

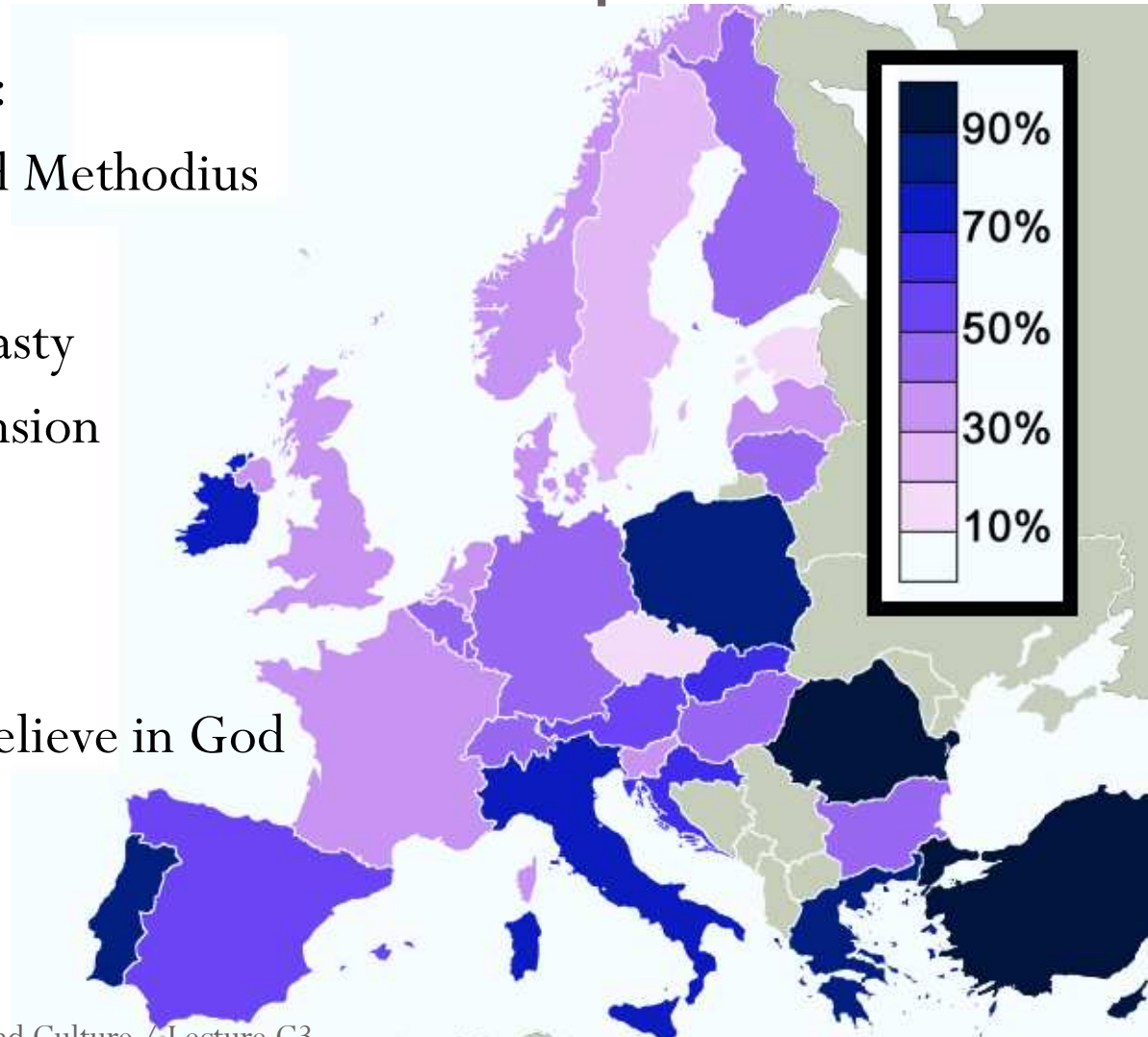
Czech History & Culture

Lecture nr. C3:
Czech Republic and the religion
Ing. Petr David, VŠFS

Religion in the Czech Republic

- The past history:
 - Saints Cyril and Methodius
 - Came 863 AD
 - Premyslid Dynasty
 - Christian expansion

- Today:
19 % of Czechs believe in God



Jan Hus (1372 – 1415)

- Philosopher, pedagogue, priest and reformer of the Church
- Contributor to Protestantism
- Jan Hus:
 - spoke out against indulgences
 - Pope has no right take up the sword in the name of the Church
 - Head of the Church is Jesus, not Pope
- Excommunicated in 1411
- 6 July 1415, Konstanz
 - burned at the stake for heresy against the doctrines of the Catholic Church



Hussite Wars – the beginning

- Attempt of Catholic Church to stop the Hussite movement by condemnation of Jan Hus was not successful
- Opposite effect – Hus became a martyr
- Two groups of Hussites formed (moderate and radical)
- The year 1419
 - First Defenestration of Prague
 - Death of King of Bohemia Wenceslaus IV
 - New king Sigismund not accepted
 - ➔ Preparing the Crusade against Bohemian Kingdo

Hussite Wars – the fights

- 1420 - The first anti-Hussite crusade
 - Pope Martin V, Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund
 - Battle of Vítkov Hill – Crusaders defeated
- 1421 – The second anti-Hussite crusade
 - Reaction to not successful first crusade
 - Defeated again, great shame (1422 – Kutná Hora)
- 1427 and 1431 – 3rd and 4th crusade – the same result 😊
- From 1432 - negotiations, peace agreement
- Radical Hussites separated from the moderate Hussites
- Battle of Lipany (1434) >> Radical Hussites defeated

Military strategy

- **Jan Žižka** - military leader and warrior
- **Prokop the Great** – priest, military leader



To remember...

- Czech priest and church reformer, burned at stake in 1415
→ Jan Hus
- The followers of Jan Hus, fighting against Crusaders
→ Hussites
- The military leader of the Hussites, statue at Vítkov (Prague)
→ Jan Žižka