

At our last meeting we were speaking about the 7th century and in that century we were speaking about matters that is not part of church history (question 3/4) There are various names used for various tribes of the Servia is one of the leading tribes of them and you might find them under different names, but I think it would be hard to find out from an encyclopedia just what is meant by Servian or Serbian. (question) Yes, well, what I wanted was just the main fact about the peoples, but the Bulgarians were quite distinct from the Servians. The Servians were often 2 I didn't mean to go into detail on that, but when those tribes were converted and how, that was the assignment. assignment because I didn't want to take time for it in class. We were speaking about the beginning of Islam which is not in the way of church history. Really it should be a part of comparative religions or of missions, because Mohammedanism or Islam is not a phase of Christianity, and yet as you notice it is much nearer Christianity than many who call themselves Christians today. It has much more in common with Christianity than modernism has, far more, but it does not claim to be a part of the church, it claims to be distinct from it and consequently it would not probably be a part of church history. So ^{we} were interested in taking a brief examination of something that we could easily take a year ~~to~~ or two on. If our interest were in missions or comparative religions, our interest here is not so much in what Islam is as in its affect upon the Christian church and for that purpose, it was vital that we know when it started, that we know about its relation to Christianity, that we know a little bit about its teaching, how similar it is, and how different it is from Christianity, but note particularly ~~that~~ how it affects it, the progress of the Christian church, that is from the viewpoint of this course and from that viewpoint, it took Arabia, Syria and all of that region which into which Christianity was more and more penetrating and sealed them off and made them almost impenetrable to Christianity. And the thing that made them almost impenetrable was that the political power was in the hands of the Moslems