

Chapter II

The Reformation

The Protestant Reformation was a revolution in the Christian church that split Western Europe into Catholic and Lutheran communities, and ultimately led to the fragmentation of Protestantism into many sects. Humpty Dumpty fell off the wall and could never be put back together again.

Causes:

- Challenge to Papal authority and Catholic teaching by the German monk, Martin Luther, (95 Theses, 1517*) deriving from theological objections and personal crisis of faith
- Use of Luther's break by some of the German princes to challenge the authority of the Catholic Holy Roman Emperor
- Economic discontent among the wealthy in Germany over sending money to Rome (Tetzel and indulgences)
- Economic and social discontent among the peasantry (price inflation)
- Weakness of authority of the Holy Roman Emperor
- New critical spirit encouraged by the Renaissance
- Weakness of the Papacy due to the Great Schism and poor leadership
- Corruption in the Church: simony, nepotism, sale of indulgences, pluralism, and vice among the Church hierarchy
- Henry VIII's desire to gain firmer control over the state in England
- Greater emphasis on individualism in relationship with God (due both to the late medieval movement towards mysticism and the Renaissance)
- Attacks by Turks and French on territories of the Emperor
- Invention of printing press allows rapid dissemination of religious news and tracts
- Rise of capitalistic spirit that emphasizes personal restraint and pursuit of wealth

Theology:

- Lutheran core –
 - priesthood of all believers
 - authority of scripture alone
 - justification by faith alone (by God's grace)
- Luther's criticism of corruption in the Church – salvation cannot be bought and sold
- Overthrow of Papal authority
- Bible translated into the vernacular (Luther's German Bible)
- More radical critics –
 - no transubstantiation (Eucharist)
 - no altars, stained glass, statues, relics

pulpit in center front of church
 no central aisles, incense
 no fasts or pilgrimages
 no bishops
 predestination
 reduced number of sacraments
 emphasis on teaching (sermons) and text (scripture) as center of worship
 clergy do not stand between God and man
 clergy can marry
 no Purgatory

- English Reformation – King head of the Anglican Church (1534)
- The Catholic Reformation (Counter Reformation)
 - Inquisition
 - Council of Trent
 - Society of Jesus: teachers and missionaries
- Anabaptists' attempt to create a perfect Christian community, brutally suppressed by Catholics and Protestants

Great Figures:

- **Jan Hus** (d.1415) – Bohemian reformer, burned at stake
- **Martin Luther** (d. 1546) – first leader of the Reformation
- **Ulrich Zwingli** (d. 1531) – challenges transubstantiation
- **John Calvin** (d. 1564) – radical Protestant, develops idea of predestination, establishes “theocracy” at Geneva
- **Charles V** – (r. 1520-58) Holy Roman Emperor, but also ruler of Spain, the low countries, Austria, Bohemia, part of Italy, and an empire in the Americas. Leader of the Catholic party. Ultimately abdicated 1556 and divided his empire between his brother (HRE, Austria-Hungary) and his son, Philip II (Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, and the new world)
- **Ignatius Loyola** (d. 1556) – founds Jesuit Order

Events:

- **Diet of Worms** (1521) – Luther called to defend himself, put under imperial ban
- **Peasants' War** (1525) – Luther supports princes when they suppress social and economic uprising
- **Schmalkaldic League** (1531) – German Protestant alliance against Charles V and Roman Catholics
- **Act of Supremacy** (1534) – Anglican Church established in England
- **Peace of Augsburg** (1555*) – *cuius regio, eius religio* (he who rules, his will be the religion), but excludes Calvinists and Anabaptists; victory to the Lutherans, weakens HRE

- **Council of Trent** (1545-63) – Counter Reformation – ends pluralism and enacts other clerical reforms to end corruption in the church; reaffirms traditional doctrine, papal authority, the vulgate (Latin) Bible, clerical celibacy
- **College of Propaganda** established to propagate faith for Catholics

Outcomes:

- Destruction of the single institution common throughout Europe – the end of a united Christendom
- Brutal and bloody wars of religion both between nations and within France and Germany
- Fierce religious persecutions, especially in Spain
- Disappearance of most remaining authority of the Holy Roman Emperor in Germany, sovereign princes rule more independently
- Italy, Spain, Austria, Hungary, Poland, and Southern Germany remain Catholic
- England became Anglican, Scotland, Switzerland, and Holland were Calvinist, Northern Germany and the Baltic were Lutheran
- France split between Catholics and Huguenots, although Catholics predominated; tries to keep Germany divided religiously
- Counter Reformation – refreshes and strengthens traditional Catholic theology – founding of new orders, esp. Jesuits, emphasis on education
- Religious, political, and social conflicts become intermingled
- Encourages growth of capitalism by emphasis on thrift, sobriety, search for material success as a sign of Grace, moral discipline, and individualism
- New value placed on family and marriage
- More companionate marriage but patriarchic households
- Challenged the Cult of the Virgin and woman seen as “the Temptress”
- Males remain dominant in Protestant clergy, and women lose autonomy where monastic life is curtailed
- Emphasizes need for education of both sexes in order to study scripture
- Overthrow of the Latin vulgate in Protestant countries, and the firm establishment of modern German and English languages based on Luther’s translation of the Bible and the King James Bible and Cranmer’s (d. 1556) *Book of Common Prayer*
- Encouragement of settlements in Massachusetts and elsewhere to escape religious persecution
- More tolerance for Jews
- Confiscation of church and monastic lands enriches rulers and elites
- Kings of France and Spain gain tighter control of the Catholic church (Gallican Church)

Chapter II

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1. (E) “German peasants in the 1520s.” The Reformation stimulated unrealizable expectations among the German peasants and a revolt in 1524 that Luther condemned. (A and C) are incorrect because they were no longer serfs. (B and D) are incorrect because they were not Christians.
2. (C) “reformers appearing before the Pope in person.” None would have survived the visit had they undertaken it. Luther himself was the author of a number of great hymns (A) and translated the Bible into German (D). pictures were invaluable for the largely illiterate population (B) and over 16,000 students came to Wittenberg 1520-60 and then fanned out over Europe to spread Luther’s ideas (E).
3. (E) “belief in transubstantiation during the Eucharist.” Calvinists rejected it outright, and Lutherans believed in the real presence sometimes referred to as consubstantiation. All sides were surprisingly hostile to advances during the scientific revolution (A and B). Protestants actually diminished women’s role in the church when they abolished orders of nuns (C). Calvin as well as the Pope had opponents burned at the stake (D).
4. (A) “so that people could read the scriptures.” The priesthood of the believer and the authority of scripture, fundamental tenets of the Reformation required active study of the Bible by practicing Christians. (B) poetry was not crucial to Reformation theology. (C) the Catholic church did not denounce education. (D) Luther was not a social leveler. (E) it began in Germany.
5. (A) “Catherine de Medici.” She was a Florentine princess who married the King of France and is best known for her part in the St. Bartholomew’s Day massacre. (B) was Henry’s first wife, whose divorce helped precipitate the English Reformation. (C-E) were Henry’s children.
6. (C) “nunneries as a means of escape from wife battering.” Most Protestants rejected monasticism, although they would not have approved of wife battering. (A-B and D-E) were all encouraged by the Reformation, although Luther still saw women as subordinate to men.

7. (C) “aristocracy.” Perhaps 40 %. (A) far fewer in the clergy defected which is why Protestants relied on lay preachers. (B, D-E) most of the lower orders remained loyally Catholic.
8. (C) “the Reformation.” His criticism of the church was powerful despite the fact that in the end he did not make the break that Luther did. (A and B) predated Erasmus. (D and E) were artistic styles that were only indirectly linked with religion.
9. (E) “Luther’s ‘95 Theses’.” Luther was prompted to post his theses at Wittenberg due to Tetzel’s sales of indulgences in Germany. (A) More remained a loyal Catholic. (B) Erasmus’s book was satirical, but he also remained a loyal Catholic. (C) Loyola was fanatically loyal to the papacy. (D) she died in 1431 and was a loyal daughter of the church.
10. (B) “allowed for ceremonial processions.” Protestant reformers wanted to get rid of what they called idolatry and superstition in religious worship. Processions with music and vestments were anathema. (A) there were aisles in Protestant churches, but not central ones. (D) debates about theology, within reason, were part of Protestant religious life. (E) there were no altars in the Protestant churches that rejected transubstantiation.
11. (D) “created long-term financial security for the monarchy.” Despite her penny-pinching Elizabeth was unable to rectify the fundamentally flawed fiscal system that forced the monarch to live off private revenues except during wars. This failure ultimately led to civil war in the 17th century. (A-C) the glory of her reign was the end to internal religious conflict and successful engagement against Spain. (E) less glorious but effective.
12. (B) “Martin Luther.” This passage comes from Luther’s description of his discovery of the doctrine of justification by faith, which was central to his reformed vision of Christianity. (A and E) were deeply involved with the sale of indulgences. (C and D) were figures in the Italian Renaissance.
13. (A) “the place of Calvinism in the religious settlement.” The failure to address this issue at Augsburg meant another hundred years of religious strife in Europe. (B-E) were not at issue at Augsburg. France remained predominantly Catholic. The religious missions to Latin America were all Catholic.
14. (C) “Ulrich Zwingli.” He persuaded Zurich to ban the mass. (A and D) were good Catholics. (B) rejected transubstantiation but acknowledged the real presence at communion. (E) Elector of Saxony, a Lutheran.

1. “We...take it for granted that you will release us from serfdom as true Christians, unless it should be shown us from the Gospel that we are serfs.”

This statement was written by

- (A) French peasants in 1789
 - (B) Turkish peasants in Asia Minor
 - (C) English peasants under Henry VIII
 - (D) conquered Aztecs in Mexico
 - (E) German peasants in the 1520s
2. Luther’s ideas and the spirit of the Reformation were spread by all the following EXCEPT
- (A) hymns such as “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”
 - (B) woodcuts and illustrations
 - (C) reformers appearing before the Pope in person
 - (D) translations of the Bible into vernacular languages
 - (E) university debates and curricula
3. Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and Calvinists shared all the following EXCEPT
- (A) wariness about new astronomical discoveries
 - (B) hostility to using human bodies for anatomical research
 - (C) refusal to permit women to take a more active role in religious life
 - (D) active persecution of those who did not share their beliefs
 - (E) belief in transubstantiation during the Eucharist
4. The Reformation encouraged literacy and education
- (A) so that people could read the scriptures
 - (B) due to Luther’s interest in poetry
 - (C) because the Roman Catholic church denounced education
 - (D) due to Luther’s belief in social equality
 - (E) because it began in Florence
5. Who among the following was not a member of the family of Henry VIII of England?
- (A) Catherine de Medici
 - (B) Catherine of Aragon
 - (C) Mary I
 - (D) Edward VI
 - (E) Elizabeth I

6. The Protestant Reformation encouraged all of the following changes in the status of women EXCEPT

- (A) more companionate marriage where partners were respected
- (B) more grounds for divorce if husbands violated the laws of marriage
- (C) nunneries as a means of escape from wife beating
- (D) more sensitivity by husbands to the needs of wives
- (E) better education for women

7. Among the following groups in France during the sixteenth century which contained the largest proportion of Protestants

- (A) clergy
- (B) peasants
- (C) aristocracy
- (D) guild members
- (E) paupers

8. The saying “Erasmus laid the egg that Luther hatched” refers to

- (A) the Renaissance
- (B) civic humanism
- (C) the Reformation
- (D) Mannerism
- (E) the baroque style

9. “Christians should be taught that, if the Pope knew the exactions of the preachers of Indulgences, he would rather have the basilica of St. Peter reduced to ashes than built with the skin, flesh and bones of his sheep.”

This passage was contained in which of the following?

- (A) Thomas More’s *Utopia*
- (B) Erasmus’s *In Praise of Folly*
- (C) Loyala’s *Spiritual Exercises*
- (D) Joan of Arc’s speech from the stake
- (E) Luther’s “95 Theses”

10. Calvinists disapproved of central aisles in churches because they

- (A) divided the worshipers in two
- (B) allowed for ceremonial processions
- (C) used up floor space
- (D) encouraged debates about theology
- (E) drew attention away from the altar

11. The accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth I of England included all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) established peace and stability
- (B) aided Protestants in the Netherlands
- (C) defeated the Armada
- (D) created long-term financial security for the monarchy
- (E) more extensive conquest of Ireland

12. “At last, by the mercy of God, meditating day and night, I gave heed to the context of the words, namely, ‘In it the righteousness of God is revealed’, as it is written, ‘He who through faith is righteous shall live.’”

This passage was written by

- (A) Pope Julius II
- (B) Martin Luther
- (C) Baldassare Castiglione
- (D) Leonardo da Vinci
- (E) John Tetzel

13. The Peace of Augsburg (1555) left unresolved which issue?

- (A) the place of Calvinism in the religious settlement
- (B) the border divisions of Scandanavia
- (C) the Italian frontier with Switzerland
- (D) the restoration of Catholicism in France
- (E) the religious missions in South America

14. Which of the following held that the communion service was merely symbolic of Christ’s presence at the ceremony?

- (A) Pope Leo X
- (B) Martin Luther
- (C) Ulrich Zwingli
- (D) Charles V
- (E) Frederick the Wise