

## The Reformation

### Reasons

1. Wealth of the Church
  - Tithe had to be paid i.e. 1/10 of income to be paid to the church

2. Abuses of Power within the Church

Absenteeism	• Priests & bishops who rarely visited their parishes i.e. People had to wait a while for funerals, weddings & more
Pluralism	When priests & bishops held more than 1 position i.e. they could earn more money
Simony	When people became priests simply to earn money even though they had no interest in religion
Nepotism	Men with power in the church often appointed their relations to positions within it.
Sale of Indulgences	A belief of the Catholic Church was that souls of ordinary people went to purgatory, a place between heaven & hell. Here, souls would be cleansed through punishment. Soon, indulgences were sold i.e the more money paid, the less time spent in purgatory!

3. The Renaissance

Following the translation of the bible into several languages, people began to read the bible & question it. Also, the Printing Press meant that ideas could be spread easily.

#### Structure of the Church

**Pope:** Leader of Catholic Church. Makes decisions on how the church is run. Elected by cardinals.

**Cardinals:** Assist the pope in making decisions. Elect a new pope.

**Bishops:** In charge of administration & running dioceses i.e. areas into which the church divides countries.

**Priests:** In charge of the day-to-day work in parishes e.g. saying mass, carrying out funerals & weddings

**Monks & nuns:** Devote their lives to God outside of society.

#### Luther vs. The Catholic Church: Differences

**Guidance about God:** Catholic = Priests, bishops & popes. Luther = reading, studying & knowing the Bible

**Salvation** (go to heaven when you die): Catholic = faith in God, good deeds/acts. Luther = Faith alone.

**Language - Mass/Bible:** Catholic = Latin. Luther = **vernacular** (language of local people)

**Sacraments:** Catholic = 7. Luther = 2 (Baptism & Eucharist)

**Eucharist/Communion:** Catholic = bread & wine are transformed into the body & blood of Christ. Luther = bread & wine remain present while still being the body & blood of Christ.

**Clergy:** Catholic = Ordained priests cannot marry. Luther = ministers can marry

**Churches:** Catholic = Statues & pictures of saints/ Mary. Lutheran = plain & simple, no images.



## The Reformation

### A Named Reformer / A follower of..... = Martin Luther

- Born = Eisleben, Saxony, Germany in 1483.
- Good education - father was a reasonably wealthy copper miner
- Studied law at the University of Erfurt (age 17).
- Caught in a terrible storm. Prayed to St. Anne to survive. Survived & decided to study to become a monk
- Studied theology (study of religion/gods) in Wittenberg. Later became a professor there.
- While studying, he began to question the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Belief: Faith was all you needed to send you to heaven, not what you did in life. Known as **Justification by Faith Alone**. Did not like the idea that someone's soul could be saved by the purchasing of indulgences.
- Wrote his 95 objections, known as theses, in Latin. Nailed them on church door in Wittenberg Castle (1517). Known as **95 Theses**.
- Pope Leo X sent theologians to debate with Luther & to get him to recant (take back) his theses. He refused.
- The Pope then sent Luther a **papal bull** (a formal letter from the Pope), threatening **excommunication** (to be removed from the Church & disallowed communion). Luther burned the papal bull publicly.
- The pope then turned to Charles V & asked him for help in convincing Luther to recant. In 1521,

the **Diet of Worms** was held, Luther once again refused to recant.

- Luther was then declared a **heretic** (a person who holds beliefs which do not agree with the beliefs of an established religion)
- Prince Frederick of Saxony brought Luther to his castle to ensure his safety. Here, he translated the Bible into German.
- 1530 = **Confession of Augsburg** - an outline of Luther's beliefs about the Catholic Church.
- His followers were known as Lutherans or Protestants as they "protested" against the church.



### Henry the 8th - information:

- Appalled by Luther's 95 theses. Condemned this attack on the pope's authority. Given title of Fidei Defensor by Pope Leo X.
- 1509 = wished to marry brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon. Given permission by Pope Clement. Had a daughter, Mary, but wanted a son. Planned to divorce Catherine & marry Anne Boleyn.
- Luther asked for an annulment (cancelation) of the marriage, stating that he should not have been allowed to marry his sister-in-law. Pope Clement did not want to say this & refused.
- Henry pointed Thomas Cranmer as Archbishop of Canterbury = divorced Catherine & married Anne. Excommunicated from Catholic Church.
- 1534 = **Act of Supremacy**: Recognised Henry as 'supreme head on earth of the Church of England'
- **Oath of Supremacy**: Forced all of Henry's subjects to recognise him as head of the Church of England.

- England was no longer Catholic. Henry still attended mass.



## The Reformation

### John Calvin - information:

- He was French and followed Martin Luther. At the time in France, King Francis 1 was persecuting Protestants. John Calvin fled to Switzerland.
- Geneva = asked to set up the Reformation there.
- The seminary there was successful - educated Protestants from around Europe. These people then spread the ideas of Calvinism.
- Geneva = known as **City of God** - so well organised. People = spiritual & content
- Calvin's teaching:
  - 2 sacraments: Baptism & Eucharist
  - Ordinary people run the church
  - Bread & wine remain bread & wine during Eucharist.
- **Huguenots**: Name given to Calvinists in France.

- **PURITANISM**: Calvinism in England



### Results of the Reformation

1. **New churches** (Lutheran, Calvinist, Anglican) sprang up all over Europe. Finland, Norway & Germany have Protestant majorities. Religious conflict was common. e.g. Thirty Years War
2. **Increase in power & wealth of the monarchs**: Following the Reformation, there was no need to pay money to the Catholic Church. Then, monarchs began to increase taxes & collect the money for themselves.
3. **Education**: An increased use of the vernacular encouraged people to learn to read & write. People wanted to know what was written in the Bible.

## THE COUNTER REFORMATION

### **COUNCIL OF TRENT:**

- 1545-1563: Catholic cardinals & bishops met at Trentino, Italy to decide on reforms in the church.
- Absenteeism, pluralism, simony & nepotism would be outlawed.
- A **catechism** (instructions on the religious beliefs on the church) would be written.
- New clergy would be trained in **seminaries**.
- Mass & other rituals would remain in Latin.
- The 7 sacraments would be reinforced.
- The clergy would remain celibate i.e. not marry

## The Reformation

### COURTS OF INQUISITION

- Established to try those accused of heresy.
- Common in Spain & Italy.
- Torture was used to force people to confess.
- If people refused to confess, they would be publicly burnt at the stake. Known as **auto-da-fé**.

### Jesuits / Society of Jesus

- Founded by Ignatius Loyola.
- Promoted the Catholic Church's teachings to the people of Europe.
- Also educated the sons of the wealthy.
- Sent missionaries to Africa & Asia to spread the Catholic faith there.

### OTHER INFORMATION

- The Anglican Church was set up by Elizabeth 1.
- Ruled for 45 years.
- It was a mixture of Protestant & Catholic beliefs
- Elizabeth passed laws to ensure that England would remain Protestant.
- Clergy could marry
- The vernacular was used.
- 1559 Act of Supremacy - she was recognised as the Governor of the Church of England. Catholics still recognised the Pope as head of the Catholic Church.
  
- Edwardian reforms were known as the 42 Articles.
- Became King aged 9.
- 1552 Act Of Uniformity made the use of prayer books compulsory.
- Priests could marry.
- The second act of Uniformity made church attendance compulsory. It imposed penalties on those who didn't.
- Died at 15.