

# ***Church History***



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- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21<sup>st</sup> century



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- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - *Modern Empire-Building*
  - *Post-War Religion*
  - *Conflicts of the “Greatest Generation” (part 6)*



# ***The Modern Age***

- It was a time of discovery and division  
1948 Korea was divided between North and South





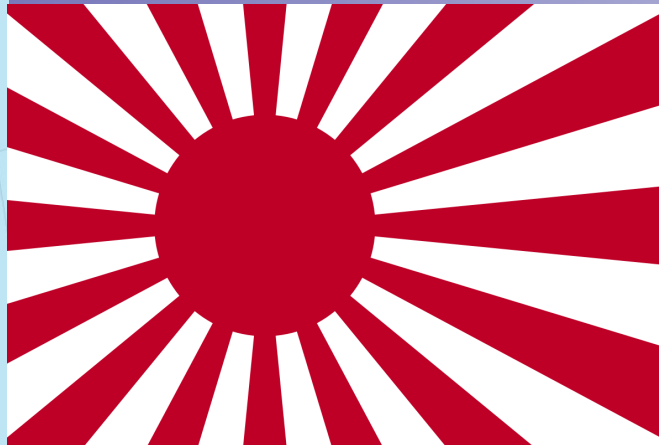
# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Okay, before I go any further with that, I'm always at least a little bit amazed when I realize that a lot of people often don't know where Korea actually is—here, on the north side of China (parallel to Japan)
  - They'll be shocked when they see people bundled up against the frigid cold on old episodes of *M\*A\*S\*H*, muttering, “I thought that Korea was hot and jungle-y...” (usually because they've confused Korea with Vietnam)
  - But you can see why Korea up north is going to have totally different weather patterns than Vietnam (which is parallel to Rangoon and the Philippines, down south)



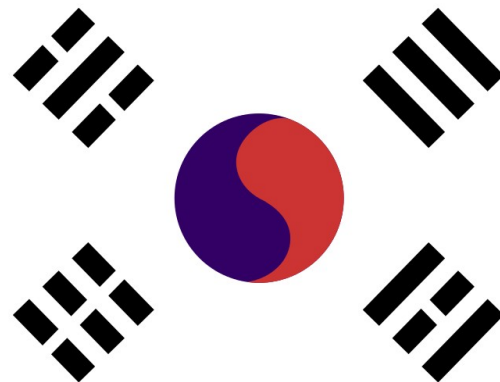
# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Okay, before I go any further with that...
  - During the Japanese occupation of Korea, native Koreans were not allowed to speak, read, or write in Korean—nor even to use their own, Korean names so you can understand why, in August of 1945, the Korean people were overjoyed when Russia finally declared war on Japan and invaded from the north, with support from Chinese communists  
(NOTE: Russia had gone to war against Japan several times in the past century, and they didn't want to do it again until they knew that the Allies were going to win—so they declared war on August 9th, and then happily celebrated V-J Day on August 15th, dividing up the spoils with everyone else who was on the winning side)



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    - **But then, after the war, Korea found itself occupied by the USSR in the north and the USA in the south**
      - After years of being occupied by a not-very-nice foreign power, the Koreans weren't giddy about this
- So the Soviets withdrew in 1948 (sorta), and we withdrew in 1949 (sorta), leaving a provisional Korean government in place



(NOTE: The provisional government—nominally backed by the USA—brutally put down a succession of strikes and rebellions led by Korean workers—who were being openly backed by the USSR)





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  - But then, after the war, Korea found itself occupied by the USSR in the north and the USA in the south
  - **In 1948, the south declared itself an independent state so the pro-communist north officially did as well**  
The USSR and pro-communist forces in China supported North Korea, but the USA remained neutral





# ***The Modern Age***

- It was a time of discovery and division  
1948 Korea was divided between North and South  
Stalin blockaded Berlin



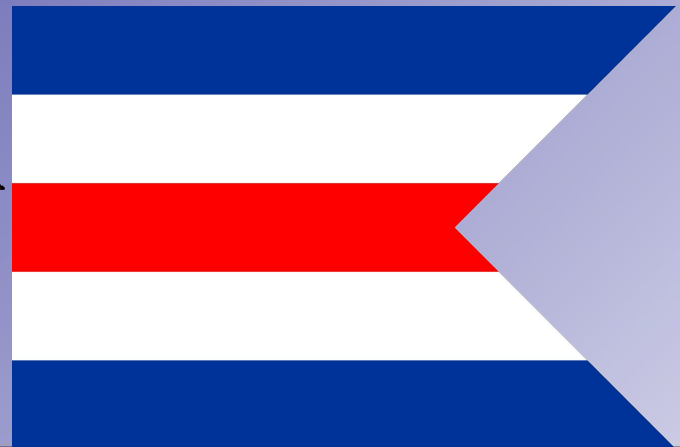
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- Funky little teaching moment—

- If you'll remember, Germany had been divided up by the victors after World War II, with each major power taking a chunk of the pie

- By 1947, the British and American zones combined to become the “Bizonie,” moving toward independence but in the East, the USSR and Poland still held onto their zones with an increasingly controlling hand

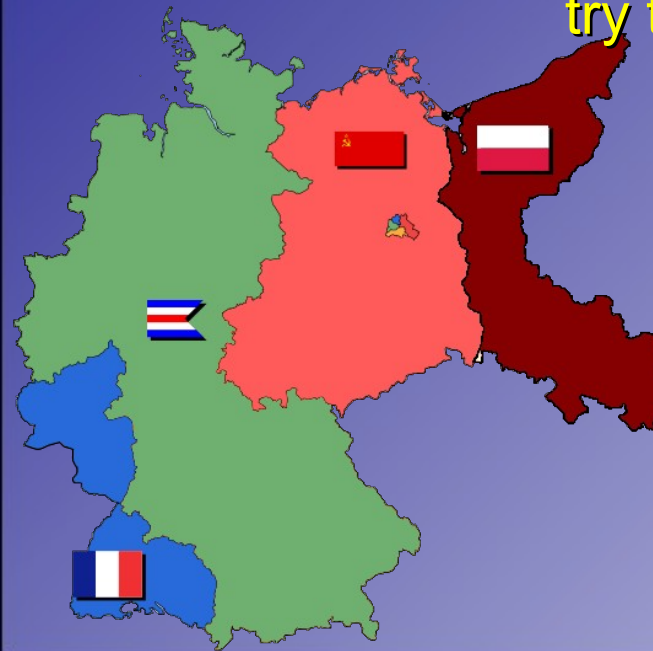
(NOTE: Berlin fell squarely within the Soviet zone but it was also divided up between the major powers, just like the rest of the country)





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  - The Reichsmark had become completely deflated by this time—in part because the USSR had printed so many of them specifically to destroy the economy—so the other Allies created a new “Deutsche mark” to try to help save the economy, and it was working  
(NOTE: But the USSR had been consciously trying to destroy the economy, so...)



AA0000077A4

Deutsche Bundesbank  
Ullrich  
Frankfurt am Main  
1. August 1991



# *The Modern Age*

- It was a time of discovery and division
  - 1948 Korea was divided between North and South
  - Stalin blockaded Berlin
    - He ordered that all traffic and freight coming into Berlin from the west to be stopped and returned then blockaded the Allied zones, destroying all water and electrical lines to those inhabitants
      - When the western world protested, he argued that he was doing nothing to actively harm the zones, and that his earlier agreements did not obligate him to provide water or electricity nor the use of any roads or train tracks in eastern Germany to bring in food for the western Allies
      - The people in the western zones only had enough food to last a little over a month, and Stalin was sure that the west wouldn't start another war over the *Germans*, any more than they would over the *Koreans*...



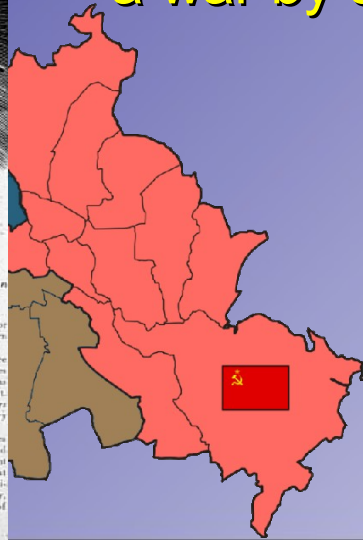


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- He ordered that all traffic and freight coming into Berlin from the west to be stopped and returned then blockaded the Allied zones, destroying all water and electrical lines to those inhabitants
- So the United States initiated a massive airlift called "Operation Vittles" to support the people of Berlin, dropping in food, medicine, and even milk
- Though the USSR had 50 times as many ground combat troops in Germany as the US, they weren't prepared for the massive airlift—nor to risk starting a war by shooting down planes carrying *milk*...



# The Modern Age

- Funky little teaching moment—

- U.S. pilot Gail Halvorsen took that a step further
- He'd visited children in Berlin and given them his last two sticks of chewing gum, promising that he'd make it a point to drop them something to lift their spirits
- When they asked how they'd know that it was his plane flying over, he promised to wiggle his wings for them (earning the name, "Uncle Wiggly-Wings")
- That night, he stayed up making miniature parachutes so that the next day, he could drop individual candy bars and packets of gum for the children, wiggling his wings as he flew over
- Soon, other pilots were doing the same thing, and children from across the U.S. sent their own candy to Germany to be dropped into Berlin
- By the end of the airlift, in addition to all of the food and medical supplies, "Operation Little Vittles" had dropped over 23 tons of candy into Berlin, giving Berlin families the morale needed to keep going
- What can we learn from that today?





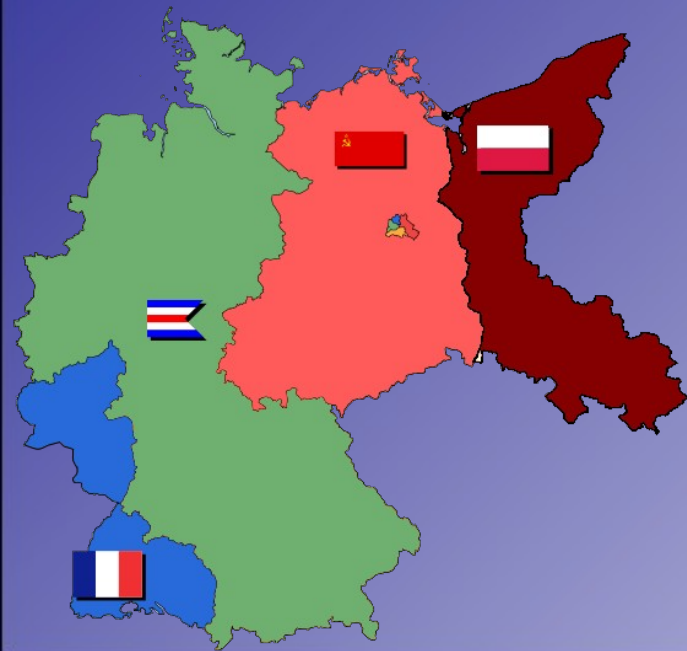
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    - So the United States initiated a massive airlift to support the people of Berlin, dropping in food, medicine, and even milk
    - **In the end, the Berlin blockade was P.R. victory for the west and a P.R. nightmare for the USSR, so Stalin felt forced to lift the blockade in 1949**
      - But the East-West divisions in Germany still widened as a result



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  - 1949 Germany became a republic(s)



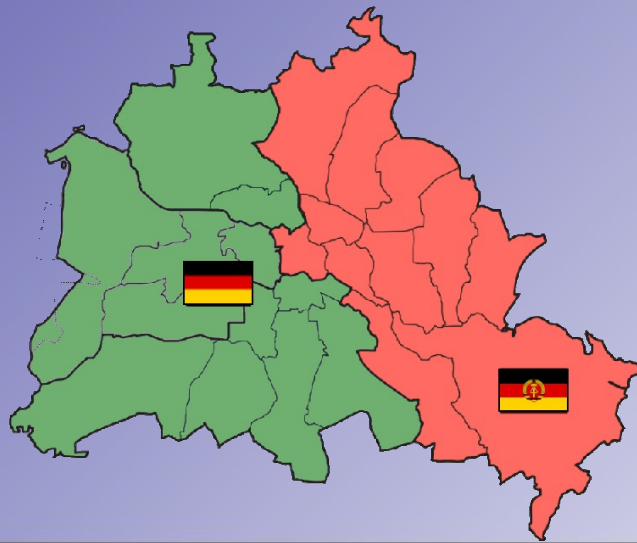
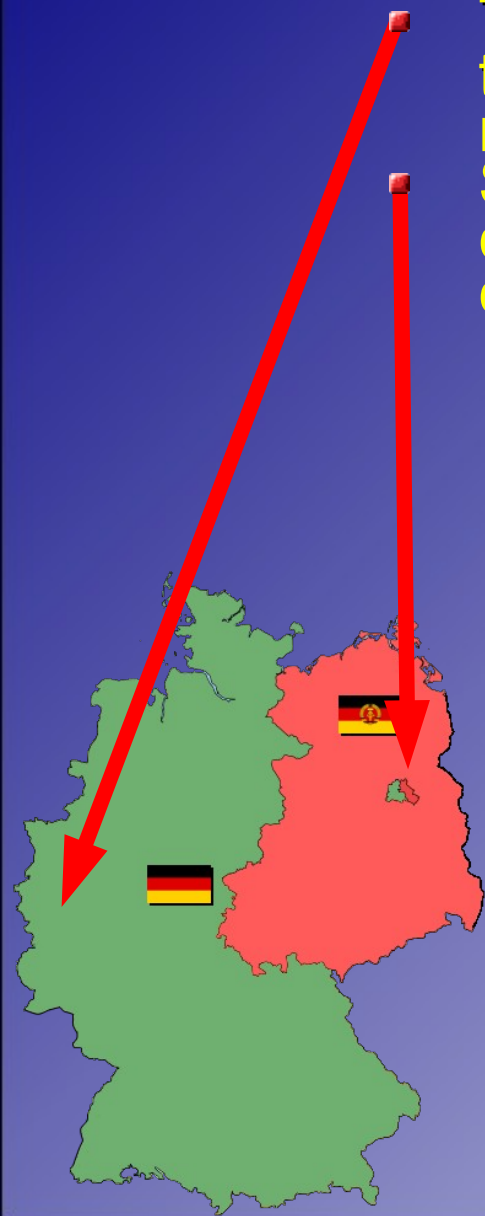


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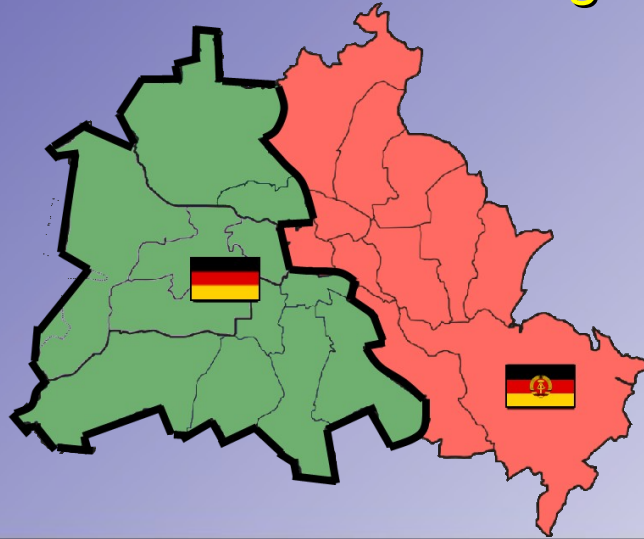
The Bizone became a Trizone, then quickly became the Federal Republic of Germany, with Bonn as its new capital

So the eastern Soviet zone declared itself to be the communist German Democratic Republic, with its capital in East Berlin



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  - So the eastern Soviet zone declared itself to be the communist German Democratic Republic, with its capital in East Berlin
  - **In June of 1961, GDR First Secretary Walter Ulbricht assured the international community that “No one has the intention of erecting a wall” dividing Berlin**
    - **In August of 1961, the GDR began erecting a wall dividing Berlin, completely cutting off West Berlin from East Germany—patrolled by 11,000 soldiers to prevent anyone from the East from going over to the West**





# ***The Modern Age***

- Funky little teaching moment<sup>2</sup>—
  - The Berlin Wall was actually not technically a wall—it was *four* walls, and lots of barbed wire fences—but more properly, it was an extended series of gaps and courtyards separating the East from the West, filled with pitfalls, stake traps, and mines, and surrounded by fences, walls, and armed guards





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  - **The Church of Reconciliation—a Berlin landmark since 1894—was demolished by the GDR in 1985 because it obscured the guards' view of the wall and because, as atheists, the GDR had left it vacant**
  - For those of us too young to remember this period ourselves, how would you think that the growth of this kind of atheistic communism around the world would affect the Western Church?





# *The Modern Age*

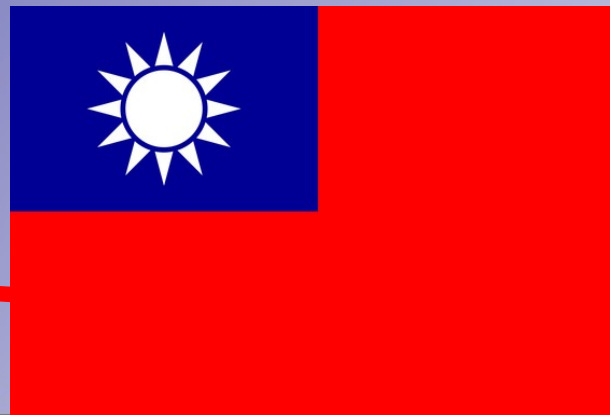
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1949 Germany became a republic(s)

China became a republic(s)

- I know we've talked about this, but just to remind us all of the timeframe of things, China finally, officially fell to communism in 1949  
(leaving the last remnants of a non-communist government to settle into exile in Taiwan)



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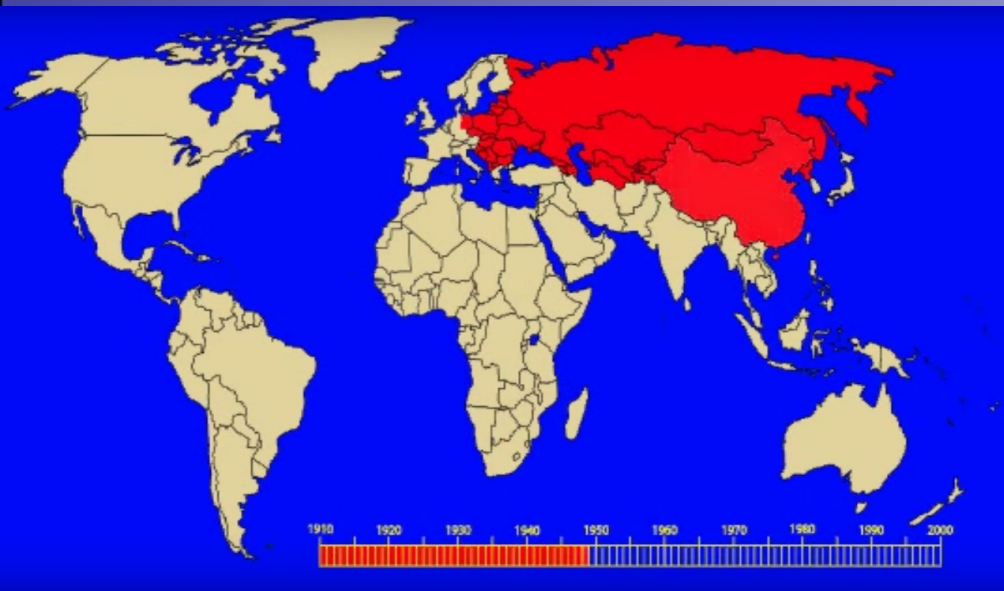
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- So in roughly the span of a year, the world had seen communism grow from being a Russian thing to becoming a Korean, Chinese, German, and Eastern European thing as well
- How would *you* have felt, watching that from 1949 America?



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## **NATO was formed**

- To protect themselves from a perceived threat, the free nations of the West (at least the ones in the northern hemisphere) came together and signed the North Atlantic Treaty
  - In it, the nations pledged to support one another against any kind of external threat, forming the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (i.e.; treating any attack against the sovereign territory of *one* NATO nation as an attack against every NATO nation)





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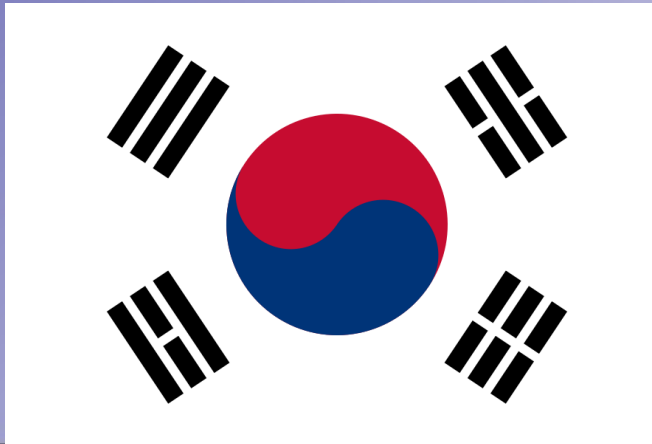
- To protect themselves from a perceived threat, the free nations of the West (at least the ones in the northern hemisphere) came together and signed the North Atlantic Treaty
- **In response to NATO, the Soviet Union and its European satellites formed the very similar Warsaw Pact in 1955—though with the crucial difference of automatically putting all European communist troops under the direct command of the Soviet Union**
  - Each step made by one side of the Cold War was matched and/or one-upped by the other side
    - What can we learn from that today?





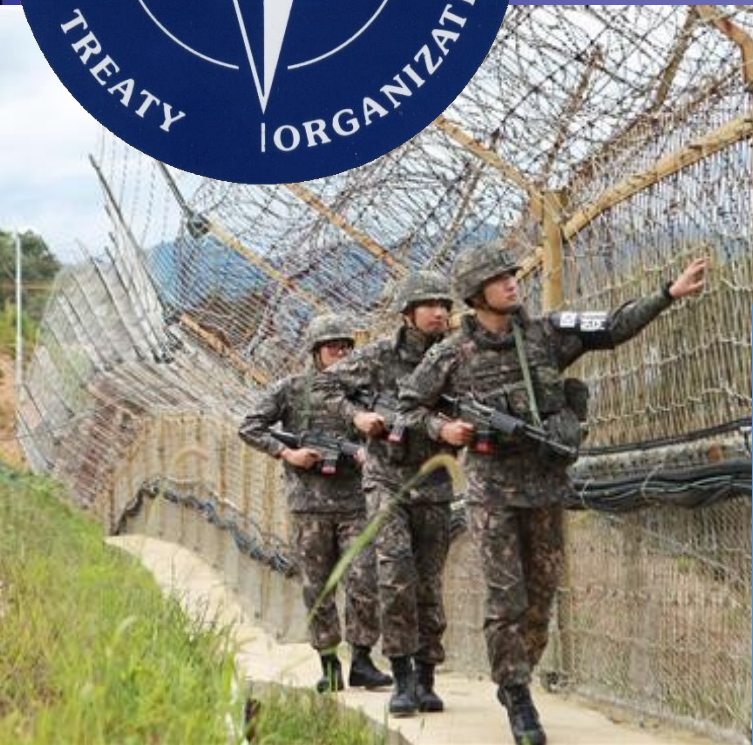
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  - But due to the strategic importance of nearby Japan, and thanks to the strength of NATO



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    - But due to the strategic importance of nearby Japan, and thanks to the strength of NATO, and with the support of the United Nations Command, the United States felt emboldened to redeploy troops to defend South Korea from the invasion
- (NOTE: Technically, since no one other than the Koreans ever officially declared war, the “Korean War” was just an international “police action”)  
(NOTE<sup>2</sup>: Though an armistice was signed in 1953 no peace treaty was ever ratified, meaning that the war is still actively going on, 67 years later)

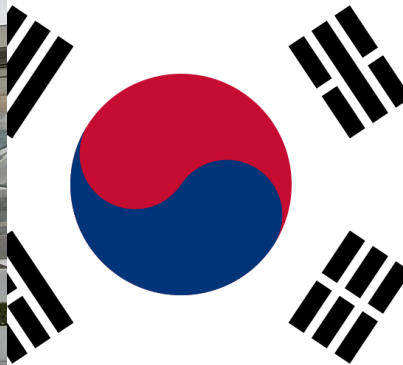




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- **Funky little teaching moment—**
  - In 1950, Stalin gave North Korea the go-ahead to invade South Korea, confident that the West would never be willing to risk another war by directly supporting the Koreans
  - **What all of this has done to the spiritual landscape of Korea is profound**
    - South Korea ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in the list of the world's most irreligious countries, with 57% of the populace responding that they were atheists and/or had no religious beliefs whatsoever

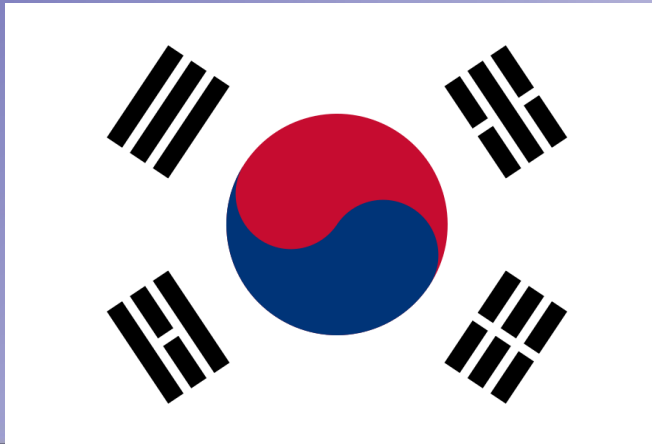
(NOTE: The populace of North Korea isn't much better, coming in at 63% of their populace being irreligious—bolstered by the cult of personality worshipping their Supreme Leader)





# *The Modern Age*

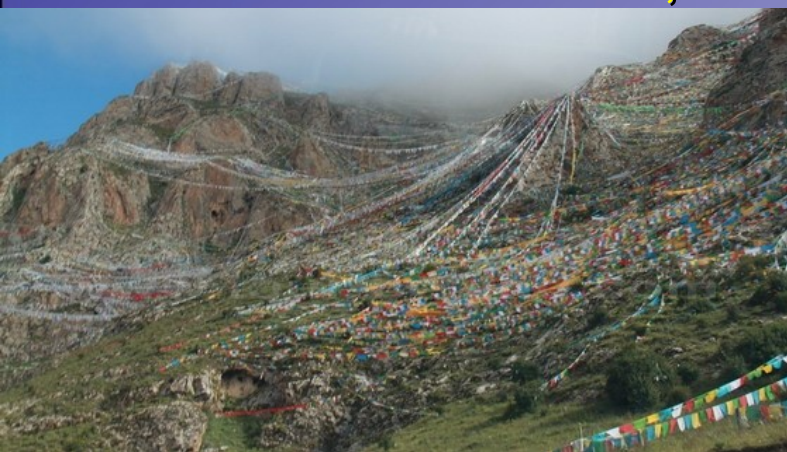
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    - **And yet, South Korea ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the list of the world's most *sending* nations, with 1,014 missionaries being sent out per million church members**  
(NOTE: That's nearly *three times* as many missionaries per capita as the U.S. sends out)







- And yet, South Korea ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the list of the world's most *sending* nations, with 1,014 missionaries being sent out per million church members, the Yoido Full Gospel Church is the largest church in the world, with 480,000 members and a weekly attendance of 200,000 (and their Prayer Mountain ministry regularly attracts more than a million Christians from around the world every year)





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    - What does all of that suggest, and what can we learn from it today?



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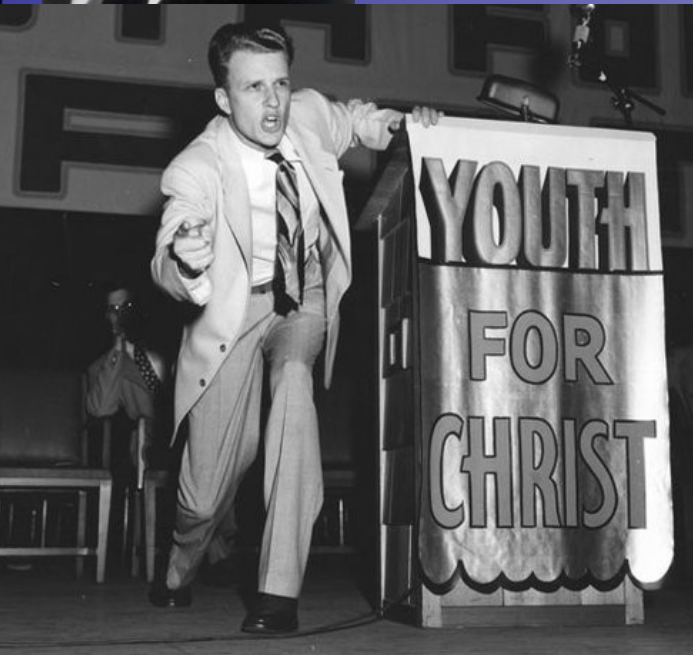
1949 Germany became a republic(s)  
China became a republic(s)  
NATO was formed

Billy Graham preached his first major crusade

- Graham was born in North Carolina, then studied at Wheaton, and then pastored the First Baptist Church in nearby Western Springs

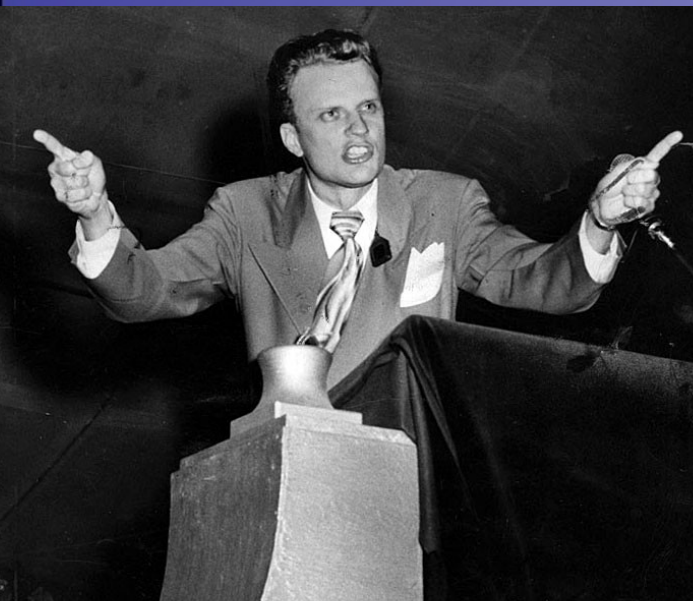
- In 1944, fellow pastor Torrey Johnson's local radio program was getting cancelled for lack of funds so Graham took it over at age 27 and both the program and Graham boomed in popularity

- In 1947, he became the youngest person (at age 30) to serve as president of any U.S. college or university when he was hired to take over Northwestern Bible College in Minneapolis
  - He also began touring as a full-time evangelist with Johnson's newly-created Youth for Christ organization



# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - The Christ for Greater Los Angeles Committee worked to host a series of outreach events over five years, hosting such speakers as Charles Templeton, Jack Shuler, and Torrey Johnson
  - By 1949, they were wanting to host a huge event that would last for three weeks—so Johnson recommended calling Graham to be their speaker, since he'd already spoken at seven campaigns over the past two years
  - Over one thousand prayer groups around Los Angeles prayed for the campaign for months before it started in September—and it was held over for *eight* weeks
    - The circus tent that the meetings were held in could seat 9,000 people—and by the end of the campaign, Graham had spoken to more than 350,000 different people in the crusade and 3,000 people had come forward for Christ (NOTE: That's nothing to sneeze at, but it's only 8.5% of the crowd—and even Graham himself stated that he believed that only about 25% of those who come forward at these events actually became Christians—and statistically, only 6% of those are still active in their faith a year later... leaving a total of 45 genuine converts)





# The Modern Age

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - The Christ for Greater Los Angeles Committee worked to host a series of outreach events over five years, hosting such speakers as Charles Templeton, Jack Shuler, and Torrey Johnson
  - I don't go through those statistics to slam Billy Graham or the concept of mass evangelism as a whole, because those are 750 (or even if it's just 45) more Christians than would have existed *without* the Los Angeles crusade
  - But if you as an individual were to invest—really *invest* your *life*—into even only 2 to 3 non-Christians over the next calendar year, then statistically, at least *one* of them would quite probably be an active Christian at the end of that time
  - So if each of those thousand prayer groups had really invested themselves into praying for and reaching out to just 2 to 3 non-Christians over the same time period that they prayed for the crusade, then would we have seen a *thousand* active new Christians at the end of that year instead of 45?
    - And if *everyone* then went and did that again the *next* year... and every year...?
    - One is *such* a bigger number than 3,000...





# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment<sup>2</sup>—
  - Studies indicate that 80% of active Protestant churchgoers think it's crucial for us to share our faith, 74% said that they feel like they could do it effectively, but 61% say that they haven't shared anything about God with any non-Christian in the past six months and 48% say that they've *never* reached out
  - A pastor recently did an informal survey to discern the top reasons why individuals struggle with outreach—
    - We often have little sense of urgency to reach the lost
    - We often have no non-Christian friends or contacts
    - We often focus more on what we are *against* than on what we are *for*
    - Our churches often have an ineffective evangelistic strategy of “you come” rather than “we go”
    - Church members often (even tacitly) think that evangelism is the role of the pastor, paid staff, and “gifted” people
    - Church today is often more about getting *my* needs met
    - Churches are in a retreat mode from a fallen culture
    - Christians fear that they might offend others if they share
    - Churches have unregenerate members who have not actually accepted Christ themselves
    - We often have too many activities in our lives; we keep ourselves too busy to actually reach the lost
  - What common element(s) do you see in these?



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**Billy Graham preached his first major crusade**

- Graham was born in North Carolina
- The huge success of the Los Angeles crusade propelled Graham to national attention

(NOTE: A large part of that success was due to the help of news mogul William Randolph Hearst —the same guy who'd amped up the Spanish-American War to sell newspapers, telling his artists when they complained there was nothing to report, "You furnish the pictures, and I'll furnish the war" —because when he heard about someone famous being converted in the crusade, he told all of his reporters to "puff Graham" in all of his papers)





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- The huge success of the Los Angeles crusade propelled Graham to national attention—but not *only* Graham

- Due to Graham's interconnection with the new movement, *Evangelicalism* was also propelled to national attention, and people began to associate Evangelicalism with a thriving, growing, active faith—or, in the eyes of mainline Christianity, with people who are far too concerned with having a “personal relationship” with Jesus Christ

- Either way, both Graham and Evangelicalism were gaining notoriety for impressing on people the importance of actively, personally *owning* their relationship with God





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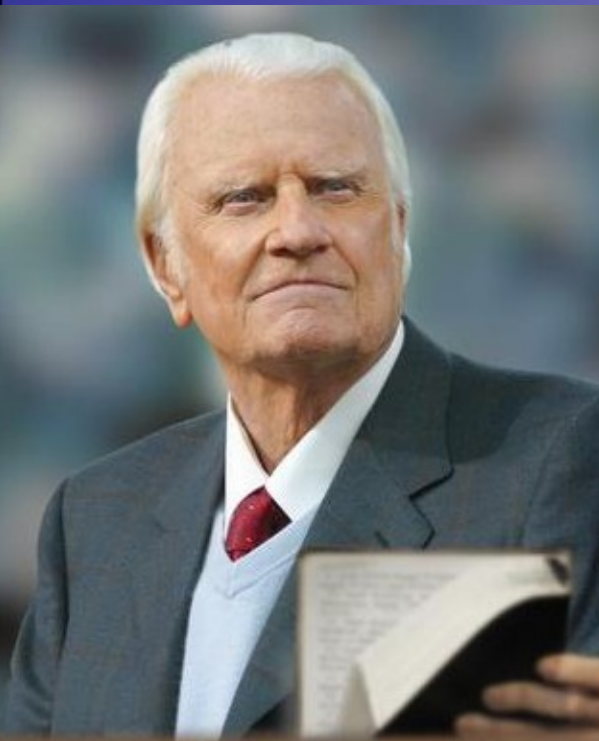
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- **And Billy Graham became indelibly imprinted on the American consciousness as our own living saint and an emblem of vibrant, modern Christianity**



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1950 **Missionaries of Charity was founded**

- **Anjezë Bojaxhiu was born to an Albanian family living in Macedonia, and knew from an early age that she wanted to be a missionary**

- So when she turned 18, Anjezë took her vows as a nun with the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland, taking the new name "Sister Teresa" after Thérèse of Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries

(and tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS sufferers, and florists and gardeners, and France, and radio care-a-thons, and...)





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- So when she turned 18, Anjezë took her vows as a nun with the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland, taking the new name "Sister Teresa"

**Moving to Bengal, she then spent the next two decades as a teacher at the Loreto convent school in Calcutta, but in 1946, she felt God's call to leave the Loreto sisterhood and become a "free nun" so that she could focus on helping the poor and distressed in the city streets, adopting a simple white sari with blue trim as her new habit**

- **Soon, she was joined by other young nuns, becoming the leader of a new, unofficial sisterhood**



# *The Modern Age*

- **It was a time of discovery and division**

1948 Korea was divided between North and South  
Stalin blockaded Berlin

1949 Germany became a republic(s)  
China became a republic(s)  
NATO was formed

Billy Graham preached his first major crusade

1950 **Missionaries of Charity was founded**

- Anjezë Bojaxhiu was born to an Albanian family living in Macedonia, and knew from an early age that she wanted to be a missionary
- **Teresa started a new school for the poor, begging on the streets for food, and her group of sisters continued to grow**
  - In 1950, Pope Pius XII (remember him?) gave her permission to start and lead a new congregation in Calcutta with the specific, stated goal to care for “the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone” and Sister Teresa thus *officially* became *Mother Teresa*





# *The Modern Age*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Mother Teresa began opening not only schools and orphanages, but also hospices for those who were dying of diseases that no one else wanted to help
  - In particular, her Missionaries of Charity opened up hospices for lepers, who were often left to die alone and ignored on the streets  
(NOTE: As Teresa said, “A beautiful death is for people who lived like animals to die like angels—loved and wanted”)



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  - Her unquestioning, unconditional love for absolutely everyone eventually caught the attention of national and world leaders, and she became something of an unofficial “goodwill ambassador” to the world
  - Taking her simple but profound message of “love everyone” with her, she visited Chernobyl victims in Russia, rescued children in the middle of the Lebanon War between Israel and the PLO, and eventually received a Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 (as well as the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985, and just about every other “nice person” prize that countries around the world can give)





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  - But in the midst of all of this ministry and love, Teresa herself dealt with decades-long periods where she felt utterly spiritually empty and disconnected from God—even doubting her faith
  - For extended periods of time, she felt that she was simply serving people or even her ministry rather than serving God, with whom she often felt she had little to no relationship... and yet, she remained faithful to her call



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    - But in the midst of all of this ministry and love, Teresa herself dealt with decades-long periods where she felt utterly spiritually empty and disconnected from God—even doubting her faith
    - Try to imagine how emotionally and spiritually painful it must be to be seen by most of the world as the *quintessential* woman of faith, and yet wonder if you have *any* real faith at all, and yet feel like you could never really express that...





# The Modern Age

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Mother Teresa began opening not only schools and orphanages, but also hospices for those who were dying of diseases that no one else wanted to help
  - But there have been serious criticisms of her ministry
    - The fact that she consistently struggled with her faith while encouraging others not to struggle with theirs has been perceived by some as a sign of hypocrisy
    - But more people have been upset that she was more concerned with helping people feel loved than she was with solving the issues that had *made* them feel unloved
      - No one can fix everything, but with millions of dollars of annual donations and the ear of pretty much every leader in the world, perhaps she *could* have worked to provide more hospitals than hospices, or more opportunities for economic self-sustenance than soup kitchens, etc.—i.e.; more *alleviation* of suffering than just support *through* it
      - But then, Teresa saw suffering as an act of worship—and thus to be embraced rather than prevented  
“Pain and suffering have come into your life, but remember pain, sorrow, suffering are but the kiss of Jesus—a sign that you have come so close to Him that He can kiss you”



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      - But then, Teresa saw suffering as an act of worship—and thus to be embraced rather than prevented—which is why her hospitals tended to provide only basic care (even though better facilities were accessible), and the strongest painkiller at her hospices was aspirin (even though stronger pain-managing medications were available)





# *The Modern Age*

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    - **So perhaps, as Mother Teresa herself often explained, her main goal was loving people into the Kingdom rather than truly helping them here on Earth—but the fact remains that she spent seven decades showing the world how to love people whom others had given up on, and that is a ministry in and of itself**
      - Today, the Missionaries of Charity is comprised of over 4,500 sisters operating nearly 650 missions in 133 countries, helping thousands to tangibly appreciate the love of God in their lives



# ***The Modern Age***

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**The Assumption of Mary became dogma**

