The Age Of Enlightenment & The Reformation

- John Wycliffe – English Reformer (1329-1384)
- Teacher At Oxford University, England
- Began Lollards, Followers Preaching His Reform Message
Teachings Of John Wycliffe

• 1376 Wrote *Of Civil Dominion*
  • Should Be Moral Basis For Ecclesiastical Leadership
  • Land Ownership – Root Problem
• Result- King John Of Gaunt, Gladly “Purified The Priesthood” By Relieving It Of Some Land
• After 1379 – Opposed Catholic Dogma
  • Authority Of The Pope – Said Pope Was Not Head, But Christ Was, Called Pope – Anti-Christ
  • The Bible, Not The Church Was Sole Authority Of Men
  • Church Should Remodel Itself After The Pattern Of The New Testament
• 1382 – Opposed Transubstantiation, Private Mass, Extreme Unction & Purgatory
• 1382 – Translated The N.T. Into English
The Wycliffe Translation

- Took 20 Years To Produce
- Not Entirely Produced By Wycliffe, Others Helped With Different Books
- Included The Old & New Testaments, & Apocrypha & Laodicensis
- Translation From Jerome’s Latin Vulgate
- About 250 Manuscripts Of It Are Extant
- Books Are Broken Into Chapters And Verses
- Took One Year To Produce A Hand-Written Copy
- Copies Were Sold For £40
- People Paid For The Privilege Of Reading It For An Hour – Sometimes Wagon Loads of Hay Were Paid

Result Of Wycliffe’s Work

1382 – Wycliffe’s Views Were Condemned In London

Was Forced To Retire To His Rectory At Lutterworth, England

Died Of Paralysis In 1384

Founded A Group Of Lay Preachers Called “Lollards”
  • They Went Through England Teaching Wycliffe’s Ideas
  • 1401 – The Roman Church Forced The Statute: De Haeretico Comburendo Through English Parliament Making Lollard Teachings Punishable By Death

31 Years After His Death, Wycliffe Was Declared A Heretic, His Bones Were Dug Up And Burned And Through Into The Avon River
Jan Hus – 1373-1415
Prague, Czechoslovakia

- Bohemian Pastor Of Bethlehem Chapel
- 1409 Rector Of University Of Prague
- 1409 Directed National Bohemian Party – Calling For Reform
- Was Excommunicated As Heretic At Council Of Constance
Jan Hus
Prague, Czechoslovakia

• 1413 – Wrote *De Ecclesia* = “About The Church”
  • Neither Popes Nor Cardinals Could Establish Doctrine Contrary To Scripture
  • Christians Should Not Obey Papacy When Contrary To Scripture
  • Openly Criticized Papacy
  • Condemned Image Worship
  • Condemned Sales Of Indulgences

• July 6, 1415, Burned At The Stake For Seeking To Reform The Church In Prague

• Known As The “John The Baptist” Of The Reformation
Taborites
Radical Followers Of Hus After His Death

• Group That More Fully Withdrawn From Catholicism
• 1450 – Some Of Taborites That Formed *Unitas Fratrum* (Unity Of Brethren, Unity Brethren) or Bohemian Brethren
• By 1517 Had 200,000 Members & Two Printing Presses
• Roots Of The Moravian Church of Today
• U.S. Headquarters In Pennsylvania

St. Nicolas Church, Statue Of Jan Hus, Prague
Girolamo Savonarola
1452-1498

- 1474 Dominican Monk
- 1490 Assigned To Florence
- Tried To Reform Both State And Church
  - Preached Against The Evil Life Of The Pope
  - He Was Offered The Position Of Cardinal In Hopes That He Would Be Loyal To The Church, But He Refused
  - Convinced Artists And Writers To Burn Paintings And Books In The Streets Of Florence As An Effort Toward Purification
- Arrested And Tortured 6 Days
  - Confessed To Doing Wrong Under Torture
  - Retracted His Confession After Release
- 1498 – Was Hanged, Then Body Burned
Troubles Existing In The Romish Church

- **Simony**
  - By "simony" is meant the purchase of an office in the church, the name and the offense coming from Simon Magus (the Sorcerer), who offered Peter money for the power to confer the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:9-24)
  - Simony was reformed by Gregory VII.
  - It had grown up in the church as the feudal system came into being.
    - The ecclesiastical vacancies were sold to the highest bidder.
    - The most unsuitable persons became bishops and abbots (*Mediaeval and Modern History*, Myers, p.115-116)
The Sale Of Indulgences

- The purchase of forgiveness, both now and after death.
- John Tetzel's sale of Indulgences was the occasion for Martin Luther's break with Rome - 1517
- According to Roman teaching, purgatory is very much the same as hell, only it does not last as long, but all have to pass through it.
- The pope claimed to have the authority and power to lessen or remit these sufferings.
- It began with Popes Pascal I (817-824) and John VIII (872-882)
  - It was very profitable
  - Soon came into general use
  - They were offered as inducement to go on crusades or wars against heretics, etc.
- This became a way of “selling the privilege of sin” (Halley's Bible Handbook, Halley, p.787)
The Unam Sanctum - 1302

- Pope Boniface VIII and Philip IV, the Fair, (King of France) (1285-1314) were in a mortal quarrel over taxation, and who receives it.
- Letters were exchanged, and all decencies of language on both sides were cast away.
- In the end, the famous bull, called *Unam Sanctam* from the opening words, was published on Nov. 18, 1302.
  - It declared that every human being was subject to the Roman Pontiff, which is necessary for salvation.
  - Result: Philip was not terrified
    - Philip led a band of lawless soldiers in an attack on Boniface and gained victory.
Note: The Corruption Of The Papacy

- French gained control of the papacy (1303-1378)
  - Benedict XI (1303-1304)
  - After his death, papal authority moved from Rome to Auignon, France

- "Babylonian Captivity" of the papacy (1305-1387)
  - Burdensome taxes were imposed
  - Church offices were sold for money

- The Papal Schism (1377-1417)
  - Two sets of popes, one at Rome, one at Auignon
  - Each set claimed to be "Vicar of Christ"

- Renaissance Popes (1447-1503) - Immoral Period
  - Nicolas V (1447-1455), authorized the king of Portugal to war on Africans, making slaves of them
  - Paul II (1464-1471) filled his house with concubines
  - Innocent VIII (1484-1492) had 16 children by various married women
  - Alexander VI (1492-1503) was called the most corrupt of the Renaissance popes (Halley's Bible Handbook, Halley, p.778-779)
Corruption Brought About Through Councils
The Council Of Pisa, Italy (1409)

- It purposed two main objects:
  - The restoration of peace, by a restoration of unity of the church. Since 1378 two popes ruled: George XII in Rome, Italy and Benedict XIII in Avignon, France. The council of Pisa was to seek union of papal power, but failed.
  - The second, the reformation of it in head and in members.
- There were twenty three cardinals and either in person or by proxy, some two hundred bishops, nearly three hundred abbots, with doctors of theology and of the canon and the civil law, little short of five hundred, and others in assembly.
- It lasted a little more than four months; from March 25 to August 7, 1409
- The council became deserted by many of its principal members and was adjourned for three years.
The Council Of Constance 1414-1418

- French control of the papacy (1303-1378)
- Far surpassed that of Council of Pisa, and any which followed.
- The council proposed three objects:
  - To bring Schism to an end
  - To pass a judgment on the doctrines of Wycliffe and Hus
  - To carry out that same reform, a reform of the church in head and in members, which for all that were true of heart had been long the dearest object of their desire; and which the mournful experience had not yet taught them was never through a council to be obtained.
- The pope's aim was to bear the council in hand till a decent opportunity for getting rid of it shall arrive.
Petrarch (1304-1374)
- Known as the first of the Humanists
- Was the first to fully realize and appreciate the supreme excellence and beauty of classical literature and its value as a means of culture.
- He had great feelings for the material monuments of classical antiquity.
- He called into existence a school of ardent young humanists who looked up to him as master.
Planting The Seed Of Reform
The Rise Of Knowledge: Humanism

- **Humanism Develops.**
  - With mid-fifteenth century invention of printing with movable type, popular education became widespread and new educational ideals arose.
  - Luther favored widespread teaching
  - The demand for books was great
  - The great controversies brought many pamphlets, tracts, and brilliant works on classics, history, criticism, education and politics
  - A study of the languages became common place for their aesthetic value - In the process leading to greater knowledge - Planting the seed for later revolt.
The Johannes Gutenberg
Printing Press - 1454

• Arguably History’s Greatest Invention
• Produced In Mainz, Germany
• First Produced Book: The Bible
Planting The Seed Of Reform
The Rise Of Knowledge: Humanism

- Erasmus
  - One of the greatest humanists of the age was Erasmus of Rotterdam (1536)
  - A scholar, promoter of classical erudition
  - Editor of the Greek text of the Bible
  - *Author of The Praise of Folly* - A renaissance satire looking at the frivolity of learning, but ending with the sharing of his concerns and beliefs of how Christians should act.
Planting The Seed Of Reform
The Rise Of Knowledge: Humanism

- **Other Leading Northern Humanists Of That Day:**
  - Thomas More (1478-1535) - English Author & Catholic Martyr
  - Ulrich von Hutten - (1488-1523) - German Patriot, Poet, Knight, Classical Scholar, Satirist
  - Johann Reuchlin (1455-1522) - German Humanist and Hebrew Scholar, Lexicographer
Practical reformation has never been possible without the average person having access to the scripture itself.

Early attempts to translate it into English were made before 1000 A.D.

Wycliffe did not use the original Greek and Hebrew, but translated the Latin Vulgate of Jerome into English.

- This translation was used extensively by the Lollards, the followers of Wycliffe.
- It also influenced the Husite Reformation in Bohemia.
William Tyndale
1494-1536

- Desired To See The Bible In The Hand Of Every Plowman
- Between 1525 & 1535 Produced English Translation While In Exile In Cologne & Worms, Germany
- The first printed English New Testament was that of William Tyndale (1495-1536); published part of the Old Testament also.
- 15,000 Copies Of The N.T. Were Issued
- Secretly Imported Into England In Bales Of Cotton, Sacks Of Flour And Other Means
William Tyndale
1494-1536

- He used the original language.
- Translated the New Testament in 1525
- The Pentateuch in 1530
- Book of Jonah in 1531
- Psalms in 1534
- His work was so good that when the King James Version was done later, it was about 90% identical with that of Tyndale.
- In Less Than 10 Years The Same King Commissioned Miles Coverdale To Revise Tyndale’s Work
- About 12 or 13 Translations Precede The KJV
Tyndale’s Death

- October 6, 1536 Tyndale was strangled and burned at the stake.
- His last words were, “Lord, open the eyes of the King of England.”
- Today his statue stands on the River Thames in London where he was not allowed to live during his last years of life.

Sculpted Head of William Tyndale from St Dunstan-in-the-West Church London
In 1535 the Miles Coverdale work began, which was taken mostly from Wycliffe and Tyndale.

In 1557 the Bible was divided into chapters and verses. There was also a prologue to each book with summaries and notes throughout.

By 1579 versions were so readily available that the average home was able to afford one.

The Bishop's Bible was published in 1586; it was a revision of the Great Bible.
From 1615 till 1769 there were many revisions of the King James Version.

A better English translation was published in 1881, due to the discoveries of the Codex Alexandrinus and Codex Sinaiticus

- There were advanced orders for almost two million copies
- Over three million copies were sold the first year

In 1901, the American Revision Committee brought out a version which was more in keeping with American usage than the English version (The Eternal Kingdom, Mattox, p.274-278)
Causes Of The Reformation
16th & 17th Centuries

- Long Range Causes
  - The church had apostatized from New Testament purity, and was corrupt in the dark ages
    - These abuses came from within the church itself
    - This had destroyed the unity
  - There were many false doctrines in the church

- Immediate Causes
  - The papacy had reached the zenith of its power and was using it to promote its selfish interests
  - The entire church could be characterized as being morally bankrupt
  - It was under these conditions that sincere reformers arose to work for a moral and spiritual regeneration

(The Eternal Kingdom, Mattox, p. 219-223)
Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531)

• Swiss Reformer
• At Age 14 Went To Bern, Switzerland Studied Under Heinrich Wolfin
• Studied 2 Years At University Of Vienna
• 1506 Ordained A Priest
• 1519 He Became The People’s Priest At Great Minster Church In Zurich
  • Launched Reformation By Preaching Biblical Sermons From Pulpit
  • Interpreted Scripture As Prohibiting What The Bible Did Not Specifically Prescribe
  • Called For Return The Apostolic Order Of The New Testament
  • Taught Memorial View Of The Lord’s Supper – Debated Luther Over It
• Zwingli was killed in 1531, In Second Swiss Revolt Against Emperor Charles V
1500 – 1800 A.D.

• Martin Luther: 1483-1546
  • Rebelled Against Papacy After A Visit To Rome
  • Oct. 31, 1517 – Nailed 95 Theses To The Door Of The Catholic Church At Wittenburg
  • Pope Leo X Wrote And Told Luther To Recant, Or Excommunication
  • John Tetzel’s Sale Of Indulgences
  • Luther Burns The Papal Bull And Is Excommunicated In 1520
  • Spends The Rest Of His Life In Seclusion At Wartburg
Rise Of Protestantism: Diet of Speyer (Germany) — 1526

- As Protestantism advanced, the execution of the Edict of Worms (condemnations of Luther’s writings) became less and less practicable.
- Many Catholics in the north had professed Luther’s ideas while people in the south were predominately Catholic.
- This was highlighted at the Diet of Speyer in 1526 under Archduke Ferdinand of Austria — (The Lutheran influence strong at this meeting)
- The Diet came with the consent of Ferdinand to the unanimous conclusion Aug. 27, that a general or national council should be convened for the settlement of the church question concerning the Edict of Worms.
- Also, each state was given the right to carry out their own justice as it had to do with violators of the teachings of the church, and not as the edict of Worms has determined as a role to be determined by the church and its officers.
- As a result, the Protestant princes dared for the first time to profess their faith
The Second Diet (Assembly of Holy Roman Empire) at Speyer, Germany, convened in March, 1529 for action against the Ottoman Turks uprising, and against further progress of Protestantism.

This meeting drew a majority of Catholics this time.

The Diet neutralized the recess of the preceding Diet of 1526:
- It virtually condemned (without annulling) the innovations made.
- It forbade any further reformation until the meeting of the council.

The Lutheran members, under well-founded impression that the prohibition of any future reformation meant death to the whole movement, entered in the legal form of appeal, a protest, on April 25, 1529, against those measures of the Diet which were contrary to the word of God.

From this protest and appeal the Lutherans were called Protestants (History of the Christian Church, Schaff, vol. 7, p. 683-686, 690-693).
John Calvin
1509-1564

• Born Noyon, France July 10, 1509
• At Age 12 Presented To The Catholic Church At Noyon For Education
• He Began Early Preaching Reformation
• Organized Systematic Protestantism
• Through Him Geneva Became The “Rome” Of Protestantism
• “Calvinism” Is Used To Designate His System Of Theology
• “Presbyterian” A Term To Designate The System Of Government He Adopted For Church In Switzerland
• Established A College In Geneva, With Theodore Beza As Head – 1536
  • Its Success Drew Students From All Over Europe, Inc. John Knox, And Other English & Scottish Theologians
Teachings Of Calvin

- The Bible Is The Infallible Guide For The Church, But Must Be Interpreted By The Elect
- Gave 10 Commandments An Important Place In Theology
- Purpose Of Life Is Found In Glorifying God, Not Self Pleasure
- Discipline, Excommunication To Those Not Conforming
- Lord’s Supper Four Times Per Year For Elect
- Tulip Doctrine – Augustinian Theology
  - Total Hereditary Depravity (Sin Of Adam Inherited By All)
  - Unconditional Election (God Chose You Irresistibly)
  - Limited Atonement (Jesus Died For A Limited Amount Of People)
  - Irresistible Grace (Given To Those Predestined, Irresistibly)
  - Perseverance Of The Saints (Once Saved, Always Saved)
- Calvin Died 1564, Theodore Beza Then Led
Council Of Trent (1545-1563)

- Convened by Paul III – The Greatest Catholic Church Council Since Council Of Nicea, 325 A.D.
- Declared The Traditions Of The Church To Be Equal With The Bible
- Reasserted The Divine Character Of The Papacy
- Condemned Lutheran Doctrine Of Justification Of Faith Only
- Clarified Doctrine & Demanded Moral Purity On The Part Of Priests & Bishops
16th Century Roman Counter-Revolution

- Called the counter-Reformation, during which time the old church underwent a spiritual revival and administrative renovation
  - e.g. Ignatius of Loyola’s mission program— the Jesuits (1539)
  - It failed to destroy the Protestant Reformation
  - It was some time before it was generally realized how powerful a new religious inspiration had come into the world (The Reformation Crisis, Hurstfield, P.50)
- The main characteristic of revised Catholicism was its effort to regain by force the territory lost to the Protestants
- The history of this armed struggle which lasted nearly one hundred and fifty years falls into three periods
  - The attack on the Calvinistic regions of Western Europe (1542-98)
  - The attack on the Lutheran regions of Central Europe (1618-48)
  - The struggle which led to English world supremacy (The Focal Points of Christian History, Dametz, p.121)
English Reform

King Henry VIII
1491-1547

- Married Catherine Of Aragon 1509
  - Youngest Daughter Of Ferdinand II & Isabella Of Spain
  - Aunt Of Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V
  - Had One Daughter, Mary
  - Divorced 1533
  - Broke With Roman Church

- Married Anne Boleyn 1533
  - Had One Daughter, Elizabeth
  - Executed 1536
  - Known As Anne Of The 1000 Days
  - Was Our Deer Hunting While Anne’s Head Was Being Chopped Off In Tower Of London

- Married Jane Seymour 1536
  - Had One Child, Edward VI, A Sickly Child
  - When Henry Died, 1547, Son Edward VI Only Served Five Years Before Dying.
English Reform

Queen Mary
1516-1558

• With Mary’s Ascension To The Throne A Stir Among Church Leadership Took Place
  • English Church Law Made King Head Of The Church
  • With Mary On Throne, Archbishop Of Canterbury Became Head Of Church
  • Therefore, Whatever Male Comes To Throne In England Is Also Head Of The Church

• Mary, A Devout Catholic, Started A Restoration Movement Of Her Own
  • Done In Revenge Against The Divorce Of Her Mother
  • When Henry Booted Out All Catholic Priests, Confiscated All Churches & Land (About 25% Of All English Land, It Angered Catholics & Hence Mary
  • Mary Caused Heads To Roll, Literally
  • She Was Known As “ Bloody Mary”

• She Ruled From 1553 To Her Death In 1558
English Reform

• With The Death Of Mary, Half Sister, Elizabeth I Came To Throne - 1558

• Displayed Good Sense In Her Reign

• Saw That Many In England Rebelled Against Both Catholicism And Anglicanism

• She Gave Religious Freedom To The People, Seeds Of Restoration

• She Allowed People To Study Their Bibles, Worship According To Their Own Preference.

• Died In 1603

Queen Elizabeth I 1533-1603
English Reform

King James I Of England & VI Of Scotland 1566-1625

- Came To Throne After Death Of Elizabeth, Having Already Served 36 Years As King Of Scotland
- Strong Protestant Urging Free Thinking Spirit Among Religious People
- Desired To Merge Scottish & Anglican Church Under One Confession Of Faith
- 1611 – First Official English Translation Produced
- 1620 – December 21, He Established 1st English Colony In Americas At Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts
THE SECOND EPISTLE
of Paul the apostle to the
Thessalonians.

CHAP. I.
Saint Paul certifieth them of the good opinion which he had of their faith, love, and patience: 
And therewithal useth divers reasons for the comforting of them in persecution, whereof the chiefest is taken from the righteous judgement of God.

Paul and Silvanus, and Timotheus unto the church of the Thessalonians, in God our Father, & the Lord Jesus Christ:
1 Grace unto you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

the Lord, and from the glory of his power:
10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:
12 That the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHAP. II.
1 He willeth them to continue steadfast in the truth received, 
3 Heweth that there shall be a departure from the faith, 
9 and a discovery of Antichrist, before the day of the Lord come. 
15 And thereupon repeateth his former exhortation, and prayeth for them.
The Rise Of The Anabaptists

- 1500s — Radical reformers who differed widely among themselves, were generally known as Anabaptists
  - This suggests the idea of one baptism on top of another
  - Was applied to these because they rejected the validity of infant baptism, saying that for baptism to be valid, the person must voluntarily submit to it as a believer
- They were persecuted by both Catholics and the followers of Luther and Zwingli
- They were very close to the New Testament pattern
  - Believed the church was composed of believers only
  - Rejected infant baptism
  - Church membership was based on faith and conscious submission to baptism
- Problems: There were many leaders of this movement who became corrupt (1) One had seventeen wives (2) Polygamy was approved
- The Catholics and Protestants united to stamp out the movement, and almost succeeded (1) One man was left (2) He studied the scripture and saved the movement from destruction (The Eternal Kingdom; Mattox, P. 262-265)
Other Reform Movements

• 1550’s – John Knox – Development Of Presbyterianism In Scotland

• 1572 – Thomas Cartwright, Led A Puritan Movement In England, But Was Really The Presbyterian Church In England

• 1607 – John Smyth – Founded Baptist Church (Note, The First Baptist Church In England Was In 1611)
Peter Meiderlin (Rupertus Meldenius) (1582-1681)

“In Essentials, Unity; in Non-essentials, Liberty; in All Things, Charity” —1626
Methodist Episcopal Church

- In 1727 John Wesley Began A Movement In The Anglican Church That Was Fully Established December 25, 1784 As The Methodist Episcopal Church
- He Was An Ordained Priest In Episcopal (Anglican) Church
- Lived And Died An Anglican
- John, And His Brother Charles, With Whitefield And About A Dozen other Students At Oxford, Formed A Society For The Purpose Of Overcoming The Formalism And Ritualism Of The Episcopal Church To Stimulate Spirituality
- John and his younger brother, Charles, arrived in America February 6, 1736 at Cockspur Island, Georgia.
- Other Societies Were Organized And Because Of Their Methodical Manner Of Life They Were Called Methodists
- Upon The Death Of Wesley, These Societies Banded Together Under A Conference And Became Known As The Methodist Episcopal Church
Other Efforts

• Dates And Originators Of Denominations At This Time
  • Dutch Reform – 1567 – Duke Of Alva Began A Persecution, Many Dutchmen Were Driven To England Where They Were Allowed To Worship As They Pleased, Began Dutch Reform Church
  • Puritanism – 1570 – Thomas Cartwright – Believed Archbishops And Archdeacons Should Be Abolished; Church Officers Should Be Modeled After N.T. Order; Autonomous Churches; Ministers Responsible For One Church Only; No Man Should Solicit Church Appointment; Church Officers Should Be Chosen By Members, Not State
  • Quakers – 1650 – George Fox & James Nailer
  • 1669 – A Group Of Men Had Grown Tired Of All The Religious Division In The World – Tottlebank, Just North Of Liverpool, England, The Church Of Christ Was Established – Not Exactly The N.T. Church, More Like A Baptist Church
    • Taught Local Church Autonomy
    • With Elders To Shepherd Flock
    • In 1824 A Group Pulled Away Becoming The Kirkby Church of Christ, After The N.T. Order, Still Meets Today – For 30 Years They Met Not Having Ever Heard Of Alexander Campbell Or Barton W. Stone
The Idea Of Restoration

• 1807 – When Thomas Campbell Comes To America There Are At Least Five Divisions Within Presbyterianism Alone.
• By 1800s It Was Recognized Widely That Reformation Was Impossible
• It Is Back To The Bible
• Speak Where The Bible Speaks & Remain Silent Where The Bible Is Silent