



**PEOPLE**

**MISSION**

**CONNECTED**



**We are all called to mission**  
‘Here’ where we live or  
‘There’ where we might go.





# GC3 partners with **local churches** for global mission



**71**  
Sending  
churches



**206**  
People serving



**39**  
Countries



# Our mission partners





# Where our **206** mission partners serve

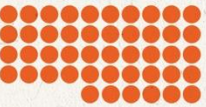
Each dot on the map represents a mission partner, individual or family.

Not on  
the map

Restricted Access  
Countries (RAC)

29 

Based in NZ  
and regularly  
travelling overseas

46 

Based in  
NZ working  
cross-culturally

40 

**120** based  
overseas





# Grab a copy of the latest **Daily Prayer** Guide





# Why are we here?

## What are we here for?

/ How do we become more missional?





# Why are we here?

## Outline

Biblical Basis

Church History

Our Churches Today

Self-reflection - individually





# Why are we here?

## Biblical Basis

### 1 In the Old Testament:

God's purpose for man before the Fall, Gen 1: 28

For Abraham, Gen 17: 3-8

During the Exile, Ezekiel 36: 22-23

### 2 In the New Testament:

Jesus' purpose for His followers

Matt 5: 14-16; Jn 17: 18-21; Acts 1:8





Why are we here?

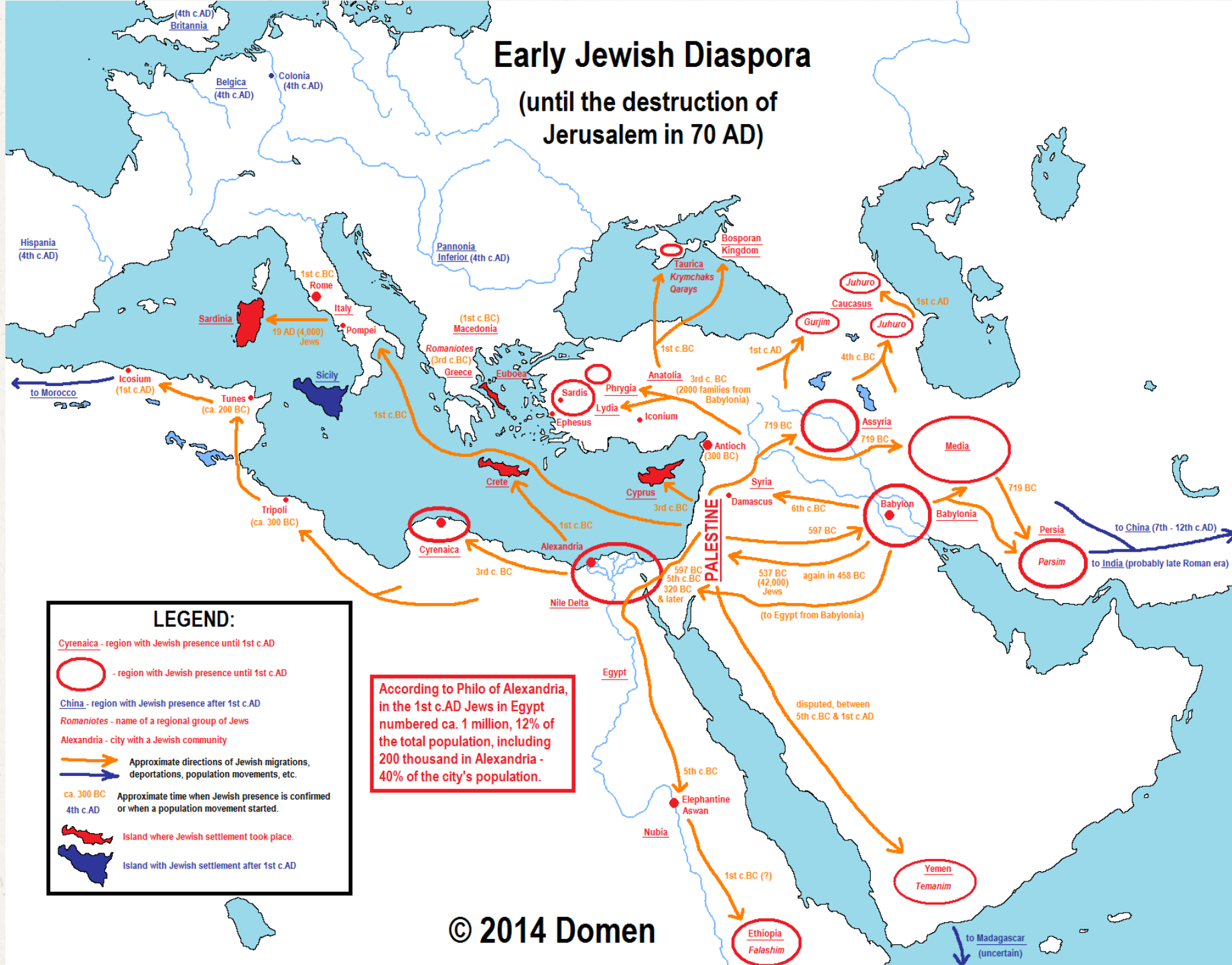
# Church History

- 1 What mission looked like in the early Church *i.e first century or two AD.*
- 2 The shape of mission over the next 1,400 years.
- 3 Since the 1500s.
- 4 How has the Church been like / not like the Jews in its attitudes to the non-Christian world?
- 5 Who, therefore, is called to mission?



# 70 AD

## Early Jewish Diaspora (until the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD)



### LEGEND:

- Cyrenaica - region with Jewish presence until 1st c. AD
- China - region with Jewish presence after 1st c. AD
- Romanioles - name of a regional group of Jews
- Alexandria - city with a Jewish community
- Approximate directions of Jewish migrations, deportations, population movements, etc.
- ca. 300 BC Approximate time when Jewish presence is confirmed or when a population movement started.
- 4th c. AD
- Island where Jewish settlement took place.
- Island with Jewish settlement after 1st c. AD

According to Philo of Alexandria, in the 1st c. AD Jews in Egypt numbered ca. 1 million, 12% of the total population, including 200 thousand in Alexandria - 40% of the city's population.



# 300 AD





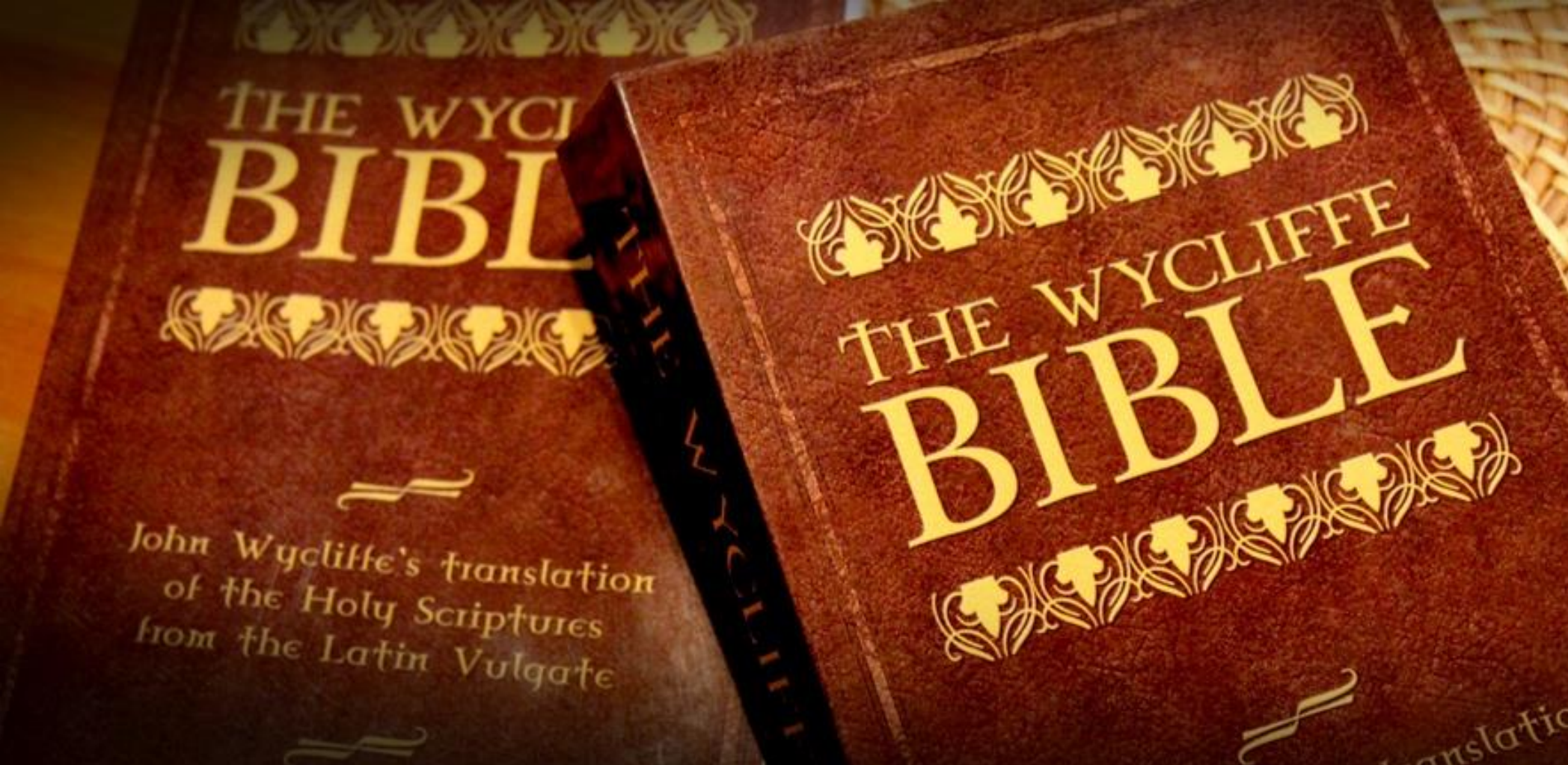
1096



The Crusades 1096 - 1291



1382





1456



Gutenberg Printing Press



1517

Martin Luther  
& the Reformation





# 1700 – 1800s

## The Rise of Protestant Mission

- William Carey > India, 1793
- Samuel Marsden > NZ, Christmas Day 1814
- Hudson Taylor > China, 1853

BUT Colonisation +/-

- Self-interest e.g. Treaty of Waitangi issues
- Viewed other civilisations as being lower/lesser



# 1700 – 1800s

## Social Action as **Mission**

- Health and Education
- Political, e.g. Wilberforce (1759 – 1833) & The Abolition of Slavery
- The Salvation Army (1865, London East End, William Booth) & The Industrial Revolution



## How are we doing **today**?

How are we like/not like the Jews in our attitudes to the non-Christian world?

- Christian ghettos
- A somewhat narrow view of mission



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2025

Who, therefore, is called to **mission**?

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Why are we here?

# Our Churches **Today**

- 1** What might a missional church look like today?
- 2** How can we help ourselves and each other to think and live missionally?





# Why are we here?

## Self Reflection

- / What is my general life purpose?  
How am I living that out now?

*“Mission is for now, worship is forever” – John Piper*

God made me to live in Him and to help others to know Him, wherever that is and however I am gifted.





# A Mission Liturgy part 1

Blessed are you Creator and Sustainer of the universe, Who brings forth bread from the earth.

You have given us your peace, and set a hunger in our hearts. Restore our strength.

Give new energy to tired limbs, new thought to weary minds.

**This is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**

Lord, we are honoured that you call us your friends.

Call us afresh to know and experience your love;

**For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**

Fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit that we may use the gifts you have given each one of us with courage and compassion;

**For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**

Open our eyes Lord, to see your grace at work beyond our church buildings and institutions;

**For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**





# A Mission Liturgy part 2

Help us Lord, to work with you in building communities of faith allowing your Gospel to be expressed in our hurting world;

**For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**

May we proclaim afresh your faithfulness and constant love in a changing and uncertain world;

**For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!**

Let us see with the eyes of faith;

**For mission is seeing what You, God, are doing and joining in.**

**For the building of Your kingdom and to the glory of Your name;**

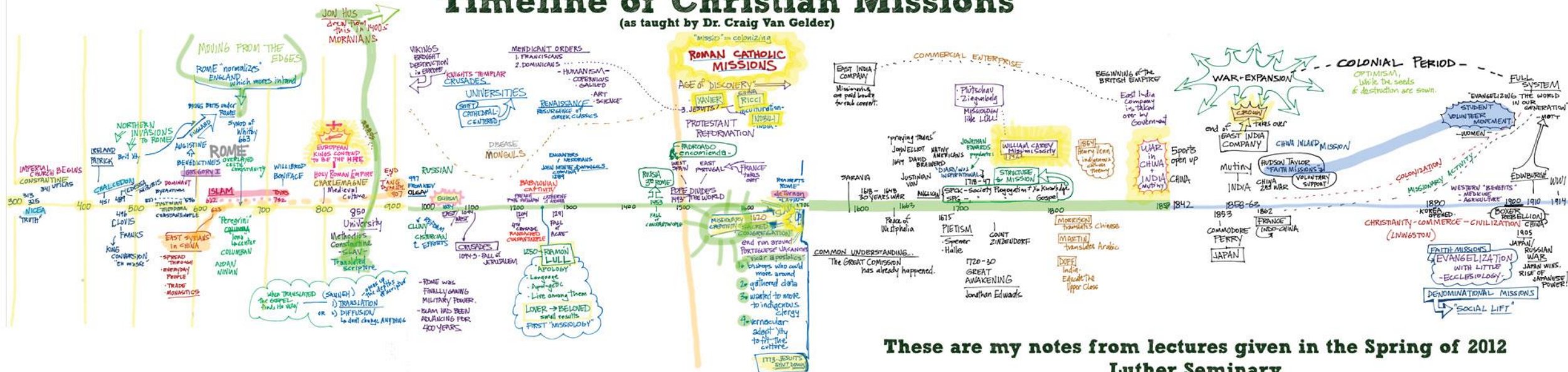
**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**





## Timeline of Christian Missions

(as taught by Dr. Craig Van Gelder)



**These are my notes from lectures given in the Spring of 2012  
Luther Seminary**