The Reformation 1517-1600

POLITICAL
- 1529 German Lutheran princes “protest” =Protestants against the Emperor Charles V policies
- 1531 Lutheran princes form Schmalkaldic league against Charles V
- 1530’s Charles V fighting turks & French
- 1545, Luther dies. War breaks out in 1545. divisions among Catholics weaken support for Charles V
- 1555 Peace of Augsburg: cuius region eius religio (whose the region, his the religion) This is a great victory for Protestants

FRANCE
Francois I supports Turks against Charles
His successor Henry II manages to keep France stable despite the fact that the Huguenot (Calvinist) population is growing

ENGLAND
Henry VIII divorces Catherine of Aragon. Splits the English (Anglican) Church from Rome.
Act of Supremacy in 1529. Thomas More does not sign and is executed. Marries Anne Boleyn. Henry initially did not want to change doctrines of Catholic church. However, over time Protestant influence grows.
He is succeeded by: Edward VI (Protestant)
Mary (bloody Mary—Catholic)
Elizabeth (Protestant—but not a fanatic) ascends throne in 1558.

ECONOMIC
Protestant England and Holland soon undergo rapid Capitalist development.
Lands are confiscated from Catholics in England and form the great estates that will dominate Parliament in future. The competition between the faiths on both a religious and economic level lead to unprecedented growth and ingenuity.

RELIGIOUS
Martin Luther issues 95 Theses October 31, 1517
  • Luther believes that Salvation is by faith alone
  • Bible is the ultimate source of authority
  • Criticizes indulgences sold by church
  • Two sacraments only: baptism and communion
Confronts the young Emperor, Charles V at Diet of Worms.
Emperor issues Edict of Worms: Luther is forbidden to preach.

OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS
Anabaptists: take over city of Munster. John of Leyden later killed. Persecuted and drowned, they are the forerunners to Baptists.
Calvinists: John Calvin writes Institute of Christian Relgioi flees to Geneva.
  • Calvin emphasizes pre-destination. Also, Calvinism does not recognize subordination of church to state. Calvin favors remaking all of society into a religious community.
  • Calvinism will encourage a strong work ethic and self-improvement.
  • Calvinist churches will be very plain. Calvinism will influence the Netherlands, France (Huguenot), Scotland (Presbyterian), and England (Puritan).
**Catholic** Counter-Reformation: Council of Trent met from 1545-1563.
- Salvation is by Faith and Works combined.
- Uphold’s seven sacraments.
- Papal/clerical authority is supreme.
- Tried to define proper use of relics, saints, and indulgences.
- Print an Index of Prohibited Books.

**JESUITS** formed in 1540. Led by Ignatius Loyola, he used a military model to recruit and train missionaries who would be told to re-gain Protestants, or travel throughout the globe so that the Catholic church would make converts. Jesuit priests serve kings, form schools and educate much of Europe’s Catholic elite. They will be powerful for over 200 years until they, too, are disbanded. Many lapsed Catholics re-convert. The Northern part of Europe will remain Protestant while the South is Catholic.

**INTELLECTUAL**

Christian humanists combine love of classical learning with emphasis on Christian piety: They are very influential during reformation.

**SIR THOMAS MORE:** Writes *Utopia*, about an imaginary land where economic and social structure end poverty and greed.

**Erasmus** (1466-1536) from Rotterdam (Netherlands) was a Northern Renaissance Humanist. Erasmus criticizes church corruption but not doctrine. His two important works were *In Praise of Folly* and *Handbook of a Christian Knight*. Later, he is blamed for inspiring Luther to criticize the church. Erasmus belongs to both the Renaissance and Reformation.

**SOCIAL**

Religion reform prompts social reform. Peasants’ revolt (1524-25) is brutally suppressed by princes of Germany. Luther supports state authority over peasants.

Protestants establish State schools to indoctrinate youth.

Protestants strongly support marriage and family as ideal state.

**Women** are now placed firmly in the home, whereas in the Catholic church, many women had positions of power in the abbeys.

Literacy will now advance less slowly in Southern (Catholic) Europe.

Bible now read in vernacular.

The State will start to support public charity. Work ethic rises, but disdain for poor develops.

**ARTISTIC**

Hymns sung by congregation. Luther himself writes many hymns.

Printing developed in 1450: diffusion of printing produces more literacy.

Mannerism, then Baroque: Flamboyant facades of churches, ornate decoration with ceiling paintings. St. Peter’s in Rome is Baroque. Titian’s paintings capture Charles V’s power.

There is some overlap between Renaissance and Baroque.