

## A CHRONOLOGY OF PROTESTANT BEGINNINGS: PORTUGAL

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### Historical Overview:

Lisboa (the nation's capital) was founded by the Phoenicians, according to legend:	2000 BC
Invasion and conquest by the Moors (Arab Muslims):	711-1150 AD
Founding of the Portuguese state:	1139
King Afonso Henriques expels the Moors with help from the Knights Templar:	ca 1150
Period of Portuguese explorations in the New World:	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> centuries
Portuguese Inquisition:	1536-1821
Series of Marian apparitions at Fátima:	1917
Military dictatorship:	1926-1974
Liberal revolution and limited religious liberty established:	1974
Number of North American mission agencies in 1996:	33
Indicates European society*	

### Significant Protestant Beginnings:

- 1656 - \*Anglican Church established among British immigrants.
- 1763 - \*Lutheran Church established among German immigrants.
- 1838 - \*European Missionary Society begins work among returned Portuguese emigrants.
- 1845 - \*A Reformed community was founded in Funchal, Island of Madeira, by a Scottish medical doctor, Robert Reid Kalley.
- 1867 - \*Christian Brethren (Plymouth Brethren)
- 1871 - \*British Methodists begin work in the north; now called the Evangelical Methodist Church.
- 1871 - \*Evangelical Presbyterian Church founded in Lisbon by Antonio de Matos.
- 1871 - \*The Lusitanian Church of Portugal founded by 11 Catholic priests as an independent movement; became affiliated with the Anglican Church in 1980.

- 1880s - \*Congregational work began under Manuel dos Santos Carvalho.
- 1888 - \*Early Baptist work begins; Brazilian Baptists arrive in 1908.
- 1904 - Seventh-day Adventists, General Conference
- 1936 - TEAM (The Evangelical Alliance Mission)
- 1945 - Conservative Baptist Foreign Missionary Society (now, CBInternational)
- 1947 - Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Portugal: Pastor Natanael Emmerich from Brazil (incorporated a majority of the existing Congregational churches).
- 1947 - Union of Evangelical Congregationalist Churches: formed by a group of churches that refused to join the merger that created the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
- 1949 - Child Evangelism Fellowship
- 1959 - Southern Baptist Convention, Foreign Mission Board (now, International Mission Board), affiliated with the Portuguese Baptist Convention
- 1965 - Church of God World Missions (Cleveland, TN)
- 1966 - Youth for Christ, USA
- 1967 - Assemblies of God, General Council
- 1971 - Greater Europe Mission
- 1972 - Presbyterian Church, USA
- 1972 - United Pentecostal Church International
- 1973 - Church of the Nazarene
- 1976 - Church of God of Prophecy
- 1978 - Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE)
- 1978 - Correll Missionary Ministries
- 1979 - Africa Evangelical Fellowship
- 1979 - Mission to the World, Presbyterian Church of America
- 1980 - WEC International
- 1984 - Mana Christian Church – Igreja Crista Maná
- 1986 - Mennonite Brethren Missions and Services
- 1986 - Pocket Testament League

- 1987 - Baptist Bible Fellowship International
- 1988 - Janz Teach Ministries, Canada
- 1990 - CEIFA Ministries International
- 1990 - Grace Brethren International Missions
- 1992 - The Missionary Church, World Partners
- 1995 - PAZ International
- 1996 - BGCC Global Ministries, Canada

**Date of Origin Unknown:**

- Alpha Evangelical Church
- Baptist World Mission
- Christian Church and Churches of Christ
- Christian Congregation of Portugal (missionaries from Brazil)
- Christian Presbyterian Church of Portugal (has close relations with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil)
- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith (Philadelphia)
- Churches of Revival
- Elim Church of Christ
- Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Maranatha Mission
- New Apostolic Church
- Pentecostal Church of God
- Reformed Church in Portugal (founded by a missionary from the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa)
- The Salvation Army
- Wesleyan Methodist Church



**NOTES:**

- (1) Dates listed indicate the earliest recorded ministry or in case of discrepancies, the date most frequently indicated.

(2) North American Agencies include U.S. and Canadian.

## **SOURCES:**

(1) PROLADES (Latin American Socio-religious Studies Program), international headquarters in San José, Costa Rica: [www.prolades.com](http://www.prolades.com), [prolades@racsa.co.cr](mailto:prolades@racsa.co.cr)

(2) J. Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann, editors, *Religions of the World* (ABC-Clío Publishers, 2002)

(3) Peter Brierley, *World Churches Handbook* (London: Christian Research, 1997)