over time, it spread throughout the entire Roman Empire. Today, it is the official religion of the United States. It is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, who is believed to be the son of God and the savior of the world. The religion is founded on love, forgiveness, and compassion. It teaches its followers to love their neighbors as themselves and to treat others as they would like to be treated.

A

B

— The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:1-10

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Cruel persecution.

Helped early Christians face man's belief in Jesus' power.

Jesus' resurrection sight is a blind faith to this Roman sculpture.

READ YOU BEFORE

CHRISTIANITY: A NEW RELIGION

Religion triumphs!

Government attack

How did the Roman
government attack Christianity? How did the Christian church respond?

Key People and Places

Jesus

This is an idea of Jesus teaching.

Jesus teaches sight to a blind, depressed by illness, the sick.

Key Terms

Religion,church,Christ,God,Jesus

Would you do this? Would you believe that you held what for a race, for a creed, for a people.

REACH INTO YOUR BACKGROUND

How would you feel if people were meaner to you?
God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself. Jesus also said he
and his disciples. Jesus taught that God was loving and forgiv-
according to the Gospels, Jesus taught that God was loving and forgiv-
all Jewish teachers. Jesus preached that there was only one true God.
laughed was part of the Jewish tradition into which he had been born. The
laughed into which he had been born. The
peace, preaching to Jews who lived in the countryside. Much of what he
peace, preaching to Jews who lived in the countryside. Much of what he
in Nazareth. He learned to be a carpenter and began teaching when he
in Nazareth. He learned to be a carpenter and began teaching when he
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The Gospels

Luke, and John—and each written one story. These writings are called
Luke, and John—and each written one story. These writings are called
traditions. People came to believe that Jesus' disciples—Matthew, Mark,
traditions. People came to believe that Jesus' disciples—Matthew, Mark,
years after his death, four written of his life were written. These oral
years after his death, four written of his life were written. These oral
followers' lives stories about his life and teaching. Between 40 and 70
followers' lives stories about his life and teaching. Between 40 and 70
Resurrection a part of the Christian Bible. After Jesus' death his disciples,
Resurrection a part of the Christian Bible. After Jesus' death his disciples,
Most of what we know about Jesus' life is found in the New
Most of what we know about Jesus' life is found in the New
Judaea town of Bethlehem.
Judaea town of Bethlehem.

The Romans conquered the Jewish homeland of Judaea in 63 B.C. As
The Romans conquered the Jewish homeland of Judaea in 63 B.C. As
The Roman Empire was one of many religions in the vast Roman
The Roman Empire was one of many religions in the vast Roman
Christian Catacombs

The discipled Paul were crucified.

The word in a Greek phrase: The Greek word for fish, 'Ichthus', was the first letter symbol of each of the words used by the early Christians to identify one another, signifying their secret Christian creed. "Jesus Christ, Son of God,救主, Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Son of God, Son of God, Son of God."

The word for fish was a simple image of a fish, how did a fish come to be an early Christian symbol? How did a fish come to be a Christian symbol?

Christian Disciples (Greek: Ἰησούς Χριστός) or followers of Jesus, spread the Christian faith throughout the Mediterranean world of Jesus. They preached Jesus' teachings and his teachings spread to Greece and Rome. Paul and his disciples traveled to Greece, Asia Minor and Rome and spread the Christian faith, not just to Jews. Paul converted the Greek gentiles, as well as the Roman emperor Nero, to Christianity. The Roman emperor Nero, under the emperor Nero, the first Roman emperor to accept Christianity in Rome in 64.

The Gentiles, those who were not of Jewish descent, were encouraged to see them as enemies of the empire. Many Roman officials began to view them as enemies of the emperor. The Romans believed in worshiping the Roman gods or the emperor. The Gentiles were encouraged to accept Christianity.

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REVIEW

SECTION 4

Christian Faith

In the A.D. 300s, about one in every ten Romans had accepted the Christian faith. Many Romans admired the Christians. They saw them as martyrs and put many believers to death. However, the actions of the followers of what became known as the Church spread throughout the empire. This message of hope still inspires people around the world today.

Heroes

To be a hero, someone could commit acts of heroism in hospitals and war zones. In the 300s, the Roman Empire was in decline, and the people wanted someone to lead them. The church leaders stepped up to fill this need.

Peacemakers and Martyrs

The followers of Jesus worked to spread the gospel. They founded communities where people could find safety and comfort. The church spread the message of peace and love to people everywhere.