

The Eternal Kingdom “Historical Evidence and the New Testament Church”

Lesson #4

4/3/19

In our last lesson we looked at three historians who lived and wrote during the Christian movement.

Thos men were...

Historical Authors during the time of Christianity in the First Century

- Josephus
- Tacitus
- Suetonias

Those authors are Josephus, Tacitus, and Suetonias. All of these men wrote about Christ and the Christian movement. Interestingly enough, their stories all match up and validate what we read of in the bible. If you haven't read those things, please take or make time to do so.

I want us to continue to look at historical authors and finish with Pliny the Younger

Pliny the Younger

- Born in 61 A.D.
- He served as a government official in many capacities and as an author.
- He carried out orders by the Emperor to squash opposition to Rome, in doing so, he persecuted Christians along the way.

(Read the first four paragraphs from the Encyclopedia Britannica, then read book).

(Discuss the persecution he and others leveled against the church).

How great is your love the Lord and His Church at this point? What a blessing to called a Christian in share the freedoms and blessings we do today in this nation that was established on Christian values and principals.

The New Testament Church

- The establishment of the church (Acts 1-2)
- Defining the term “church”
 - Ekklesia “called out”, “assembly”
 - Mt.16:18; Acts 19:41; Acts 7:38
- Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God used interchangeably
 - Context determines its meaning
 - Mt.16:19; Mk.1:14-15 vs. Mt.13:47; Mt.13-24-30; 37-43

(Read “Establishment of the church” then read bullet and discuss).

(Read “Def of terms first and second paragraph then read bullet two and sub-bullets).

(Read paragraphs 3 and 4 then bullet three and sub bullets).