

# **STUDIES IN EARLY CHURCH HISTORY**

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Studies in Early Church History by Henry T. Sell

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BY

HENRY T. SELL, D. D.

*Author of "Supplemental Bible Studies," "Bible Study by Books," "Bible Study by Periods," "Bible Study by Doctrines," "Bible Studies in the Life of Christ," "Bible Studies in the Life of Paul," "Studies in the Life of the Christian"*



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## PREFACE

THE period of which these studies treat extends from the time of Christ to the reign of Constantine, the first Christian Roman Emperor. This era has been called, "The Heroic Age of the Church." It was during these three hundred years that Christianity encountered the bitter hostility of the Roman and Greek religions and systems of philosophy and was under the ban of the civil power. It was then that it formulated its doctrines, set forth its principles, wrote its New Testament books and endured its fiery persecutions. In the enthusiasm and freshness of their faith, its converts dared all things; no tasks were too hard, no hardships too great and no tortures too painful, when called for in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord and Saviour.

We are in the immediate presence of the builders of the Church; we see their plans; we look upon the laying of the great broad foundations. We behold the struggle with refractory materials and we are impressed with the undaunted spirit and courageous dealing with difficulties, as this magnificent spiritual structure—grandly simple in its organization and forms of worship—is erected.

In these studies the aim is to set forth the great leading facts in regard to the belief and life of the early Church; hence the ten divisions or studies: 1. The Church in Jerusalem. 2. The Church in Antioch. 3. The Church in the Provinces. 4. The Church in Rome. 5. The Church in the Catacombs. 6. The Church in Worship. 7. The Church in the Books. 8. The Church in Controversy. 9. The Church in Persecution. 10. The Church in Victory.

This book is for the use of adult Bible and teacher training classes, Bible study circles, educational institutions and private study. It is uniform with the author's other "Seven Books of Bible Studies."

HENRY T. SELL.



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