

A dark grey L-shaped frame is positioned on the left and bottom right sides of the slide, framing the central text.

# THE CHURCH AND THE EMPEROR

Constantine; Official Theology; Monastic Reaction;  
Schismatic Reaction

# Is Canada a Christian nation?

## **If yes, ...**

What is it that makes Canada a Christian nation?

## **If no, ...**

What would it take to make Canada a Christian nation?

Alternatively, ...

Is it even desirable to have Canada become a Christian nation?



# I. Constantine's conversion to Christianity

## A. Great Persecution of 303

- churches burned

- property seized

- sacred books to be handed over to be destroyed

- church services forbidden

- believers stripped of privileges



Eusebius (263-339) – Historian

# I. Constantine's conversion to Christianity

A. Great Persecution of 303

B. Constantine's rise to power





# Battle of Milvian Bridge, 312



# I. Constantine's conversion to Christianity

A. Great Persecution of 303

B. Constantine's rise to power

C. Use of Christian symbols





A coin of Constantine (c. AD 337) showing a depiction of his labarum spearing a serpent.





A coin of Constantine (c. AD 337) depicting Roman god Sol Invictus ("Unconquered Sun"), 315.



## II. The Edict of Milan, 313

### A. The end of persecution



## II. The Edict of Milan, 313

- A. The end of persecution
- B. Christians rise in society







**Hagia Sophia [Holy Wisdom]**





**Hagia Sophia [Holy Wisdom]**

## II. The Edict of Milan, 313

- A. The end of persecution
- B. Christians rise in society



# Policies introduced by Constantine:

- Clergy exempted from civic duties and taxes
- Bishops allowed to adjudicate civil cases
- Possible to free slaves legally in the presence of a bishop
- Christians appointed as military chaplains
- Churches allowed to receive legacies from rich individuals
- Christians preferred for administrative posts
- Churches rebuilt with government help



## II. The Edict of Milan, 313

- A. The end of persecution
- B. Christians rise in society
- C. Impact on worship and spirituality





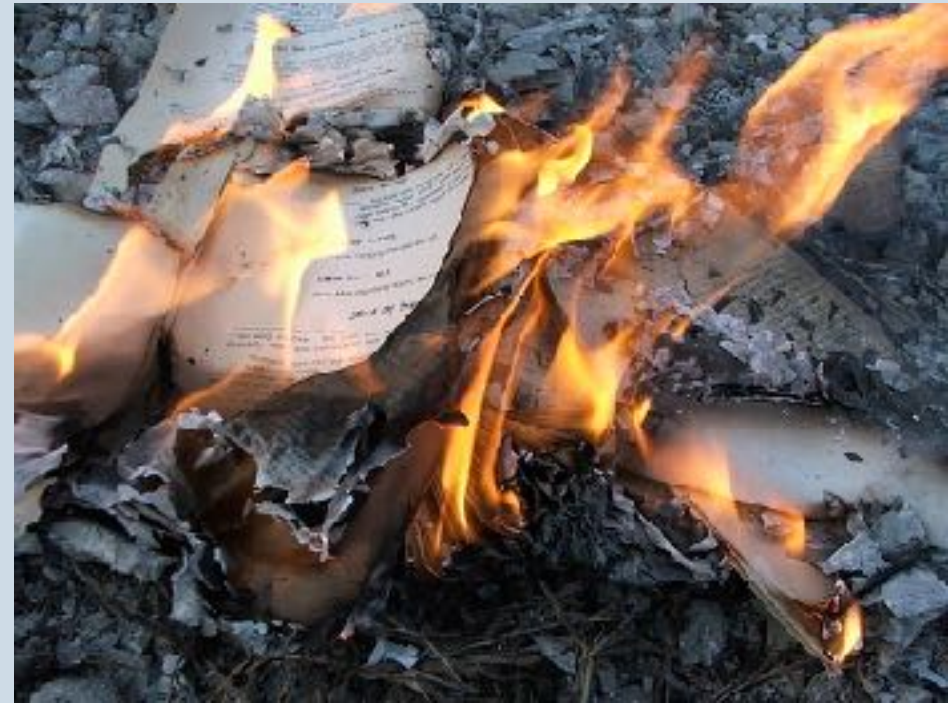
## II. The Edict of Milan, 313

- A. The end of persecution
- B. Christians rise in society
- C. Impact on worship and spirituality
- D. Monastic reaction



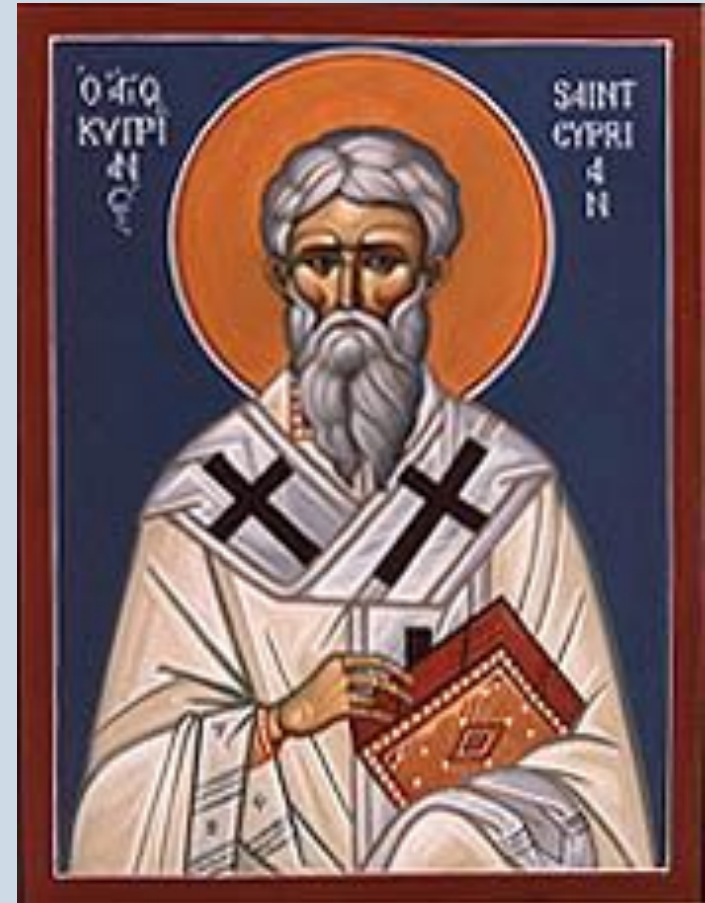
# III. The Schismatic Reaction

## A. Confessors and Traitors



# III. The Schismatic Reaction

- A. Confessors and Traitors
- B. Election of Bishop(s) at Carthage



# III. The Schismatic Reaction

- A. Confessors and Traitors
- B. Election of Bishop(s) at Carthage
- C. Response from the Church hierarchy





# III. The Schismatic Reaction

- A. Confessors and Traitors
- B. Election of Bishop(s) at Carthage
- C. Response from the Church hierarchy
- D. Response from the Emperor Constantine



# III. The Schismatic Reaction

- A. Confessors and Traitors
- B. Election of Bishop(s) at Carthage
- C. Response from the Church hierarchy
- D. Response from the Emperor Constantine
- E. Synod of Arles, 314
- F. Lasting impact of the Donatist controversy

# Confessions Questions Book IV

1. Why does Augustine value being low and helpless rather than high and mighty?
2. What is the warning for us in Augustine's despising animal sacrifice but valuing astrology?
3. Augustine sees God acting to turn him around through the baptism and death of a friend who was a friend for under a year -- as you look back through your own life is there an incident(s) where you can see God turning you?
4. Why is more important to love friends in God than simply directly loving friends?
5. What is the warning for us in Augustine's realization that he admired the orator because others admired him rather than the man himself?