

Saint Augustine

13th November 354 – 28th August 430

Saint Augustine, also sometimes known as Blessed Augustine was an early Christian theologian and philosopher whose writings influenced the development of Western Christianity. He was the bishop of Hippo Regius (modern day Algeria). He is viewed as one of the most important Church Fathers in Western Christianity for his writings.

After his baptism and conversion to Christianity in 387, at the age of 31, Augustine developed his own ideas about theology, believing that having the grace of Christ was necessary to achieving human freedom. He helped develop the church's teaching on original sin and of peace over war.

When the Western Roman Empire began to fall apart, Augustine developed the idea of the Catholic Church as a spiritual city of God, instead of a material earthly city. His thoughts profoundly influenced the medieval world view. Augustine worked tirelessly in trying to convince the people of Hippo to convert to Christianity.

He also led many clergy under his authority to free their slaves.

