History of Christianity 3.
The Reformation of the Church
The Reformation of the Church

Factors Contributing to the Reformation

The Reformation in Germany - Luther
The Reformation in Switzerland - Zwingli and Calvin
The Reformation in England
The Radical Reformation - Anabaptist
The Catholic Reformation
Developments in Protestantism 1560-1700: Orthodoxy, Puritanism, Pietism
Wars of Religion
Factors Contributing to the Reformation

rise of nation states and nationalism
Humanism and the Renaissance
printing press
discovery of the New World; advances in medicine, and science
Europe in 1500

Spain

new monarchy formed by marriage of
Ferdinand of Aragon (1479-1516) and
Isabella of Castile (1474-1504)
Charles I (1516-1556) = Emperor Charles V of
the Holy Roman Empire

Germany

divided in nearly 300 independent states, all
loosely under the head of the Holy Roman
Emperor
Switzerland
	nominally part of the Holy Roman Empire, but essentially independent

13 cantons, each self-governing republic, united in a loose confederation. Dominant cantons: Bern and Zurich

Holy Roman Empire

Maximilian I (1493-1519)

Charles V (1519-1556) \{ = King Charles I of Spain \}

France

strong monarchy had emerged after the 100 Years War with England (1337-1453)

Louis XII (1498-1515)

Francis I (1515-1547)

Henry II (1547-1559)
Italy
several independent states, including Papal States.
“wretched battleground of France and Spain
1499: Louis XII of France conquered Kingdom of Milan
1503: Ferdinand of Spain conquered Kingdom of Naples

England (allied with Spain)
Henry VII (1485-1509), first Tudor king following the War of the Roses (1455-1485)
Henry VIII (1509-1547)
Edward VI (1547-1553)
Mary Tudor (1553-1558)
Elizabeth I (1558-1603)
Scotland (allied with France)

James IV (1488-1513)
James V (1513-1542)
Mary Stuart (1542-1567)
Rise of Nation States and Nationalism

der of feudal systems and rise of new monarchies
France
England
Spain
dreams of union and independence
Netherlands
Germany
Latin common bond only for ecclesiastical and scholarly circles
Renaissance

intellectual and artistic movement in Italy, then to W. Europe, in 14th and 15th century
glorious rebirth of forgotten antiquity
thousand years since fall of Rome “Middle Ages:”
negative intermission between antiquity and the present
Humanism

literary movement to return to the sources of classical literature and imitate its style
Printing Press

early books Latin or Greek of interest only to scholars
typography tried to imitate handwritten books
“textual criticism” arose. “Critical editions” produced
- authenticity of texts questioned. Donation of Constantine judged a forgery
Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam (1466-1536)  
“Prince of the Humanist”

illegitimate son of a priest and physician’s daughter. Reared in Holland  
1487: entered Augustinian monastery  
1492: ordained a priest  
1495: left monastery, unsuited to life of monk  
studied in Paris, scholastic theology, then classical literature  
 wrote series of best selling satires ridiculing monasticism and scholasticism, corruption of Rome
Erasmus

*Handbook of the Christian Soldier, Colloquies, Praise of Folly*

series editor of Latin and Greek text

1516: produced first Greek New Testament (first ever published)

commandments of Jesus subject passion to reason
Church must abandon the vices of pagans
(Renaissance popes)

monasticism ideal unacceptable distinction: all are called to be “soldiers of Christ”

theology & doctrine important but righteous more important

true Christian warfare is an inner warfare
“Erasmus laid the egg and Luther hatched it”

-- popular 15th century saying
“I wish that the scriptures might be translated into all languages, so that not only the Scots and the Irish, but also the Turk and the Saracen might read and understand them. I long that the farm laborer might sing them as he follows his plough, the weaver hum them to the tune of his shuttle, the traveler beguile the weariness of his journey with their stories.”

- Erasmus
“I detest dissension, because it goes against the teachings of Christ and against a secret inclination of nature. I doubt that either side in the dispute can be suppressed without grave loss. It is clear that many of the reforms for which Luther calls are urgently needed. My only wish is that now that I am old I be allowed to enjoy the results of my efforts. But both sides reproach me and seek to coerce me. Some claim that since I do not attack Luther I agree with him, while Lutherans declare that I am a coward who has forsaken the gospel”

- Erasmus
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Wars of Religion
Reformation in Germany
Martin Luther (1483-1546)

1483: born Eisleben. Father copper miner, 2\textsuperscript{nd} of 8 children
1501: University of Erfurt (most humanistic of German Universities)
May 1505: entered law school
moved by death of classmate, close escape from lightening; vowed to St. Anne to become monk
1505: entered monastery of Augustinian hermits in Erfurt
1507: ordained as priest.
overpowering sense of his own sinfulness.
Despaired that sin was deeper than what he could consciously account for and confess
Martin Luther

spiritual advisor suggested he read the Christian mystics: love God, rest will follow
difficult to love a just God who demanded an account of all this sins
spiritual advisor ordered him to University at Wittenberg

1512: doctor of theology
1515: began lecturing on Romans

struggled with Romans 1:17, the righteous and justice of God. But it is not “good news” that God is just and judges sinners

“I felt that I had been born anew and that the gates of heaven had been open.” Faith and justification are the work of God, a free gift to sinners
Martin Luther

1517: wrote *Disputation against Scholastic Theology* - 97 theses radically attacking all of medieval Scholasticism.
- to his surprise, aroused little interest beyond University
Albert of Brandenburg (who already had two episcopal sees) paid Pope Leo X 10,000 ductats for Archbishopric of Mainz, who also authorized him to large sale of indulgences. Dominican John Tetzel put in charge of indulgence sale: “cleaner than when coming out of baptism,” “cleaner than Adam before the Fall,” “the cross of the seller of an indulgence has as much power as the cross of Christ,” “as soon as the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs.” Many appalled, most kept silent.
Ninety Five Theses

Oct 31, 1517: posted Ninety Five Theses on door of Castle of Wittenberg
- written in Latin; Luther expected same response as his 97 theses. Did send a copy with a respectful cover letter to Albert of Brandenburg
- Printer spread copies and German translation throughout Germany
- Albert sent his copy and letter to the Pope
Pope told Augustinian Order to deal with it
Cardinal Cajetan sent to Diet of the Empire; met with Luther
Luther protected by Frederick the Wise, Elector of Saxony, Pope’s choice for the new Holy Roman Emperor instead of King Charles I (Spain) or Francis I (France)

April 18, 1521: Diet of Worms before Emperor Charles V “Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise.”

- Luther hid by Frederick at Wartburg Castle
Luther still under Emperor’s death sentence, returned to Wittenburg
1521-1525: Emperor busy with wars with France
1523: Diet of Worms adopted policy of toleration with Lutheranism
1525: Imperial troops captured King Francis I of France.
   - Charles V signed peace treaty; freed Francis I.
   - Counting on support of Francis, the Pope, he was ready to crush Lutheranism and the Turks
   - instead King Francis I and Pope Clement VII ally and declare war on Emperor Charles V
1526: Diet of Spire withdrew Edict of Worms against Luther; each German state given freedom to choose its own allegiance
1527: Imperial troops invade Italy and march on Rome
1529: peace agreed to by Pope and Francis
1529: Second Diet of Spire: reaffirmed Edict of Worms. Lutheran princes presented formal protest = called “Protestants”

1530: Diet of Augsburg. Emperor Charles V back
- listened to “Augsburg Confession”
- demanded recantation by April 1531

Protestant territories formed League of Schmalkald

1532: Turks threaten Vienna again; Francis I threatens wars

1532: Peace of Nuremberg
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Reformation in Switzerland
Ultrich Zwingli (1484-1531)

born in small Swiss village 2 mos. after Luther studied in Basel, Bern, University of Vienna became priest village of Glarus; chaplain on Italian campaigns with Swiss mercenary troops

1515: met Erasmus; deeply influenced
1518: papal chaplain
1519: priest at Great Minster Church in Zurich.

Convinced:
- justification by faith alone
- must return to original sources: bible (humanism). Anything not explicitly in Scripture must be rejected
Ulrich Zwingli

Rejected:
- Lenten fasts
- celibacy of clergy
- veneration of saints
- absolution
- indulgences
- merits of good works
- crucifixes, tapestries, statues
- relics
- organ playing, chanting, bell ringing
- liturgy of the Mass
- Christ’s real presence in Eucharist (only symbolic)
Ulrich Zwingli

city council gradually supported his views,

- **June, July 1524**: gangs of workers removed pictures, statues from city churches, marking open breach with Rome
- **Dec 1524**: monasteries dissolved
- **After Holy Week 1525**: Mass abolished

Pope made no intervention, needed the Swiss mercenary soldiers from Zurich

aided spread to other cantons of Switzerland

**1528**: Protestant cantons form “Christian Civic Alliance.” Roman cantons counter with “Christian Union.”

**1531**: Zurich tried to force evangelical preaching on Roman cantons by embargo on food to them

Romans cantons swiftly attacked Zurich, Zwingli found severely wounded and was killed
Reformation in Switzerland
John Calvin (1509-1564)

the most important systemic theologian of the 16th century Protestantism
born Noyon, Picardy, France
father, secretary to bishop; obtained for John income from two minor ecclesiastical posts
studied theology in Paris; law in Orleans and Bourges

1533: sudden conversion “God subdued and brought my heart to docility” Broke with Roman Catholicism
1534: gave up his ecclesiastical posts
1535: went into exile Basel, Switzerland
1536: first edition of *Institution of the Christian Religion or Institutes*
   - 516 pages, 6 chapters;
   - final edition 1559: four books, 80 chapters

Predestination

Gospel could not be ineffective; yet some people do not respond to the gospel. Therefore “We assert that by an eternal and immutable counsel God hath once for all determined both whom he would admit to salvation and whom He would admit to destruction”

Eucharist: view intermediate between Zwingli and Luther. Presence real but spiritual
John Calvin

decided to settle in Strasbourg; got sidetracked on way in Geneva
- William Farel, Protestant missionary from Bern, urged him to stay
Geneva became “Rome of Protestantism”
**1564:** Geneva Academy founded
John Calvin
Experiment in Geneva

goal in Geneva: an effective form of religious and moral totalitarianism
- **1541**: *Ecclesiastical Ordinances* to govern the religious and moral lives of citizens
  - elders to keep eye on citizens, report to Venerable Company of Pastors
dissension
  - Sebastian Castello: expelled from Geneva for interpreting *Song of Songs* as a poem of erotic love
Jerome Bolsec: former Carmelite friar attacked Calvin on predestination: made God into tyrant, implied Christ died only for the elect. Imprisoned and exiled
Michael Servetus: condemned by Inquisition for views against Trinity. Arrested and burned at the stake
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Reformation in England

gradual Protestantization of the English church and people over the reigns of four monarchs
act of state imposed from above by willful king received in a ground of political rebellion, movements for church reform
Erasmus visited 1499, 1506, and lectured at Cambridge 1511-1514
- John Fisher (1459-1535) bishop of Rochester
- Sir Thomas More (1478-1535)
1520: group of Cambridge scholar routinely gathered at White Horse Inn “Little Germany” to discuss new doctrines of Luther
Henry VIII

impressive intellect, leader, well-read in Scholastic theology and humanism, popular
Thom*as Wolsey (1474?-1530), superb diplomat, 1515 made Cardinal by Pope Leo X
use of Luther’s writings forbidden
1521: Henry published *Assertion of the Seven Sacraments* against Luther. Pope called him “Defender of the Faith”
Henry VIII

1509: married Catherine of Aragon, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain. Pope Julius II gave special dispensation, as Catherine had been married to Henry’s older brother Arthur. She had six children; only Mary survived infancy.

1527: scruples about validity of marriage (Lev 20:31). Wolsey favored divorce; saw potential French alliance; Henry infatuated with Anne Boleyn, sister of his mistress Mary Boleyn. Lord Chancellor and Cardinal Wolsey tried to get annulment from Pope Clement VII.
Thomas Cranmer: suggested getting opinions from Catholic Universities on annulment question. Started lasting friendship with Henry Jan 1531: “sole protector and supreme head of English church” “as far as the law of Christ allows” Pope Clement VII appointed Thomas Cranmer archbishop of Canterbury under Henry’s threat of losing annates
born Asclacton, Nottinghamshire
educated at Cambridge
Lutheran in his theology
preferred reformation by general persuasion
firmly believed in Luther’s idea of a “godly prince”
*Great Bible (1538)*
*Litany (1545)*
*Prayer Books of 1549 and 1552*
Henry VIII
Split with Rome

Jan 1533: secretly married Anne Boleyn
May 1533: Cranmer annulled marriage to Catherine; declared marriage to Anne lawful
             (Sep 1533 had daughter Elizabeth)
Jul 1533: Pope threatened excommunication
Nov 3, 1534: Parliament passed the Supremacy Act. “the only supreme head in earth of the Church of England”
mastermind of the “Reformation Parliament” was Thomas Cromwell (1485-1540) King’s secretary and vicar general ecclesiastical affairs
Henry VIII
Split with Rome

May 1535: monks of the Carthusian order barbarously executed for denying King’s supremacy

June and July 1535: Bishop John Fisher and Sir Thomas More beheaded. More: “the king’s good servant, but God’s first”

Monasteries dissolved (800 between 1536-40); monies given to state
Heir at Last

1536: Henry tired of Anne Boleyn, who had not produced a male heir. Charged with adultery

May 17, 1536: Cranmer pronounced marriage null and void

May 18: beheaded

May 30: Henry married Jane Seymour

Oct 12, 1537: Edward born.
Edward VI (1547-1553)

nine years old; rule by head of the privy council
England moved towards a more radical Protestantism

1548: images removed from churches
1549: marriage of clergy made legal
1549, 1552: mandated books of Common Prayer (largely by Cranmer)

July 6, 1553: Edward VI died of tuberculosis, age 15
Mary Tudor (1553-1558)

Catholic
Cranmer imprisoned
public worship restored to what it was last year of
Henry VIII’s reign
married Philip (soon to be King Philip II of Spain),
son of Emperor Charles VI,
late 1553-middle 1555: 800 Protestant leaders left
for German and Swiss cities
1554: Parliament restored papal authority
Mar 21, 1556: Cranmer had signed recantation of
Protestantism, but then publicly repudiated it
before being burned at stake
“Bloody Mary:” 300 persons burned.
absence of Philip who had left England Nov
1555; her childlessness: judgement of God
Elizabeth I (1558-1603)

moderate Protestant
proceeded cautiously with change

**Apr. 29, 1559:** New Supremacy Act ("Supreme Governor")
modified Prayer Book of 1552
Act of Uniformity: all worship in new liturgy, with vestments and ornaments of 2\(^{nd}\) year of Edward VI
new Anglican episcopate established
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Anabaptists

only adult baptism of those with faith valid “We are not regenerated because we are baptized. . . We are baptized because we are regenerated.” (Menno Simons)

abandoned anything not clearly sanctioned in the Bible
- refused to bear arms
- would not swear allegiance to rulers

loosely allied under tenets of “Brotherly Union” adopted at the Schleitheim Synod 1527

most of Christianity regarded as people of lukewarm piety only partly obedient to the gospel
Anabaptists
Menno Simons (1496-1561)

born Holland
1524: ordained Catholic priest
1536: converted to Anabaptistism, served congregation in Groningen
extremely literal in interpreting Bible.
rejected Trinity because word not in Bible
Mennonite church bears his name
Anabaptists
Jakob Ammann (1644-1711)

Mennonite elder in Alsace and Switzerland felt other Mennonite not sufficiently zealous in separating themselves from the rest of the world. 1693: left with 4000 followers and founded the Amish Mennonites.
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comments on Luther’s 95 Thesis 1518

“Luther is a drunken German. He will feel different when he is sober”

“friar Martin is a brilliant chap. The whole row is due to the envy of monks.”
“...only a monk’s quarrel.”
The Catholic Reformation

Oratory of Divine Love 1517
Reformed Papacy
  Pope Clement VII (1523-1534)
  Pope Paul III (1534-1549)
  Pope Paul IV (1555-1559)
Council of Trent 1545-47, 1551-52, 1562-63
new religious orders
  Jesuits
revival of the Inquisition; Index of prohibited books
Catholic mysticism in Spain
1517: informal society of 50 clergy and lay people meeting at Rome to reform the church through love and moral improvement along ideas of Erasmus among members: future Cardinal Gasparo Contarini (1483-1542). In 1541 as papal delegate he tried to reach a theological compromise with Protestants at Colloquy of Regensburg future Pope Paul IV.
Reformed Papacy
Pope Paul III (1534-1549)

most sincere reforming pope of 16th century
appointed reformers to College of Cardinals
called Council of Trent
appointed papal reform commission 1536. Advice
Concerning the Reform of the Church
- papal office too secular; should stop flirting
  with the world
- documented corruption:
  bribery in high places
  abuses of papal power
  evasions of church law by laity and clergy
  laxity in monastic orders
  abuse of indulgences
  high number of prostitutes in Rome
Council of Trent

location involved intense negotiation with Emperor and French king
met in three main sessions
  1545-1547
  1551-1552
  1562-1563
results
  clarified and reasserted most of the doctrines of the late medieval Roman church
elevated the papacy
improved church organization
eliminated flagrant abuses pointed out by the Protestants
response
  Protestants bitterly disappointed
Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)
born 1491 or 1495 at Loyola, near Pyrenees professional soldier; suffered leg wound. Resolved to become “soldier of Christ.” Waited for guidance
1524-1534: studied at Barcelona, Alcalá, Salamanca, Paris wrote *Spiritual Exercises*. 4-week retreat:
  - 1. sin
  - 2. Christ’s kingship
  - 3. Christ’s passion
  - 4. Christ’s risen life
1535: he and six friends took vows of poverty and chastity, vowed to become missionaries to Palestine and convert the Muslims worked in northern Italian cities
Jesuits

1540: new order approved by Pope Paul III
head chosen for life
four elected assistants, who can depose head
membership: robust health, handsome in
appearance, intelligent, eloquent in speech
1. two year rigorous novitiate
2. indefinite scholasticate: period of study,
vows of poverty, chastity, obedience
3. “third probation” or “tertianship”
4. acceptance as “formed spiritual coadjutor” or
fully professed member taking vow of
personal obedience to pope ("professed
fathers of the fourth vow")

no fixed hours of worship or dress, no common
recitation of divine office
Jesuits

combined individualism of Renaissance with sacrifice and obedience of the will
three missions:
education
counteracting the Protestants
missionary expansion
sent foreign missionaries to India, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Japan, China and the New World:
  Mexico, Paraguay, Brazil, SW United States

1556: >1,500 Jesuits
1626: 15,544 Jesuits
“Supreme Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office”

“Roman Inquisition” began 1542 through work of Cardinal Caraffa

heretics traitors against God, a cancer destroying the body of the church that must be eradicated before they contaminate other immortal souls commonly used terror and torture to get confessions. Executions done by civil authority widely used in Italy, Spain. Modified in France. Rare in Germany. Common law prevented use in England
Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)
born Avila in central Spain from noble family
committed herself to converting the heathen and healing the divisions with Protestants
1536: entered Carmelite Convent
worked for reform of religious houses
books *The Book of Her Life, The Road of Perfection, Concepts on the Love of God, The Inferior Castle*
religious ecstasy approaching the erotic first conversion: oneness with God through contemplation and prayer “mystical marriage”
second conversion: union through love. Described an ecstasy of a seraphim plunging fire tipped spear into her heart, leaving her aflame with love
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Wars of Religion
Leading Features of Protestantism

Rejection of Papal Authority
Emphasis on the Priority of the Bible
Rejection of Medieval Sacramental System
Communion in “Both Kinds” vs “One Kind”
“Priesthood of All Believers”
Rejection of Purgatory and Prayers for the dead
Suspicious attitude towards veneration of Mary and other Saints as potential idolatry
Developments in Protestantism
1560 to 1700

Orthodoxy
Puritanism
Pietism
Orthodoxy

after 1560, concern grew in movement to defend itself, emphasize “doctrinal purity,” “theological correctness”
emphasis on rational justification and defense of key doctrines
a response to:
- renewal of Catholic confidence after Council of Trent
- tensions between Lutheran and Reformed movements
led to:
Pietism
Puritanism

abusive term applied to Church of England members who wanted adoption of Reformed beliefs, practices
small separatists groups, congregations formed
- often found refuge in Netherlands
- most important separatist groups: “Brownist” after Robert Browne (1550-1633)
- notable separatist group est. Scrooby, Nottinghamshire 1606 by John Robinson (1575-1625) moved to Leiden 1609. On Sep 6, 1620, 102 members set sail on the Mayflower for America
Puritanism

some separatist groups returned from Netherlands to England, became forerunners of modern Baptists

English Civil War (1642-9)
- King Charles I executed 1649
- Puritan Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell during 1649-1660
- monarchy restored 1660 with Charles II
Pietism

reaction to Orthodoxy; emphasis on issues of everyday life
inaugurated with “Pious Wishes” by Philip Jakob Spener lamenting state of German Lutheranism
- proposed personal bible study
Nikolaus Ludwig Graf von Zinzendorf (1700-60)
“Herrnhuter” community in village of Herrnhut
- stressed “religion of the heart,” role of “feeling”
- slogan “a living faith”
Pietism

John Wesley (1703-91)
- founder of Methodist movement in Church of England
- visited Herrnhut 1738
- emphasized the experiential side of Christian faith
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Wars of Religion
Wars of Religion

Catholics versus Calvinists (“Huguenots”) in France (1562-1598)

Dutch War of Independence (1560-1618)
   - Calvinist Dutch population vs. Catholic Spanish colonial power

English Civil War (1642-1649)
   - Royalists vs. Puritans

Thirty Years War (1618-1648) in Germany
   - Catholics and Lutherans vs. Calvinists