

INSTITUTUM PATRISTICUM AUGUSTINIANUM

HISTORICAL
ATLAS

OF ANCIENT CHRISTIANITY



EDITED BY ANGELO DI BERARDINO IN COLLABORATION WITH GIANLUCA PILARA

ICCS
PRESS

ST. DAVIDS, PENNSYLVANIA

Cover Design:
Gina Peterson
Speers Design Associates, LLC

ICCS Press
1300 Eagle Road
St. Davids, PA 19087
www.iccspress.com
E-mail: info@iccspress.com

© by Angelo Di Berardino 2013
Image: Madaba Map: David North
Relief depicting pavers: Museo della Civiltà Romana, Rome, Italy / The Bridgeman Art Library

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced without written permission from ICCS Press.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data available upon request.

ISBN 978-1-62428-000-9 (cloth: alk. paper)

Thank you to the following individuals for their generous financial contributions to the publication of this work:
Howard and Roberta Ahmanson, John and Sharna Coors, Richard and Terri Greenly, Billy and Gladys Mitchell
Peter and Gail Ochs, Mark and Beth Sprinkle.



Table of Contents

Introduction	vii
Foreword	ix
Maps	1

GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

PALESTINE, ARABIA, HIMYAR (ARABIA FELIX) 63

Maps

1. Palestine (I century)	2/66
2. Palestine (IV-VI century)	3/74
3. Palestine (Monasteries) (V-VI century)	4/77
4. Palaestina Tertia (IV-VI century)	5/80
5. Himyar (Arabia Felix) (V-VI century)	6/86

SYRIA, MESOPOTAMIA, ADIABENE, PERSIA, INDIA 91

Maps

6. Syria (I-III century)	7/94
7. Syria (IV-VI century)	8/96
8. North Syria (V century)	9/97
9. Cilicia (V century)	10/98
10. Cyprus (V century)	11/99
11. Middle East (I-IV century)	12/107
12. Babylonia (IV-VI century)	13/111
13. Tur 'Abdin (VII century)	14/110
14. Orient (III-V century)	15/115
15. Persia (IV-VI century)	16/116
16. Christian India (VI century)	17/124

ARMENIA, GEORGIA (IBERIA), CAUCASIAN ALBANIA 129

Maps

17. Armenia (IV century)	18/132
18. Armenia (V century)	19/136
19. Caucasus (V century)	20/154

ASIA MINOR 159

Maps

20. Asia Minor (III-IV century)	21/162
21. Asia Minor (V-VII century)	22/168
22. Phrygia (V century)	23/174

EGYPT, LIBYA, NUBIA, AND ETHIOPIA 187

Maps

23. Egypt (I-III century)	24/190
24. Augustamnica	25/192
25. Nile Delta (IV-V century)	26/193
26. Thebais (Thebaid)	27/200
27. Libya (IV-V century)	28/202
28. Nubia (V-VI century)	29/207
29. Ethiopia (V-VI century)	30/210

THE BALKAN PENINSULA (WITH GREECE, CRETE, GOTHIA) 219

Maps

30. Greece (V century)	31/222
59. Barbarian Invasion (III-V century)*	60/231
31. Crete (V century)	32/240
32. Thracia, Dacia, Moesia, and Scythia Minor (V-VI century)	33/245
33. Pannonia (V-VI century)	34/250
34. Dalmatia (V-VI century)	35/255
35. Crimea (V-VI century)	36/259

* additional map not in Italian edition

ITALY AND THE ISLANDS 267

Maps

36. Italy (II-III century)	37/270
37. Principal Roman Roads (II-III century)	38/273
38. Central Italy (V-VII century)	39/280
39. South Italy (V-VII century)	40/290
40. North Italy (V-VII century)	41/293
41. Sardinia and Corsica (V-VII century)	42/292

ROMAN AFRICA 305

Maps

42. Northeast Africa (III century)	43/308
43. Northeast Africa (IV-V century)	44/311
44. Africa Proconsularis (IV-V century)	45/316
45. Vandal Africa	46/314
46. Byzantine Africa	47/315
47. St. Augustine's Travels	48/311
48. Tripolitana (V century)	49/319
49. Northwest Africa, Mauretania (V century)	50/323

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL (HISPANIA ET LUSITANIA) 329

Maps

50. Iberian Peninsula (I-III century)	51/332
51. Iberian Peninsula (IV-VI century)	52/348
52. Iberian Peninsula (at the time of the Visigoths) (V-VII century)	53/343

NORICUM AND RAETIA (AND VINDELICIA) 359

Maps

53. Noricum and Raetia (V-VI century)	54/362
---	--------

GAUL (BELGIUM, GERMANY, HOLLAND) 383

Maps

54. Gallia (IV century)	55/387
55. Gallia (VI century)	56/392
56. Germany (VI century)	57/402

BRITAIN AND IRELAND 407

Maps

57. Roman and Christian Britain (II-IV century)	58/410
58. Britain and Ireland (V-VIII century)	59/418

INDICES, et. al.

Bibliography Abbreviations	429
General Index of Names Contained in the Maps	430
Index of Ancient/Modern Names	440
Index of Modern/Ancient Names	456
Index of Inside Cover Maps	471
Picture Acknowledgments	477

Introduction

THE GOSPEL OF MARK BEARS AT ITS conclusion a command of Jesus given before the Ascension: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature” (16:15), and adds as a comment: “They went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs” (16:20). This observation reflects the situation of the first generation of Christian missionaries. Not all the missionaries went in the same direction, but rather they set off into different regions. For this mission of theirs into lands “far” from their normal horizons, they must have had notions of the geography of the time, of the sea routes, of the interconnecting roads, and of the cities to evangelize. Jerusalem was a privileged observation point for gathering information, because pilgrims flowed there from many regions, even from beyond the Roman Empire. The *Acts of the Apostles* offers a geographic cross-section of people present in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost: “Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. . . . Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God” (2:5-11).

Therefore, Christianity, in its birth and in its long history, is closely connected to geography. The study of any kind of history must take into account ancient physical and human geography to understand the circulation of missionaries, of ideas, of texts, of liturgical traditions, of the routes through land, river, and sea, and the concomitant voyages and communication which occurred between various churches.

My intent is to provide a tool useful for understanding better the ecclesiastical geography of the first periods of Christianity up to the eighth century, both within the realm of the Roman Empire and beyond its boundaries by means of a historical, geographical treatment of the various areas, and with maps. The purpose is to offer a great deal of information in a tightly focused space. The sixty maps, which also reflect different centuries, intend to be historically precise with the most valuable information at our disposal.

Today there exists no atlas dedicated to Christian antiquity, with particular reference to the Fathers and to ancient Christianity. At the end of the 1800s a very useful atlas was made by Kiepert; it had wide success. In 1958 a specific atlas was made by Christine Mohrmann and Van der Meer in Dutch translated into English, German, and French. This has been out of print since 1970. Today the most important atlas in print is the one edited by Jedin, translated also into Italian; this concerns the whole history of the Church, with several maps on ancient Christianity; every map is preceded by a historical comment.

The division of the present atlas is as follows: 1) a historical-geographical treatment, according to the organization of the Roman

Empire, with a historical exposition of the political, social, cultural, and religious evolution that occurred. Special attention is given to the boundaries and to the names of cities (both ancient and modern names are given). Then follows a detailed exposition of the spread of Christianity in the region, of its growth, its principal centers, its Christian writers, its principal saints as the case may be, along with sanctuaries and pilgrimage centers. In other words, a brief history of Christianity in the relevant territory. 2) 59 geographical maps. Many are of an interregional character; the others are on single provinces of the Roman Empire according to a chronological trajectory leading to the 8th century. 3) Included also are maps and treatments of Christians outside the Roman Empire (Persia; India; Georgia; Ireland, Scotland, Gothia, etc.). 4) Illustrations: principal Christian monuments in the various geographical areas; some inscriptions illustrative of the region (e.g. the Abercius inscription, etc.); iconography of a Father. Illustrations regarding the values and the environment in which they lived are included; there are also famous ancient monasteries (in Egypt, in Syria, etc.). 5) The monuments (or other illustrations) that concern the cities most important for the Christians: e.g. Madaba; Hippo; Carthage; Rome; Constantinople; Qalat Seman, etc. In such a case, there is included a brief illustration of the city, of who lived in that city and any Christian ruins. 6) An ample, essential, and international bibliography for further research. 7) The names of the cities, rivers, etc., are all in Latin. 8) Indices at the end: a) An index of all the names with the coordinates matched to the respective maps; b) An index of the ancient names and their respective modern names: e.g. Hippo Regius = Annaba; Hispalis = Seville; Lugdunum = Lyon; c) An index of modern names and their respective ancient names; d) an index of the names, with their modern equivalents, which are included on the map that is located on the inside of the front and back covers. The name equivalency indexes are especially useful for the scholar, because we are used to saying “the Council of Serdica,” which corresponds to Sofia; Basil of Caesarea, which corresponds to Kayseri; Isidore of Seville (= Hispalis); Victorinus of Poetovio (= Ptuj).

I am deeply grateful to all those who have contributed with their advice and suggestions. In particular: Gianluca Pilara, Alberto Camplani, Massimiliano Ghilardi, Giorgio Otranto, Giovanni Nigro, Emanuele Castelli, Ewa Wipszycka, Boghos L. Zekiyan, Alessandro Bausi, Lucrezia Spera, Elena Malaspina, Paolo Dinia. The basis for the present atlas is the one produced for the third volume of my *Dizionario Patristico e di antichità cristiane* published in 1988 (= *Encyclopedia of the early church*, New York 1992), on which numerous scholars had already collaborated, among them C. Lepelley, R. Pillinger, Nenad Cambi, Pedro de Palol.

ANGELO DI BERARDINO

Foreword

THE *ATLANTE STORICO DEL CRISTIANESIMO Antico* was first published in Italian in 2010. Even before it was published, there were discussions with the editor, Fr. Angelo Di Berardino, on developing a historical atlas on early Christianity for the English-speaking world that could build on the work he had done for the *Encyclopedia of the Early Church*. The *Historical Atlas of the Ancient Church* is the product of those discussions. Previous atlases, such as *The Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World* (pub. 2000), as well as those mentioned in Fr. Di Berardino's introduction, have largely focused on the classical world of late antiquity. Such a focus has its place and the present atlas does not pretend to replace these important resources.

Nonetheless, there are a number of things that set the present atlas apart. The focus in the present atlas explores both the history and the geography of the ancient *Christian* world and how these interacted. (1) It is a historical atlas that provides a geographical and historical context for the key events, people and trends of the ancient Christian church. (2) Geography often played an important role in the outcome of certain theological issues and developments, and the ancient Christian figures were products of their own environments, just as much as we are today. This atlas will help the reader delve deeper into the world of the early centuries. (3) Key roads and travel patterns influenced the development of the church's evangelization and sometimes even its conciliar decisions. Bishops needed to travel to these ecumenical

meetings sometimes along hazardous ways; others were exiled to remote places. (4) The many pictures and illustrations provide the reader with a glimpse into the environment those early Christian leaders shared and lived. These provide another valuable tool for those who wish to teach, those who want to learn, and anyone interested in what life during the earliest period of the church's history may have looked like. In this English edition there are a few differences from the Italian edition. The layout is a bit different. We have also provided additional photographs and pictures and some images have been rearranged. There is also an extra map that has been added depicting the barbarian invasions and an extra index of the map that is located on the inside front and back covers.

This atlas provides key evidence regarding the existence and distribution of episcopal sees in various geographical areas and how this growth and development was affected by forces inside and outside the church such as the Roman or Byzantine government or the barbarian invasions. It is our hope that this *Historical Atlas of Ancient Christianity* will serve as a gift both to the church and to the academy for those desiring to study the ancient Christian period in its historical as well as its geographical and ecclesiastical context.

JOEL ELOWSKY
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN

Maps

1. Palestine (I century)
2. Palestine (IV-VI century)
3. Palestine (Monasteries) (V-VI century)
4. Palestine Tertia (IV-V century)
5. Himyar (Arabia Felix) (V-VI century)
6. Syria (I-III century)
7. Syria (IV-VI century)
8. North Syria (V century)
9. Cilicia (V century)
10. Cyprus (V century)
11. Middle East (I-IV century)
12. Babylonia (IV-VI century)
13. Tur 'Abdin (VII century)
14. Orient (III-V century)
15. Persia (IV-VI century)
16. Christian India (VI century)
17. Armenia (IV century)
18. Armenia (V century)
19. Caucasus (V century)
20. Asia Minor (III-IV century)
21. Asia Minor (V-VII century)
22. Phrygia (V century)
23. Egypt (I-III century)
24. Augustamnica (V century)
25. Nile Delta (IV-V century)
26. Thebais (Thebaid) (IV-V century)
27. Lybia (IV-V century)
28. Nubia (V-VI century)
29. Ethiopia (V-VI century)
30. Greece (V century)
31. Crete (V century)
32. Thracia, Dacia, Moesia, and Scythia Minor (V-VI century)
33. Pannonia (V-VI century)
34. Dalmatia (V-VI century)
35. Crimea (V-VI century)
36. Italy (II-III century)
37. Principal Roman Roads (II-III century)
38. Central Italy (V-VII century)
39. South Italy (V-VII century)
40. North Italy (V-VII century)
41. Sardinia and Corsica (V-VII century)
42. Northeast Africa (III century)
43. Northeast Africa (IV-V century)
44. Africa Proconsularis (IV-V century)
45. Vandal Africa
46. Byzantine Africa
47. St. Augustine's Travels
48. Tripolitana (V century)
49. Northwest Africa Mauritania (V century)
50. Iberian Peninsula (I-III century)
51. Iberian Peninsula (IV-VI century)
52. Iberian Peninsula at the time of the Visigoths (V-VII century)
53. Noricum and Raetia (V-VI century)
54. Gallia (IV century)
55. Gallia (VI century)
56. Germany (VI century)
57. Roman and Christian Britain (II-IV century)
58. Britain and Ireland (V-VIII century)
59. Barbarian Invasions (II-V century)



MAP 1. Palestine (I century)



MAP 57. Roman and Christian Britain (II-IV century)



MAP 58. Britain and Ireland (V-VIII century)