# The Impact of Jesus

Mako A. Nagasawa





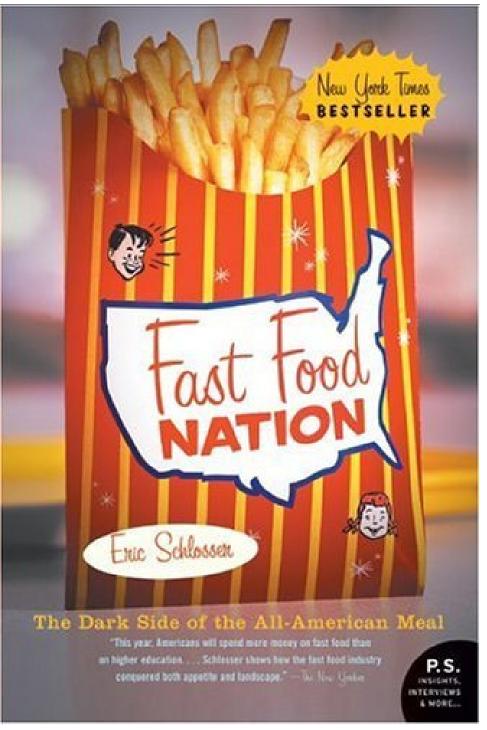








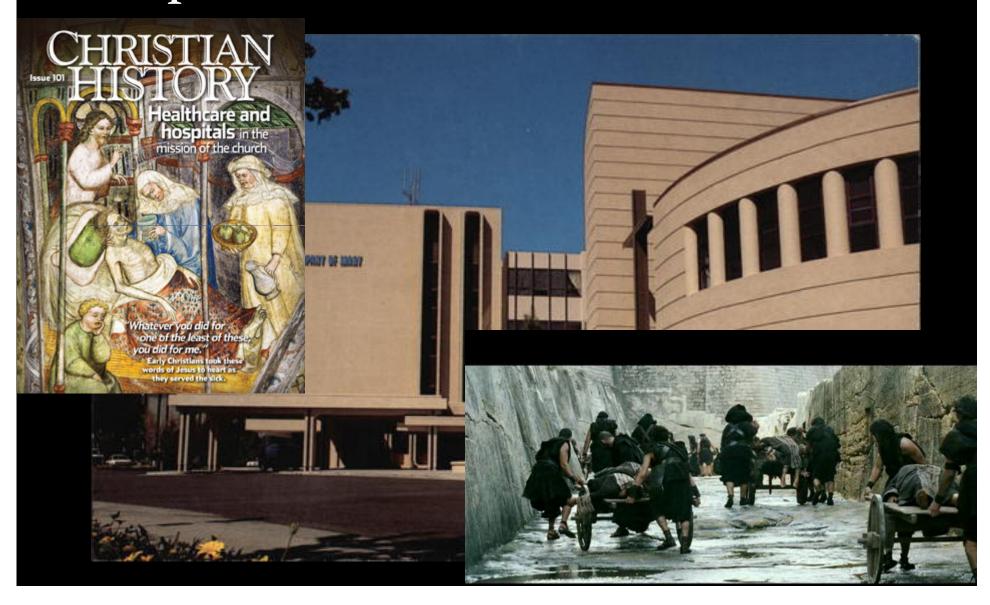




### Hospitals, Care for the Sick

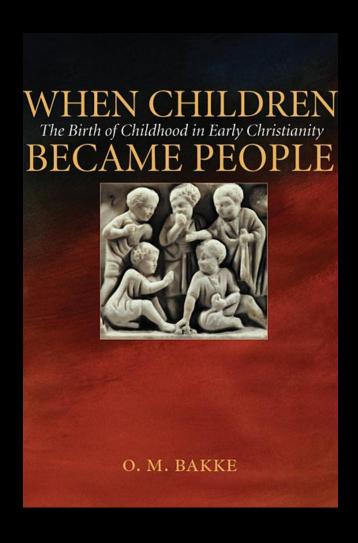


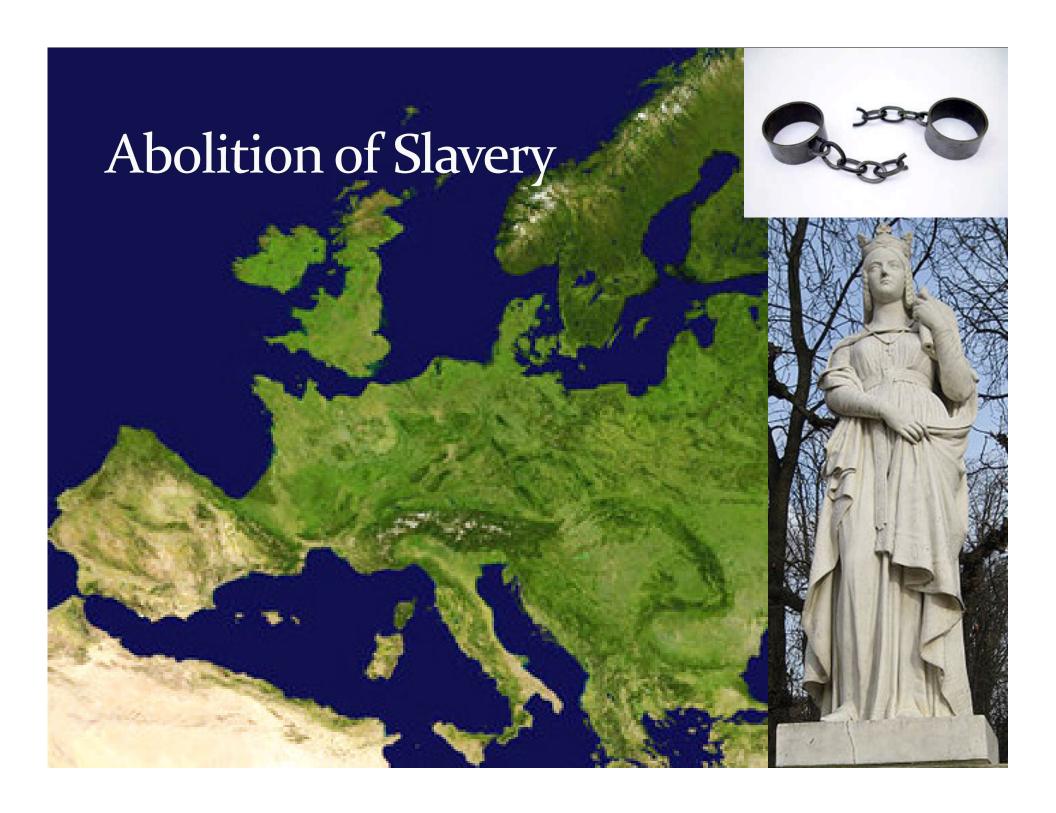
### Hospitals, Care for the Sick



#### Care for Children



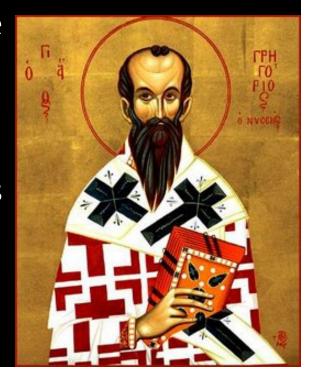






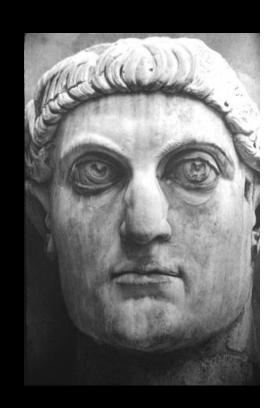
- The *Apostolic Constitutions* 
  - 390 400 AD
  - A manual of Christian teaching to that point, showing Christians how to run a church service
  - 'As for such sums of money as are collected from them in the aforesaid manner, designate them to be used for the redemption of the saints and the deliverance of slaves and captives.'

- Gregory of Nyssa
  - 335 395 AD
  - Bishop of Nyssa, a leading theologian in present day Turkey
  - 'Since God's greatest gift to us is the perfect liberty vouchsafed us by Christ's saving action in time, and since God's gifts are entirely irrevocable, it lies not even in God's power to enslave men and women.' (Sermon during Lent, 379 AD)



- Constantine
  - 315 AD: Imposed the death penalty on those who kidnap and enslave children
  - 322 AD: Forbids separating slave families; made manumission easy in a church service and before the bishop
  - Since Constantine was a new Christian, this suggests that the Christian community had a strong antislavery position.







- Hermas and his wife
  - Prefect in Rome during Trajan's reign, 98 117 AD
  - Was baptized on Easter with his wife, children, and slaves
  - They gave their 1250 slaves their freedom, plus generous gifts
- Ovidius
  - Bishop of Braga, Portugal from 95 135 AD
  - Helped emancipate 5000 slaves

#### Nietzsche on Jesus

'If one regards individuals as equal...one encourages a way of life that leads to the ruin of the species: Christianity is the counterprinciple to the principle of selection... The species requires that the illconstituted, weak, degenerate, perish: but it was precisely to them that Christianity turned as a conserving force; it further enhanced that instinct in the weak, already so powerful, to take care of and preserve themselves and to sustain one another. What is 'virtue' and 'charity' in Christianity if not this mutual preservation, this solidarity of weak, this hampering of selection?'

Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Will to Power*, Walter Kaufmann & R.J. Hollingdale trans., p.141 – 42.

#### Nietzsche on Jesus

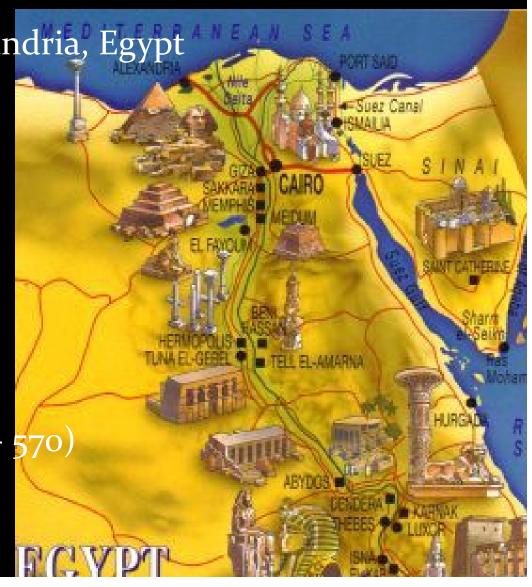
'When lesser men begin to doubt whether higher men exist, then the danger is great! And one ends by discovering that there is virtue also among the lowly and subjugated, the poor in spirit, and that before God men are equal – which has so far been the non plus ultra of nonsense on earth!... When Nero and Caracalla sat up there, the paradox arose: 'the lowest man is worth more than the man up there!' And the way was prepared for an image of God that was as remote as possible from the image of the most powerful – the god on the cross!'

Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Will to Power*, Walter Kaufmann & R.J. Hollingdale trans., p.446 - 468.



Christian School in Alexandria, Egypt

- Mark the apostle (?)
- Athenagoras (died 176)
- Pantaenus (died 200)
- Clement (150 215)
- Origen (184 254)
- Heraclas (died 246)
- Didymus (313 398)
- John Philoponus (490 570)



- 'The question-and-answer method of commentary began there [in the Christian school in Alexandria], and, 15 centuries before Braille, blind students at the school were using wood-carving techniques to read and write.'
  - Thomas C. Oden, How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind: Rediscovering the African Seedbed of Western Christianity, p.43 44



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Baghdad's House of Wisdom

• Hunayn ibn Ishaq





Indian State: Kerala

- Apostle Thomas, 52 AD?
- Highest % Christian
- Highest literacy rate
- Highest status of women
- Lowest infant mortality
- Lowest homicide rate



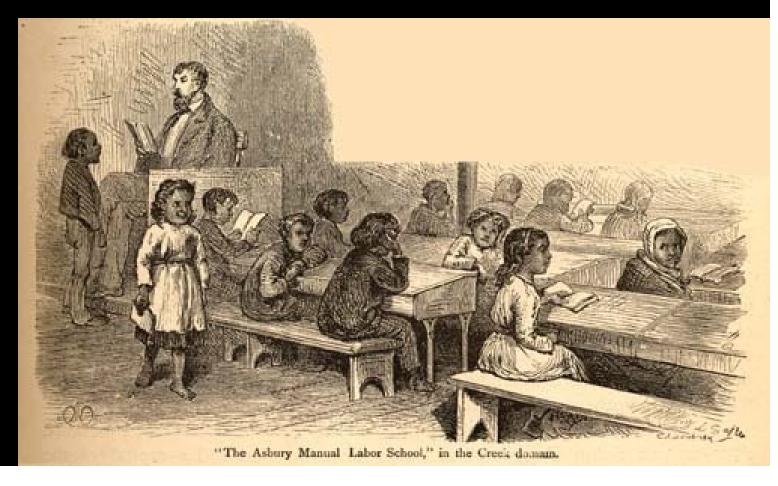
'I shall really go after the shameful, despicable, damnable parents who are not parents at all but despicable hogs and venomous beasts devouring their own young.'

Martin Luther, on parents who don't teach their children to read



The Old Deluder Satan Act of 1647 in Massachusetts: started the first public school in America, funded by

taxes.



Myanmar: Karen people

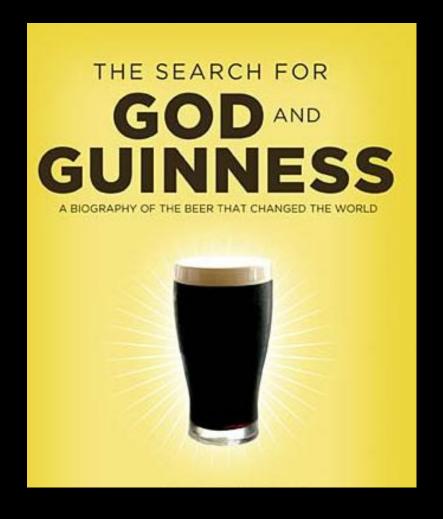
• Literacy → Resistance movement

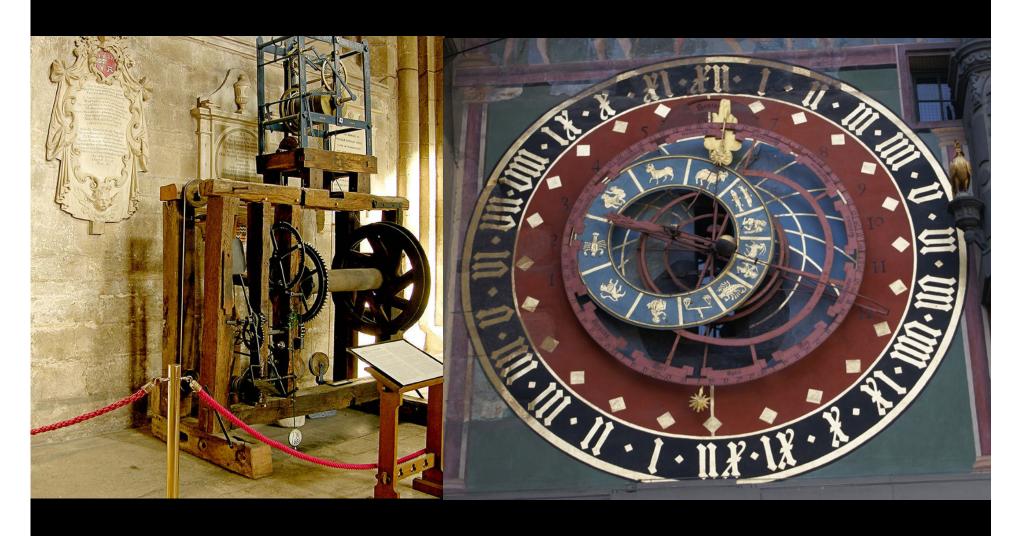


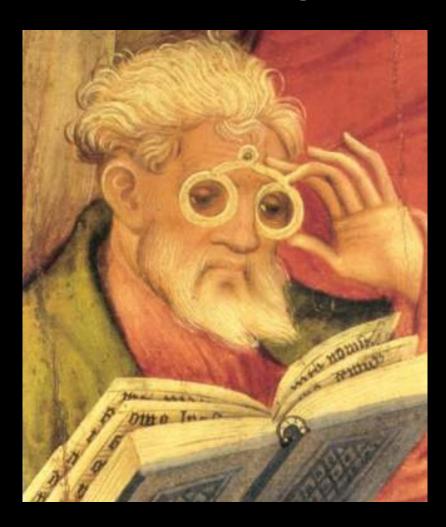














#### Alfred North Whitehead

- Christianity is the mother of science because of 'the medieval insistence on the rationality of God' (lecture, 1925)
- 'This God also declared that all he has created is good... therefore his works are worthy of study.'





'Put on the new self who is being renewed... according to the image of the One [Jesus] who created him – a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all'

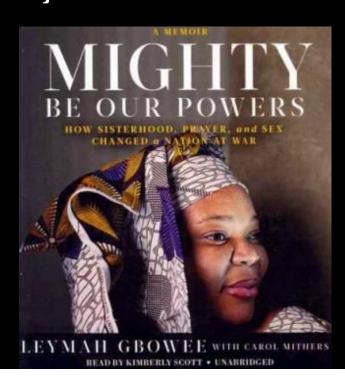
Paul, *Colossians* 3:10 – 11

#### Leymah Gbowee

Nobel Peace Prize winner 2011

Helped end the Liberian Civil War

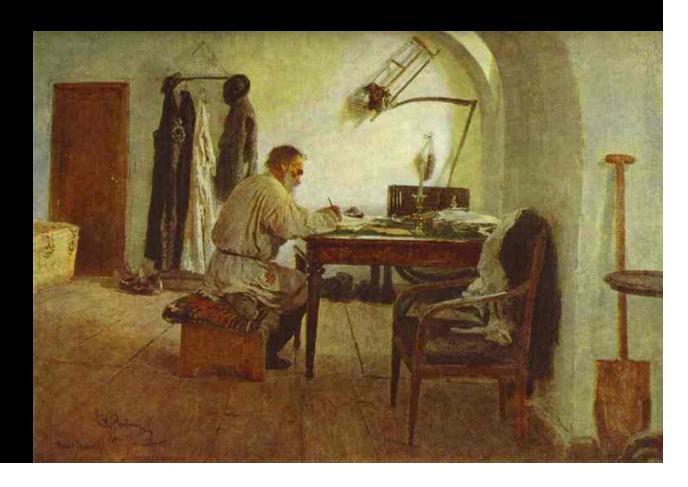
• 'Pray the Devil Back to Hell'





Non-Violent Resistance Movements

• Leo Tolstoy, Russia



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- Mohandas Gandhi, South Africa & India



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- Ahn Chang-Ho, Korean Independence



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The Problem We All Live with

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- Mohandas Gandhi, South Africa & India
- Ahn Chang-Ho, Korean Independence
- Black Church in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement
- Corazon Aquino, Filipino People Power





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- Democracy Movements in Hong Kong

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#### The Missionary Roots of Liberal Democracy

ROBERT D. WOODBERRY National University of Singapore

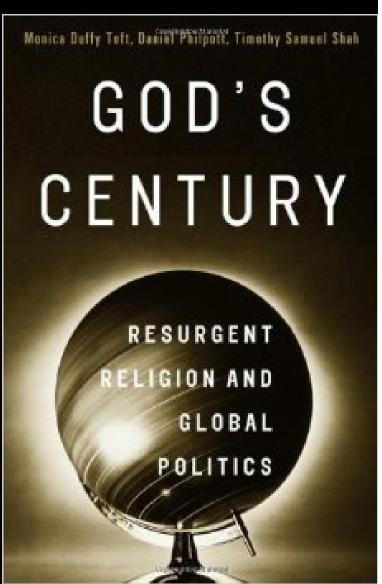
This article demonstrates historically and statistically that conversionary Protestants (CPs) heavily influenced the rise and spread of stable democracy around the world. It argues that CPs were a crucial catalyst initiating the development and spread of religious liberty, mass education, mass printing, newspapers, voluntary organizations, and colonial reforms, thereby creating the conditions that made stable democracy more likely. Statistically, the historic prevalence of Protestant missionaries explains about half the variation in democracy in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania and removes the impact of most variables that dominate current statistical research about democracy. The association between Protestant missions and democracy is consistent in different continents and subsamples, and it is robust to more than 50 controls and to instrumental variable analyses.

Social scientists tend to ignore religion in the processes of post-Enlightenment modernization. In individual cases and events, the role of religious actors is clear—especially in the primary documents. curate views of human nature reflect history more precisely and produce more powerful statistical models.

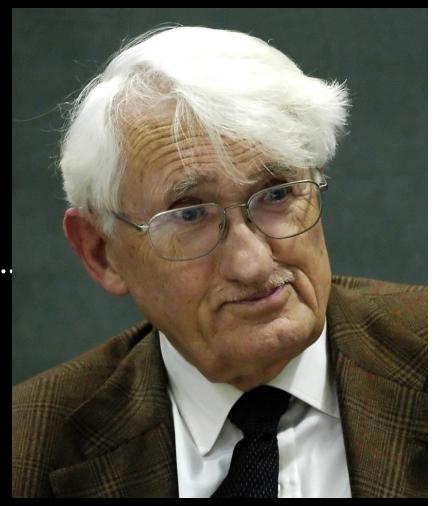
Of course, scholars could adjust both rational-choice models and post-Marxian class analyses to account for

'The third wave of democratization is a Catholic wave.' Timothy Shah, HR[CF] '92



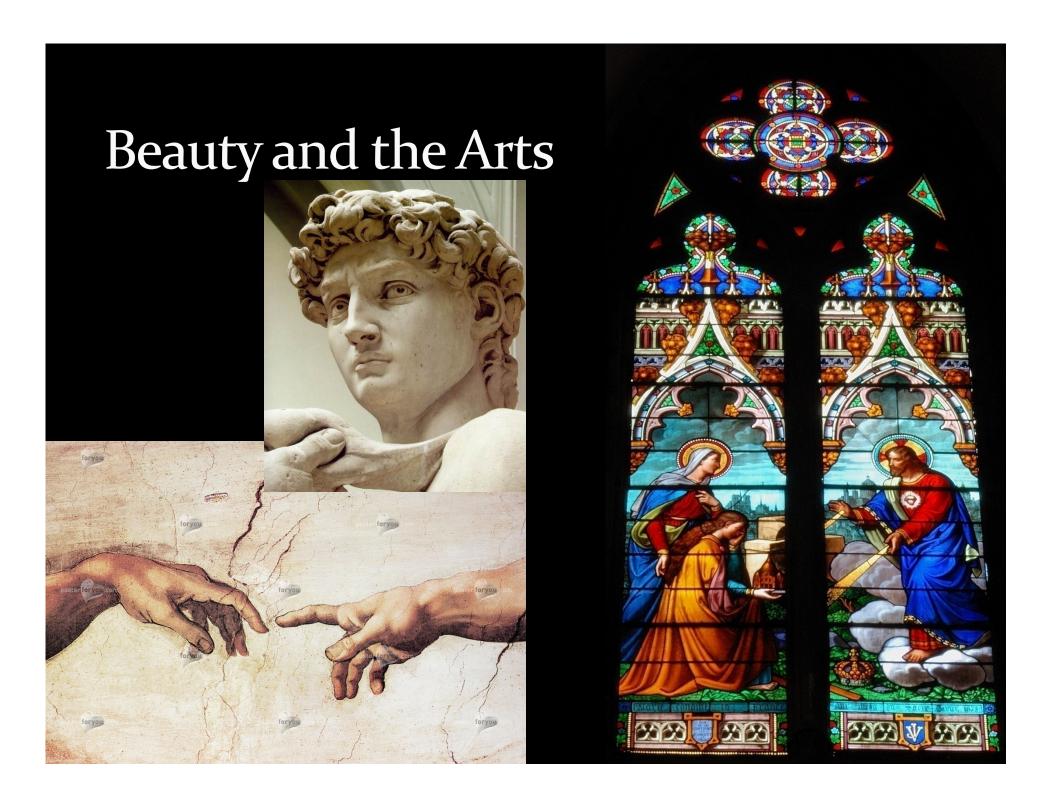


'Christianity, and nothing else is the ultimate foundation of liberty, conscience, human rights, and democracy, the benchmarks of western civilization... To this day, we have no other alternative to it... We continue to nourish ourselves from this source. Everything else is just idle postmodern chatter.' Jurgen Habermas



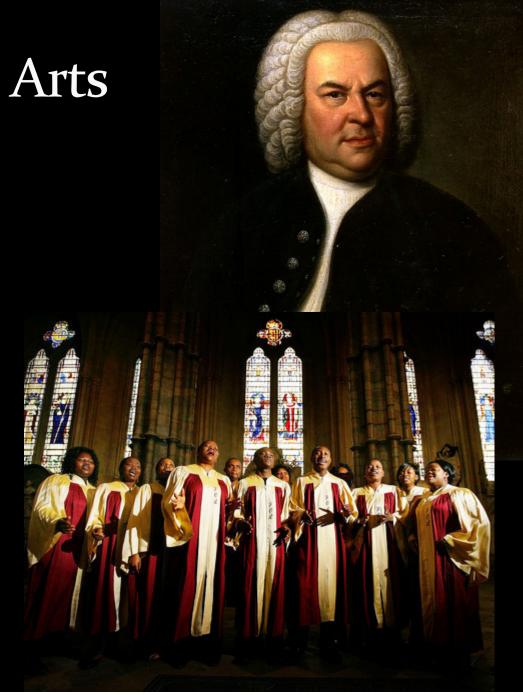
## Beauty and the Arts













### Beauty and the Arts





Happy Ending Story

