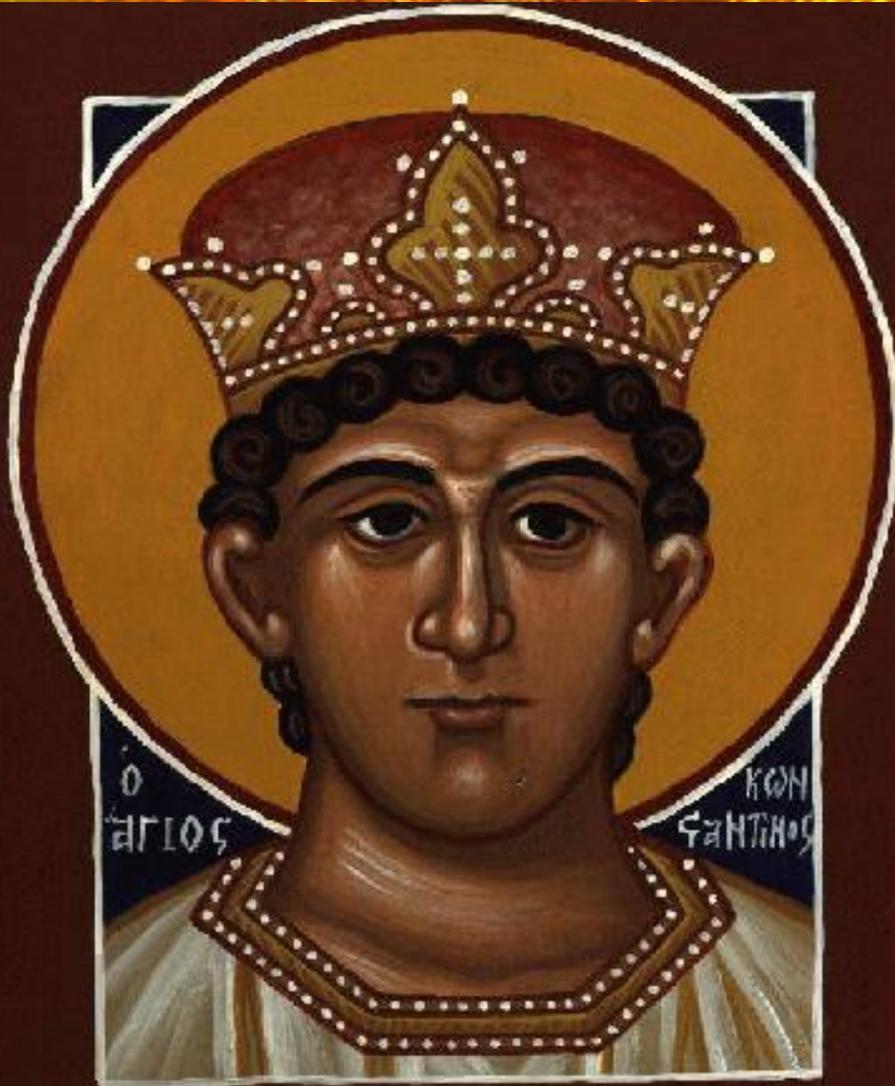


# Paul Spreads Christianity

- After the death of Jesus, apostles and other disciples spread the message of Christianity
- Those who accepted the teachings of Jesus were called Christians
- Paul, a Jew from Asia Minor played the most influential role in spreading Christianity
- Paul journeyed around the Mediterranean and set up churches teaching the message of Jesus

# Christians Were Oppressed by Romans

- Rome found those who followed Christianity disloyal to Rome because they refused to honor the emperor
- When Christians met in secret, Christians were accused by Romans for engaging in evil practices
- Nero, a Roman Emperor would execute and arrest Christians. Christians who died were called martyrs (People who suffer or die for their beliefs)



- A major turning point in Christian history came in the early 4th century AD, when the Roman Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity.  
= (Edict of Milan)

- Emperor Constantine hoped Christianity would be the uniting force of his empire.
- Today Christianity is the largest religion in the world. 2 Billion People.



