3 Formative Periods Within Christian History

**Early Church**
- 100–500 AD
- Debate: Doctrines of God and Christ
- Distinctive: Trinity: Christ with us
- Defence: Creeds (e.g. Apostles’, Nicene)
- Denominator: Orthodox/Catholic
- Dating: Entering Christendom in West & East

**Reformation Era**
- 1500–1600
- Debate: Doctrines of grace and church
- Distinctive: Justification: Christ for us
- Defence: Confessions (e.g. Augsburg, Heidelberg)
- Denominator: Lutheran/Reformed/Anabaptist
- Dating: Assuming Christendom in the West

**Evangelical Revival**
- 1700–1800
- Debate: Doctrines of Spirit and mission
- Distinctive: Regeneration: Christ in us
- Defence: Choruses (e.g. And can it be?), and Correspondence (e.g. Newton’s letters)
- Denominator: Evangelical
- Dating: Exiting Christendom in the West