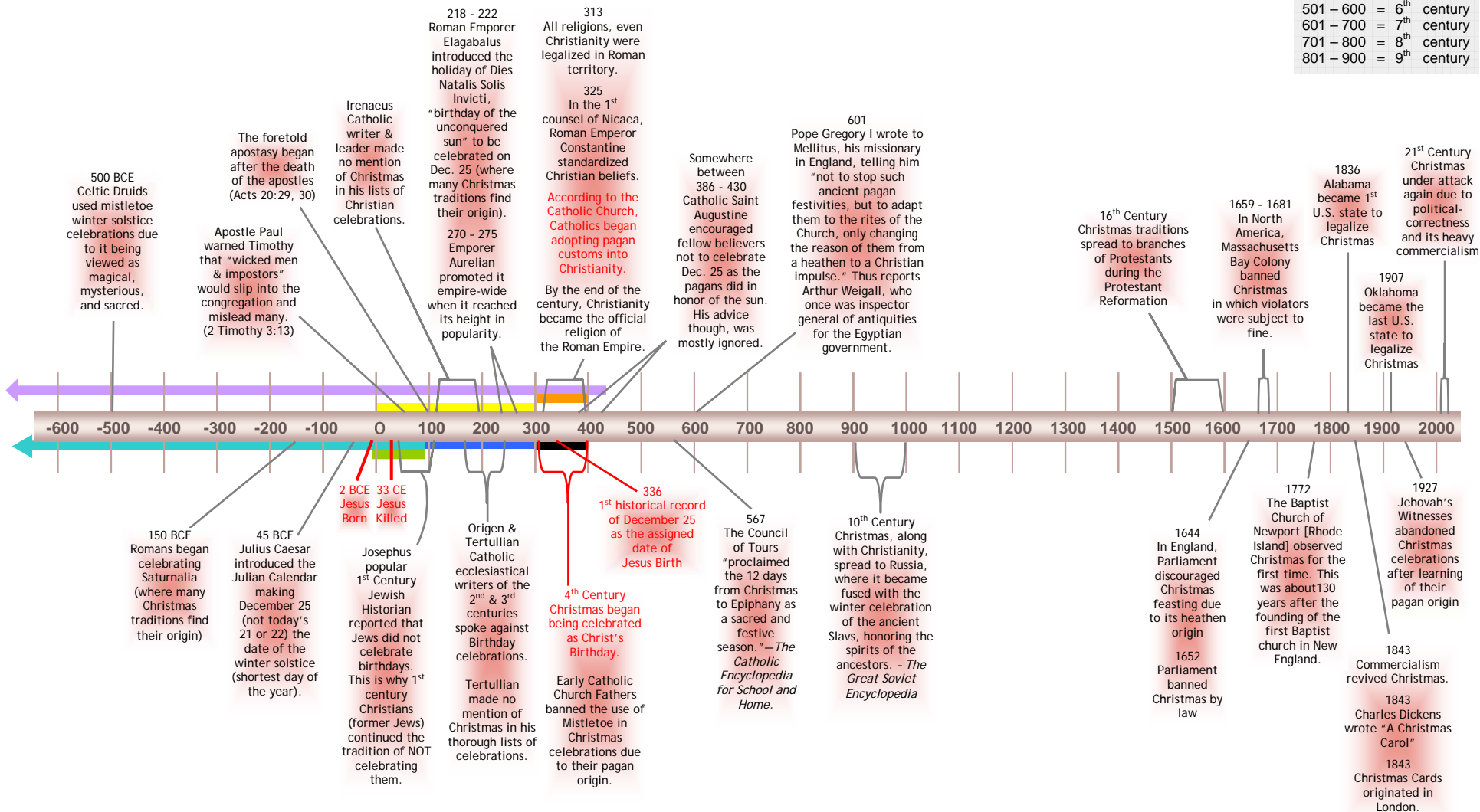


Historical Timeline Involving Christmas

An overwhelming majority of sources agree that Christmas was almost entirely influenced by pre-Christian pagan celebrations. This timeline shows important events that affected how Christmas began and how it was viewed throughout history.

1 – 100	= 1 st century
101 – 200	= 2 nd century
201 – 300	= 3 rd century
301 – 400	= 4 th century
401 – 500	= 5 th century
501 – 600	= 6 th century
601 – 700	= 7 th century
701 – 800	= 8 th century
801 – 900	= 9 th century



Recorded Bible History. No mention of Christmas. No mention of any holy person celebrating a birthday - only sinners (like Pharaoh and Herod). (Gen. 40:20; Matt. 14:6; Mark 6:21-28; John 18:36)

Period of Biblical writings about the earthly life of Jesus Christ. No mention of his date of birth; nor its being celebrated by his 12 apostles.

Period where Mithraism (syncretic Hellenistic mystery religion) was practiced in the Roman Empire. Mithras was a Roman soldiers god whose legendary birth (as some stories go) resembles the birth of Christ (being born of a virgin in the presence of shepherds). Devotees of Mithra (says the Catholic Encyclopedia) celebrated the birthday of the invincible sun (dies natalis Solis Invicti) on December 25. L.M. Wright, author of "Christianity, Astrology, And Myth" 2002; suggests that the early Christian Church was influenced by much of the myth and symbolism of Mithraism.

No mention of Christmas nor any celebration of Christ's birthday for hundreds of years after Jesus & his apostles died. The book *Sacred Origins of ProFound Things* states: "For two centuries after Christ's birth, no one knew, and few people cared, exactly when he was born." Thus birthday celebrations, even of gods and leaders, were condemned as far as the late third century by Roman Catholic leaders.

The cult of Sol Invictus was the Roman Empire's leading official cult of the fourth century - (Wikipedia)

History of Sun worship. Began in ancient Babylonia (between 2269 BCE and 2030 BCE) by worshiping the sun god Shamash & Nimrod (parallels exist between Babylonian New Years & Christmas celebrations - historian Pimlott in *The Englishman's Christmas*).

All Religions (including formerly persecuted Christianity) in Roman territory were legalized. It took nearly the entire 4th century for the Roman empire to transition State Religion from pagan cults to Christianity. The Merging of cultic tradition with Christianity greatly assisted in this transition.