

Must a participant commit to attending for the whole year?

BC to AD is designed for busy students. We only ask participants to commit to a single 12-week module at a time. There is only one session to attend weekly, and the only homework is background reading in your Bible and textbook. **Students who miss modules in one year, will be encouraged to attend them in the following year(s).**

Who teaches *BC to AD*?

Roderick Graciano of Timothy Ministries oversees this course and serves as the primary instructor. In addition, various gifted teachers from the Puget Sound region participate as guest instructors.

What are the instructors' doctrinal beliefs?

BC to AD is designed for a cross-denominational evangelical audience. Our instructors subscribe to the doctrinal statement posted on-line at: <http://www.tmin.org/tminpages/beliefs.html>

What's it going to cost?

BC to AD is presented free of charge. The course is supported by the freewill donations of participants and sponsors. However, each student must:

- Download and print weekly class notes.
- Purchase a textbook (costing \$20 to \$45).
- Do assigned weekly readings.

What if I love to teach?

Participants in *BC to AD* who wish to sharpen their teaching skills are invited to a weekly 25-minute *Iron2Iron* discussion after the regular *BC to AD* session. During the *Iron2Iron* sessions, we will discuss *50 Tips For The Christian Teacher*. *Iron2Iron* participants who are particularly drawn to the *BC to AD* vision will be invited to guest-teach specific units in the next annual cycle of *BC to AD*.

Where and When will *BC to AD* be held?

Module 4, *The Mustard Seed Story*, begins on October 3, 2005.

Classes are at **6:30 p.m.**, Mondays, at:

Immanuel Celebration Church
9244 Pacific Ave., Tacoma, WA 98444.

How to register:

BC to AD is designed for students of college age and above. You may register for *BC to AD* by pointing your web browser to:

http://www.tmin.org/tminpages/BC2AD_Menu.html

You may also e-mail Timothy Ministries at:

admin@tmin.org

... or phone:
253-535-4140.

A classical painting of a man with a long white beard and hair, wearing a brown robe. He is shown from the waist up, holding a large, unrolled scroll. The background is dark and dramatic.

BC to AD
Exploring The Bible & Christian History
The Mustard Seed Story

Module 4

A one-year study providing a coherent framework for what you know about God and His purpose for your life.

Welcome to BC to AD!

BC to AD is a 48-week study of the Bible and Christian history, presented in weekly 90-minute sessions. *BC to AD* runs from January to December, and is divided into four 12-week modules. Modules 1 and 2 present an overview of the entire Old Testament. Module 3 presents the essential background and key messages of the New Testament. **The final 12-week module provides an overview of Christianity’s dramatic struggle and development during the last 2,000 years.**

Why study Christian history?

God is the author of history, and therefore, to study history is to study the character and works of God. History is an ambiguous teacher, of course, if one does not have an authoritative interpreter. That is why Christians are at such an advantage when it comes to understanding history: we have the Bible, which is the key to understanding God and His hand in human events. With the Bible as our authoritative interpreter, history becomes a treasury of illustrations that illuminate the divine nature *and agenda*.

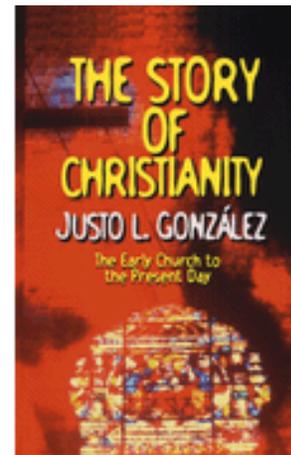
If we are willing to examine ourselves humbly, we will find history to be a kind teacher. It is much less painful to learn



crucial lessons through the experiences of our predecessors, than to pay the price of learning the same lessons first-hand. Unfortunately, pride and complacency often keep us from investigating the lessons of the past. Hegel said, **“The one thing man learns from history, is that man learns nothing from history.”** If we will swim against that current of human apathy and come to the study of Christian history with a zeal to learn from the saints of an earlier day, we will find our investigation well rewarded, and wonder why we’ve waited until now to learn more about how Christianity grew, branched and flowered during the past millennia. That history is *The Mustard Seed Story*, and our spiritual heritage!

Doesn't rapid study imply shallow content?

The content of *BC to AD* is wide-ranging, but not shallow. Nevertheless, by nature this course cannot explore some topics as thoroughly as one might wish. Therefore, students will utilize excellent college-level textbooks to insure that they receive as much relevant information as possible. The textbook for Module 4 is Justo González’s excellent read, *The Story of Christianity*.



What are some specific topics covered in Module 4 of the BC to AD class sessions?

Class sessions are informal with lots of opportunity for questions and group interaction. Here are some of the many topics we will discuss in *The Mustard Seed Story*:

- Why did God choose conflict as the environment for advancing His kingdom?
- How do we know that the things recorded in the gospels and Acts really happened?
- What are the 7 compelling facts about the first Christians?
- How did Christianity, in only 3 centuries, succeed in spreading throughout the entire known world?
- Why were early Christians accused of atheism, cannibalism and incest?
- What brought an end to the “body life” style of church described in the Corinthian epistles?
- How do Christians give Satan a tactical advantage today?
- How can we know whether or not a revelation comes from God?
- Why did Rome have to fall?
- What is the reformer’s greatest temptation?
- Why does God field “champions rather than wage all-out war?”



...and there’s much more!