

THE REFORMATION

Savonarola

- Italian Friar who came to Florence in 1490
- Called for reform in the church and in 1494 his followers overthrew the Medici
- 1497 He demanded that people gather their “vanities” and burn them in a giant bonfire
- One year later the mob turned on Savonarola and he was hung
- Illustrated how quickly religion could be used for revolution

Christian Humanists

- Religious writers like Erasmus and More focused on the Bible, the Church, and the classics to formulate their ideas
- Desiderius Erasmus 1509 wrote In Praise of Folly
- Erasmus was critical of the church and the clergy in his short book

Sir Thomas More

- Wrote the book Utopia
- It told of a peace loving people where greed, corruption, war, and crime had been weeded out
- The book gave new thought to an ideal society and how it might be organized

The Printing Press

- Began in Germany around 1450
- Johann Gutenberg printed the first full sized Bible with movable type
- By 1500 over 9 million books were printed in Europe
- Why did this have an impact on the reformation?

Printing Press and the Reformation

- Gave writers such as More and Erasmus the ability to spread their ideas quickly
- Stirred religious feelings among the populace and encouraged a focus on religion
- Made the bible available to all who could read
- No longer dependent on priests
- Free to interpret as you read

Martin Luther

- When 21 Luther was nearly struck by lightning
- Afraid for his life he cried out, “St. Anne, help me! I will become a monk.”
- Luther strictly followed the monk lifestyle, but he felt sinful, lost, and rejected by God
- In 1515 Luther was stuck on the passage, “The just shall live by faith”
- Praying and fasting no longer mattered to Luther only faith in God

Indulgences

- Luther became offended by the deeds of Johann Tetzel
- Raising money to rebuild St. Peter's Basilica Tetzel sold indulgences or pardons from the church for sins
- Indulgences could only free an individual from the penance the church has set
- Tetzel and many friars like him gave people the impression that you could buy your way to heaven

95 Theses

- October 31, 1517 Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the church at Wittenberg
- He invited fellow scholars to debate his ideas
- Excited by the challenge someone took Luther's work to the printers and within 6 months Luther's name was well known in Germany
- The Reformation had begun

Luther's 3 Main Ideas

- Salvation by faith alone
- The Bible as the only authority for Christian life
- The priesthood of all believers
- People did not need priests to interpret the bible

Church Moves Against Luther

- June 15, 1520 Pope Leo X issued a papal bull threatening to excommunicate Luther
- Luther threw his bull into the fire
- The pope responded by excommunicating Luther
- In 1521 Charles V leader of the Holy Roman Empire met Luther at the Diet of Worms

Diet of Worms

- "Unless I am convinced by scripture and plain reason...my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant (take back) anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen"
- Luther's statement at the Diet of Worms before Holy Roman Emperor Charles V

Edict of Worms

- Luther was declared an outlaw and a heretic
- All of his books were to be burned or destroyed
- Charles was unable to stop Luther or his ideas
- Luther's attacks on the pope's greed were popular among the German people

What Happened to Luther?

- Frederick of Saxony provided protection to Luther
- In 1534 peasants rose up against German princes demanding an end to their political and economic bondage
- Luther did not support their cause, and urged Princes to show no mercy on the peasants
- Peasants turned away, while many German princes embraced Lutheranism

Peace of Augsburg

- German states are free to choose between Catholicism and Lutheranism
- The right of subjects to choose their own religion, however was denied

The Spread of Protestantism

The Zwinglian Reformation

- Priest in Zurich Switzerland
- Movement based on scripture, reading, and prayer that replaced catholic mass
- Zwinglian was killed in battle against catholic states
- Protestant leadership was passed to John Calvin

John Calvin

- Fleed France for Switzerland after Francis I of France ordered Protestants arrested
- Published the “Institutes of the Christian Religion” (first systematic protestant philosophy)
- Believed in PREDESTINATION: God determined in advance who would be saved
- Believed the “elect” should dominate the state and form a theocracy
- You should revolt against “ungodly” rulers

Calvin Contd.

- Established a church government in Geneva in 1541
- Oversaw the moral discipline and doctrinal purity of the citizens of Geneva
- Calvinism spread throughout Europe and replaced Lutheranism as the most important and dynamic form of Protestantism
- French Calvinists were known as “Huguenots”

John Knox

- Took Calvin’s ideas from Geneva and brought them to Scotland in 1559
- Formed an organization of followers known as Presbyterians
- 1567 they overthrew Mary Queen of Scots and power was held by the Protestant church in Scotland

English Reformation

- King Henry VIII
- Wanted to Divorce Catherine of Aragon
- Asked Pope Clement to intervene

- Asked Parliament to intervene
- Married Anne Boleyn (Gave birth to Queen Elizabeth I)
- 1534 Act of Supremacy gave the King control over the church
King Henry VIII

English Reformation

- Sold church holdings for profit
- Mary (Henry's daughter by Catherine of Aragon) tried to return England to Catholicism
- "Bloody Mary" had over 300 Protestants burned at the stake

English Reformation

- Represented Religious reform for Political, Economic, and Social issues.
- Henry VIII not really concerned with the religious aspects of reform
Thomas More
- Catholic Scholar and theologian: Utopia
- Refused to take an oath supporting the Act of Supremacy
- "I die the king's good servant, but God's first"

Anabaptists

- Belief in adult baptism
- Believed in the total separation of church and state
- Both Catholics and Protestants persecuted the Anabaptists
- Seen as radicals

The Catholic Reformation **"Counter Reformation"**

- Jesuits formed by Ignatius Loyola
- Vowed obedience to the Pope
- Used education to spread their message
- Helped to restore Catholicism to parts of Germany and Eastern Europe

Ignatius Loyola

- Goals:
- Establish schools throughout Europe
- Convert non-Christians
- Prevent Protestantism from spreading

Papal Reform

- Pope Paul III appointed a reform commission to investigate church ills
- Appointed the Jesuits
- Oversaw the Council of Trent

Council of Trent

- Reaffirmed Catholic teachings:
- Pope's interpretation of the Bible was final
- Catholics are saved by Faith and Good Works
- The Bible and Church shared equal authority for guiding a Christians life
- Indulgences, pilgrimages, and veneration of holy relics were valid. (But the false selling of indulgences was banned)

Peace of Augsburg

- Charles V ordered all German princes (Protestant or Catholic) to meeting at Augsburg
- The princes agreed that religion of each German state was to be decided by its ruler
- Signed in 1555 it is known as the Peace of Augsburg