

The Shape of Christian Identity

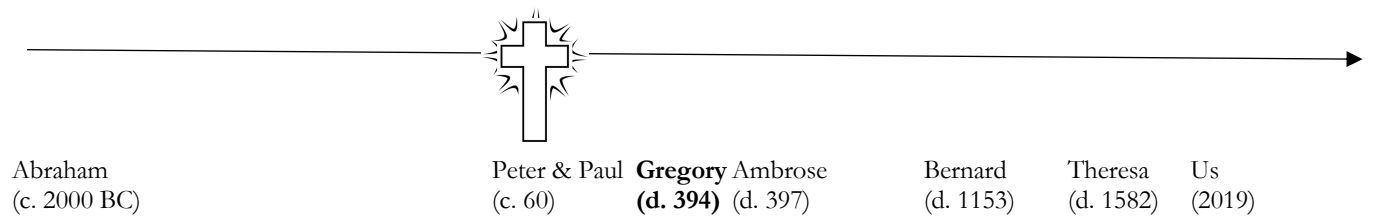
Class 4: Gregory of Nyssa, The Beatific Vision, identifying with the glory of Jesus Outline

- A recollection of what we have covered.
 - Abraham: Faith
 - Ambrose: Baptism
 - Bernard: Love
 - Teresa: Intimacy
 - Peter & Paul: Cross
- Why look at the lives of the saints?
 - God is simple.
 - The creation is a prism.
- Gregory of Nyssa.
 - His life.
 - The beatific vision.
- What is the beatific vision?
- The barriers and how Gregory deals with them.
 - God is inaccessible, unapproachable, incomprehensible and invisible.
 - We see God in the work he does.
 - We are sinful.
 - In sanctification, we become holy and learn who God is.
- The centrality of Jesus
 - Exodus 33:17-23
- The never-ending longing and desire of the beatific vision.

Questions:

- 1) How do you see God's work in your life?
- 2) Have you considered before that learning to see God's work, you are being prepared to see God himself?
- 3) Looking back on this class, is there a particular figure who helped you understand better what it means for you to be a Christian, to identify with Christ? How has that person helped?

Gregory on the timeline:



Gregory on the map:

