

Reformation

What was the structure of the Catholic Church ?

- Head of the Church - Pope - Rome
- Cardinals - help the pope run the church
- Dioceses - ruled over by a bishop
- Parishes - Priest
- Tithe/tax - pay to the priest
- Monasteries - monks
- Convents - nuns
- Monasteries helped look after the sick and poor people
- Friars - Preached People

Reformation: Period of religious change that led to a division among Christians.

Protestants: Christians who broke away from the Catholic Church.

What were the main problems in the Church ?

- **Salvation:** a reward that people would be able to go to heaven.
- Mixture of faith and good works/ actions

1) The Renaissance Popes

- not very holy men
- **Alexandra VI (1492-1503)**
- lived a very unholy ife.
- many mistresses.
- made his son a cardinal.

2) The Wealth of the Church

- Bishops were wealthy/ noble families.
- Cardinal Wolsey - chief advisor
- Built the Biggest Palace - Hampton Court, England.
- Monasteries very rich and owned huge large amounts of land.
- Abbots, ran the monasteries

- Very unholy lives.

The Abuses in the Church

- **Nepotism:** Appointing a relative to a position in the Church, bishop/cardinal.
- **E.g:** Sixtus VI - nephews as cardinals
- **Simony:** The buying and selling of Church positions.
- **Pluralism:** Holding more than 1 position in the church.
- **E.g:** a church have 2 bishops.
- **Absenteeism:** Bishops/priests not living in their diocese/parishes.
Rarely visited, too busy, advisors to their kings.
- **E.g:** Cardinal Wolsey only visited his diocese shortly before he died.

Poorly educated priests

- Little knowledge of the bible
- Didn't understand or speak latin - the language used during mass

Indulgences

Indulgences: the reduce/shortening of the time that people spent in prison.

Purgatory: the place where people was punished for their sins and purified before going to heaven.

What was the influence of the Renaissance ?

- People questioned and accepted idea's.

Causes of the Reformation;

- The behaviour of popes and bishops
- The wealth and power of the Church
- **Abuses:** Nepotism, Simony, Pluralism, Absenteeism
- Poorly educated priests
- The sale of indulgences
- **Renaissance:** People questioned and accepted idea's

