



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Ten Key Turning Points in his Life

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945, April 9th)

IBS-ELS Website: bonhoeffersociety.org



Who was Dietrich Bonhoeffer?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) was a German pastor, theologian, ecumenist, and peace activist. He wrote profoundly about Christian faith, community, grace, and ethics, centered on the question, 'Who is Christ for us today?' The unspeakable human suffering resulting from the atrocities of the Nazi Regime compelled him into church resistance and, finally, political resistance culminating in a conspiracy against that regime aimed at installing a new government that would end the war and those atrocities. Imprisoned during the last two years of his life, Bonhoeffer was executed just weeks before the end of the war.

1918: Death of Walter Bonhoeffer

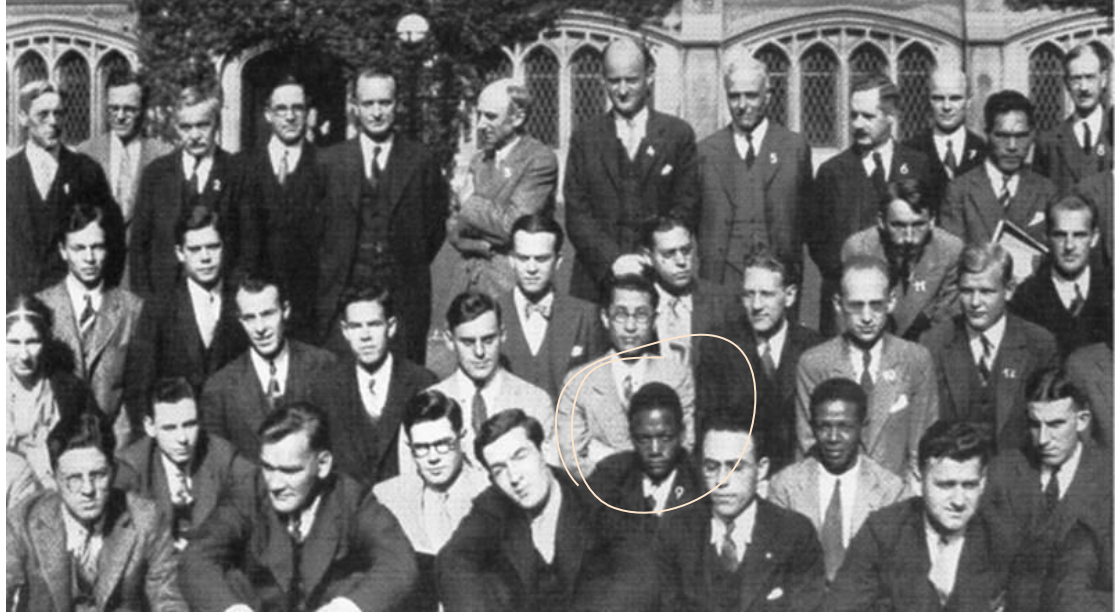


1930-1931: Union Theological Seminary in NYC



Jean Lassere & Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1930-1931: Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, NYC



Albert Franklin
Fisher

1933: Adolf Hitler's Rise to Power



1935: Confessing Church Seminary at Finkenwalde



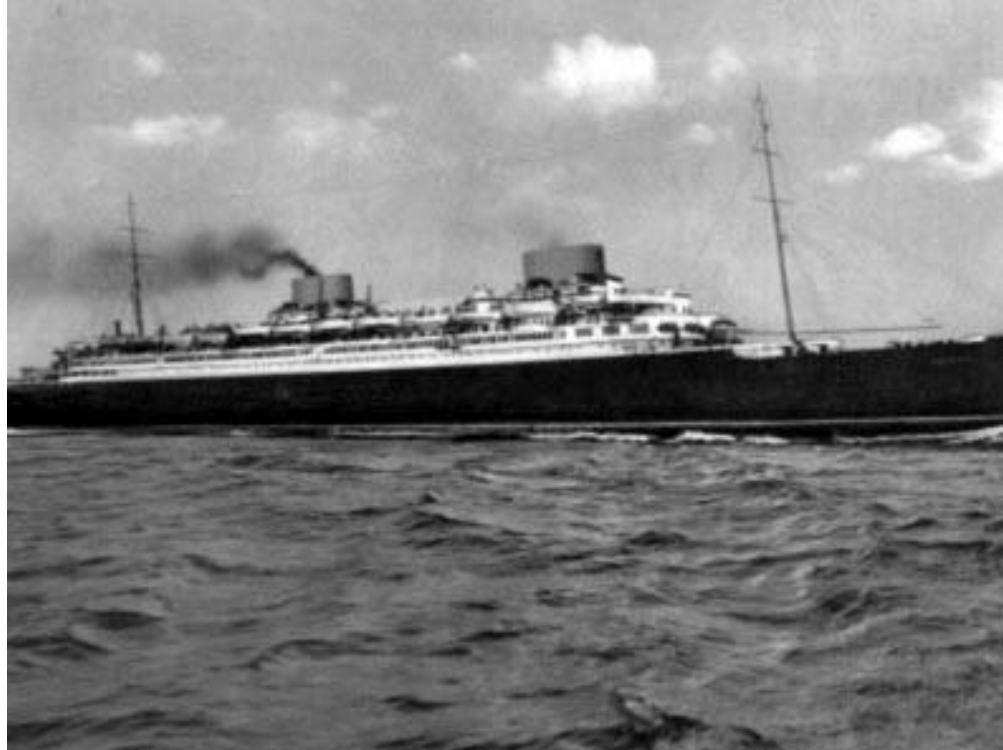
Eberhard Bethge & Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1938: *Kristallnacht*, The Night of Broken Glass



Artwork by Kieler Carson

1939: Germany → New York → Germany



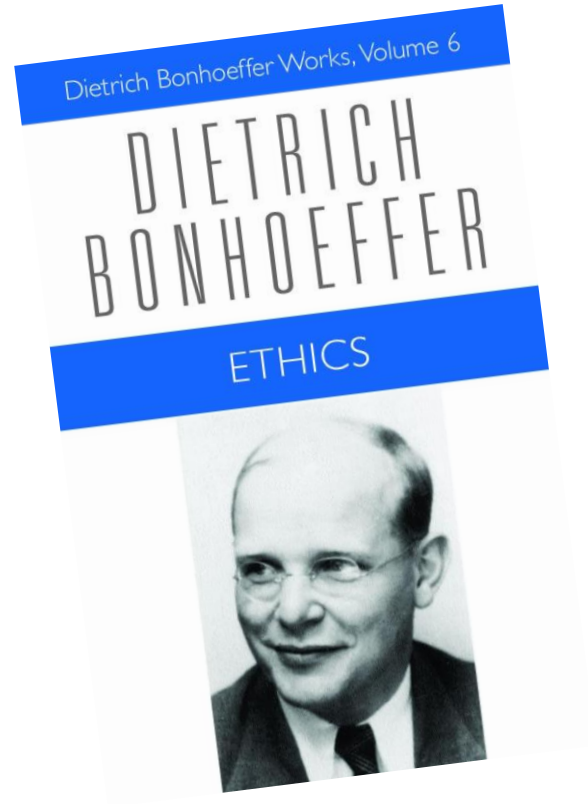
1940: Joined the *Abwehr* as Double Agent



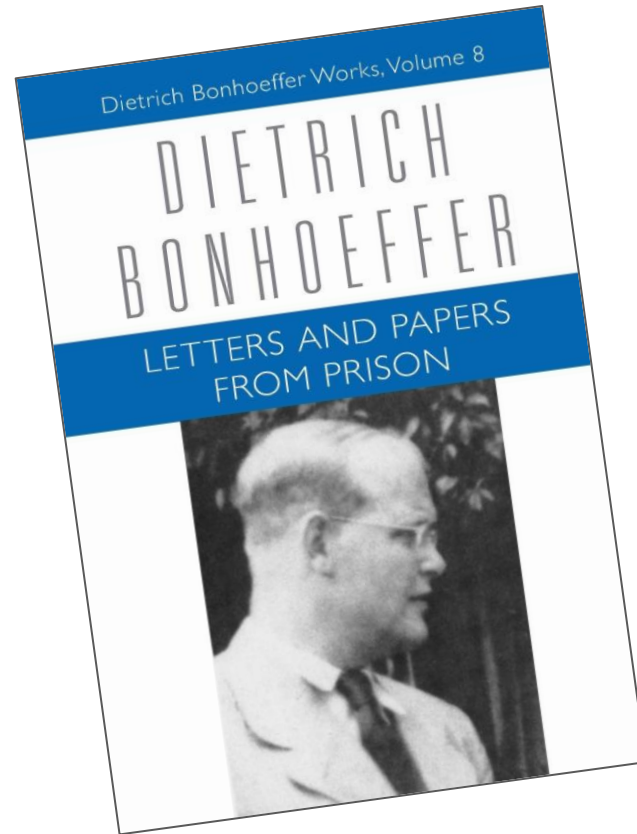
Admiral Wilhelm Canaris (1887-1945, April 9th)

Colonel Hans Oster (1887-1945, April 9th)

Jurist Hans von Dohnanyi (1902-1945, April 9th)



1943-1944: Arrested and Imprisoned at Tegel Prison



1944: Failed Attempt on Hitler's Life | 1945: Bonhoeffer's Execution



Preview of Week 2: Bonhoeffer's Key Theological and Ethical Themes

Responsibility

Vicarious Representative Action
Ethics as Formation

Other/Neighbor

Sociality
View from Below

Grace

Freedom *for* Others
Discipleship

Community

Christ Existing as Community
Vicarious Representative Action

