

# The History Of The Medieval World From The Conversion Of Constantine To The First Crusade

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explores two areas of constantine s religious affiliation his conversion to christianity and the specific details connected to his actions

judaism and early christianity both floundered for the first three hundred years of the common era each religion tried to survive in a roman world filled with pagan religions and gods in the year 313 an unbelievable event occurred the emperor constantine adopted christianity as the new religion for the roman empire the impact of this momentous decision changed the shape and future course of the world how and why it happened is explored in depth in the conversion of constantine

a study of politics and religion during a key era ad 284 337 when christianity established itself as the dominant force shaping government and civilization reprinted from the 1962 edition first published in 1948

from his influence on economics and governance to his pivotal role in popularising christianity this is a compelling exploration of the transformative reign of constantine the great roman emperor from 306 to 337 ad constantine the great c 272 337 was a pivotal figure in the history of both the roman empire and christianity the first roman emperor to convert to christianity he eradicated christian persecution and was influential in the religion s spread throughout ancient rome his rule was marked by sweeping administrative financial social and military reforms designed to strengthen and stabilise the sprawling empire his introduction of the solidus a new gold coin effectively combated inflation and set the standard for byzantine and european currencies for over a millennium constantine and the conversion of europe explores the complexities of his religious policies his support for the christian church and the profound effects of his conversion on european history a thoughtful and engaging account of one of history s most influential emperors this book is perfect for those interested in roman history and early christianity

this short book by one of france s leading historians deals with a big question how was it that christianity that masterpiece of religious invention managed between 300 and 400 ad to impose itself upon the whole of the western world in his erudite and inimitable way paul veyne suggests three possible explanations was it because a roman emperor constantine who was master of the western world at the time became a sincere convert to christianity and set out to christianize the whole world in order to save it or was it because as a great emperor constantine needed a great religion and in comparison to the pagan gods christianity despite being a minority sect was an avant garde religion unlike anything seen before or was it because constantine limited himself to helping the christians set up their church a network of bishoprics that covered the vast roman empire and that gradually and with little overt resistance the pagan masses embraced christianity as their own religion in the course of deciding between these explanations paul veyne sheds fresh light on one of the most profound transformations that shaped the modern world the christianization of the west a bestseller in france this book will appeal to a wide readership interested in history religion and the rise of the modern world

how did christianity compare and compete with the cults of the pagan gods in the roman empire this scholarly work from award winning historian robin lane fox places christians and pagans side by side in the context of civil life and contrasts their religious experiences visions cults and oracles leading up to the time of the first christian emperor constantine the book aims to enlarge and confirm the value of contemporary evidence some of which has only recently been discovered

this text assumes that eusebius story of constantine s conversion was fiction or a mistake based upon the emperor s own story of how god told him to make his army s standard this study suggests that constantine s christianity was of more normal and earlier origins than the miracle of ad 312

how and why did the early church grow in the first four hundred years despite disincentives harassment and occasional persecution in this unique historical study veteran scholar alan kreider delivers the fruit of a lifetime of study as he tells the amazing story of the spread of christianity in the roman empire challenging traditional understandings kreider contends the church grew because the virtue of patience was of central importance in the life and witness of the early christians they wrote about patience not evangelism and reflected on prayer catechesis and worship yet the church grew not by specific strategies but by patient ferment

why is constantine a giant because he gave christians freedom of religion yet also because he radically and thoroughly changed our society in particular church state relations thereby creating the opportunity for the christian community to experience exponential growth because his changes in government law religion and art and architecture are so enormous we still see the consequences of his decisions to this very day because constantinian history is relevant to everyone

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