

THE ORIGINS OF THE CHURCH OF ANTIOCH

BY
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For the beginnings of The Australian Church of Antioch, we must go back to Antioch in Syria to the year 503BC. It was at this time that some of the followers of Zoroaster who were more enlightened than most, were instructed by Darius, the Persian ruler who at that time was in power to start the Church in Antioch which at that time was part of Syria. These wise people knew that The Christ was coming and a place was necessary for the work of God to be carried out. It also gave the necessary time to elapse before the Master Jesus was born, and therefore the multitudes did not know there was a connection between Antioch and Jesus, thus the church was left in peace to be there when necessary.

Jesus was quite aware of all this and he visited every one of the places that would start up a church in his name, and quite a few other places as well. This accounts for all those years between his boyhood and the beginning of his ministry.

It was in early 38AD after the death of Jesus, that Peter, Paul, and Thomas went to Antioch and converted that church following The Christ. This was the first church to become known as Christian.

Later on in that same year of 38AD, Joseph of Arimithea went to Glastenbury in England. Near the site of the future church, he drove his wooden staff into the ground, and according to historians this staff took root and grew into a tree. A cutting from this tree was planted nearby which still exists to this day. Thus was the true beginning of the Original Anglican Church.

It was years later that Peter, Paul and Thomas went to Rome and started the Roman Church. It is perfectly obvious that Antioch was the first Christian Church, Anglican the second, and the Roman Church last. The Roman Church denies this claiming to be the original church, but the Romans ruling the church came only with the might of the Roman Army to enforce it when the Roman Caesar decided to become Christian. The Coptic Church of Egypt that was started by the Apostle Mark approx 40-60 AD, was also ground down under the heel of the Roman army's empire until they broke away again centuries later.

The Irish and the welsh Celtic Churches were an offshoot of the original Anglican Church, which at that time were called the Culdees, and they resisted successfully the roman domination by hiding and meeting in secret for many years.

It is from these three lines of succession that the apostolic lines of The Australian Church of Antioch are derived.

We give the Roman and Antioch lines in full detail, and an abbreviated list of the other routes to show how the lines have traversed to this time and thus to us.

These lines are authenticated by one and all churches as being accurate.