*HIPPO #7*

*“Gregory of Tours on the Conversion of Clovis” (Chapter 17, page 438)*

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| **H** | ***H****istorical Context* | This was written in the 6th century CE. At this time the Roman Empire had fallen and the Merovingian Dynasty was just beginning. Western Europe was beginning to convert to Roman Catholicism (from their pagan beliefs) in larger numbers, while Islam had yet to be founded.  |
| **I** | ***I****ntended Audience* | This was intended to inspire more Franks (and Western Europeans) to convert to Roman Catholicism. If their king converted because God helped him win a battle, maybe they might also be blessed if they converted.  |
| **P** | ***P****urpose* | The purpose of this document was for St. Gregory to write an inspiring and exaggerated record of King Clovis’ reason for converting to Roman Catholicism, as to motivate others to do the same. More converts would then strengthen the power of the Roman Catholic Church.  |
| **P** | ***P****oint of View* *(P.O.V.)* | This was written by St. Gregory in his “History of the Franks”. He was a Bishop (a high-ranking member of the church) of the Roman Catholic church and would have stood to gain from more converts to Christianity.  |
| **O** | ***O****utside Info.* | Roman Catholicism will continue to gain followers and power in Western Europe. But it will eventually split into two separate churches after the Great Schism of 1054 CE. The Eastern Mediterranean and later Eastern Europe will follow Eastern Orthodox Christianity as opposed to Roman Catholicism.  |