

History 1020

Chapter 13: Reformation and religious warfare in the 16th century.

The intricate ties between religion and political power

The main religion in charge were the Catholics in Europe and they ruled the Holy Roman Empire (indicated on map).

Indulgences Controversy

It was believed that you have to pay to get into heaven. In Rome there was a famous saying by Johann Tetzel "As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs" the catholic church used this as a source of income for their salaries and to build their churches also famously St. Peters basilica in 1517 by pope Leo the 10th.

The worst thing the Christians did in history were the crusades. When the European civilization became strong and confident enough they looked beyond their walls, and thus ensured the crusades. They wanted to take back their holy land from the Muslims.

Diocese – A catholic geographic area.

The political, social and economic dimensions of post medieval Europe were intricately tied together.

Pluralism – people could hold one or more leadership positions in the church.

They were gaining these positions by paying for them. When you have two different jobs you get more money.

Thomas Wolsey

He was the arch bishop of York. He doesn't have to be in York to be a bishop of York. This is called pluralism which allows people in the papacy to hold more than one position of power, which can lead to absenteeism.

The protestant reformation

The leader of the protestant reformation was a monk named Martin Luther. He did not believe in the indulgence system. He started a battle with the Catholic Church about who's more powerful on earth, god or man.

He articulated a more personal reliance on god. In his 95 theses on October 31st of 1517, which he nails to the door of churches. The emperor of the holy roman empire at the time was Charles the fifth, he demanded on 1521 that Luther go in front of court known as the diet of worms. Martin Luther came in

front of the court and it gives him a chance to recant to his acts, to which he responds "no I will not recant".

Charles the 5th issues the edict of worms stating that Martin Luther is a heretic, an enemy of the church and an enemy of the Holy Roman Empire. Pamphlets of this were circulated to all parts of all parts of the empire and all of Luther's books and writings were to be burned and Luther himself was ordered to be arrested. Luther was saved by his prince the elector of Saxony who made plans for Luther to hide out in his mansion at Saxony, it was here that Luther lived for a year under disguise and also where he began decrypting the holy bible into German, 200,000 copies of this translations were further circulated, Charles the 5th was too busy fighting wars with his rival Francis the 1st of France and running the holy roman empire to enforce his arrest. This starts a movement among many kinds of people for different versions of the same new belief.

Luther returns to Germany a year later and begins spreading Protestantism by evangelizing, which is spreading the idea among the poor that you don't have to pay to get into heaven rather have faith in a higher power. Faith rather money will get you into heaven and to a peasant with no money this was incredibly powerful.

This idea was also spread with the use of pamphlets, and even though most peasants were illiterate someone else could still read it for them.

The spread of the Protestant Reformation.

Evangelical Christianity

Luther meets Ulrich Zwingli to try and form an alliance between them. Martin Luther agrees with baptism and that it cleans original sin he also believes in Eucharist which is a catholic ritual where the priest offers a communion to the devotees. He does not believe in the process of clerical celibacy which is abstinence from sexual desire. Ulrich believe almost completely with Luther's views all except in transubstantiation, Luther says that when Christians partake in the bread and wine it is not literally the body of Christ rather just his spirit whereas Zwingli believes that the Eucharist was just something to remember Christ by and when you partake in communion it is merely in remembrance of Jesus . They met on 1521 at the Marburg colloquy. Unfortunately they parted ways.

The Anabaptists.

Luther also meets with Menno Simons from the anabaptists who believed that baptism while you are an infant is wrong and that personal choice is most important and that a person should get to choose when they want to be baptized. This did not work out either.

Calvinism.

John Calvin who believed in predestinations, which means that a person has already been destined to go to heaven or hell. So even if a person is bad and he's pre destined to go to heaven he will go to heaven as long as he believes that he's destined to go to heaven and that he has to prove that he is good in life. He was the closest representation of Lutheranism. He established the first Calvinist church in Geneva

Switzerland. Calvinism soon became widely successful and replaced Lutheranism as the major military protestant segment.

Reformation in England

King Henry VIII was the main cause of reformation in England. Henry wanted to divorce his wife who was Katherine of Aragon because he desired a son and she could not provide him with one but divorce was forbidden under catholic law so he looked to the pope at the time to get his marriage annulled, the pope refused him because he was a dependant of the holy roman emperor Charles V who was the nephew of Katharine of Aragon. Angered by this Henry subsequently removed the pope from his position, dissolved the papacy and in 1534 through the act of supremacy Henry got both Religious and political power. He divorced his wife and Married Lady Boelyn of Spain, unfortunately for him they has a girl, who was named Elizabeth.

Unlike Luther and Calvin, Henry had no intention of changing the way in which the church was run, he just wanted his way. It was not until his death that more radical changes were introduced; this included the Book of Common Prayer and sacraments and the 42 beliefs of the church of England.

Counter- reformation

In the mid 16th century Lutheranism had been establishes in Germany and Calvinism in parts of Switzerland, France and the Netherlands. In response to this the catholic church had to do something to step up their game so it introduce three major things.

The society of Jesus (Jesuits)

It was formed by Ignatius of Loyola a soldier who was injured in battle and devoted his life in service of the catholic church. He published his short but powerful work *The Spiritual Exercise*. Which stated what the how Christians should behave and what they can expect from the catholic church. The Jesuits travelled around the world on European ships in order to convert people from other races into Catholicism.

A revived papacy

The reformed papacy was another important aspect of the catholic reformation and pope Paul III was a strong advocate of this he pressed for better and more educated priests in churches banned the practice of hawking indulgences thus reducing the corruption. He formally recognized the Jesuits and called together the council of Trent.

The council of Trent

In march 1545 important members of the Catholic Church gathered to make policy decisions regarding the church. Moderate reformers advocated for making compromises so the protestant reformers would come back to the church but they were met by strong opposition by the conservatives who always seem to win in history. Without surprise the latter group won and strong measures were put in place against the protestants. All of the Catholic Church's beliefs were upheald except for the hawking of indulgences