Catholic Reformation
or
Counter-Reformation
Reforms

• Eliminate Abuses
• Rebirth of faith among followers
• Reassess Church Principles
• Restore authority to Pope
• Stop spread of Protestantism
Inquisition

- Rid Italy of those that denied the existence of the church, especially the Protestants
- Restore authority of the Pope
- Implemented censorship to stop spread of humanist thinking that led the Italian Renaissance
- Published list of banned books
Catholic Reformation

• The commission blamed the problems on corrupt popes

• Final decrees of Council of Trent = reaffirmed traditional Catholic teachings, both faith and good works were declared necessary for salvation, seven sacraments were upheld, Belief in purgatory was strengthened, selling of indulgences was forbidden
The Catholic Reformation or Counter Reformation

• Roman Catholic church reacts - reforms
  – Refining doctrine, missionary activities to Protestants, attempt to renew spiritual activity

• Council of Trent (1545-1563) periodic meetings to discuss reform

• Society of Jesus (Jesuits) founded by St. Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556)
  – Rigorous religious and secular education
  – Effective missionaries
Results of Catholic Reformation

• Tried to spread Catholicism and win back lands lost to Protestants
• Jesuits were the key missionaries that went out
• The Catholics were not successful in completely stopping the spread of Protestantism
Witch Hunts

• Most prominent in regions of tension between Catholics and Protestants
• Late 15\textsuperscript{th} century development in belief in Devil and human assistants
• 16\textsuperscript{th}-17\textsuperscript{th} centuries approximately 110,000 people put on trial, some 60,000 put to death
  – Vast majority females, usually single, widowed
  – Held accountable for crop failures, miscarriages, etc.
• New England: 234 witches tried, 36 hung
Religious Wars

• Protestants and Roman Catholics fight in France (1562-1598)
• 1588 Philip II of Spain attacks England to force return to Catholicism
• Netherlands rebel against Spain, gain independence by 1610
The Thirty Years’ War (1618-1645)

- Holy Roman emperor attempts to force Bohemians to return to Roman Catholic Church
- All of Europe becomes involved in conflict
  - Principal battleground: Germany
- Political, economic issues involved
- Approximately one-third of German population destroyed
Characteristics of the Thirty Years War

❖ The Holy Roman Empire was the battleground.

❖ At the beginning → it was the Catholics vs. the Protestants.

❖ Resolved by the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648.
VI. Results of the Reformation

- Germany was politically weakened and fragmented
- Christian Church was splintered in the West
- 100 Years of Religious Warfare
- Right of Rebellion introduced by both Jesuits and Calvinists
- Pope’s power increased
- Growing doubt and religious skepticism
VI. Results of Reformation (cont)

- Political stability valued over religious truth
- Calvinism boosted the commercial revolution
- Witch craze swept Europe in the 1600’s
  --Between 1561-1670, 3000 people in Germany, 9000 people in Switzerland and 1000 people in England were executed as witches
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>MEDIEVAL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</th>
<th>MARTIN LUTHER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salvation</td>
<td>Faith plus good works required for salvation</td>
<td>Faith alone the basis for salvation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious authority</td>
<td>Religious authority rests with the Church</td>
<td>Bible is the basis for religious authority</td>
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<td>Man’s relationship to God</td>
<td>Church served as intermediary between God and man</td>
<td>Priesthood of all believers (no intermediary required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacraments</td>
<td>Baptism, penance, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders. Extreme Uction</td>
<td>Baptism, Holy Eucharist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sacraments, dispensed by the Church, are essential for salvation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communion</td>
<td>Transubstantiation: Process whereby the bread and wine is transformed into the body and blood of Christ</td>
<td>Consubstantiation: Process whereby the bread and wine and the body and blood of Christ are both present</td>
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<td>Calling</td>
<td>Limited to religious vocations</td>
<td>Broader concept of calling made secular life respectable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church government</td>
<td>Hierarchical (Pope, cardinals, archbishops, priests, laymen)</td>
<td>Challenged papal authority</td>
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<td>Civil government</td>
<td>Church has authority in religious matters; state has authority in temporal matters. If there is a conflict, Church authority takes precedence.</td>
<td>Denied the right of rebellion (e.g., the Peasants Revolt)</td>
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<td>DOCTRINAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLICS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PROTESTANTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>CATHOLICS (COUNCIL OF TRENT)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH:</strong>  Christ's sacrifice atones for all sins, and it is only necessary to believe in it to be saved. There is nothing humans can do by their own efforts to add or detract from it.</td>
<td>Both <strong>FAITH AND GOOD WORKS</strong> (acts of devotion, charity, the sacraments, etc.) are necessary for salvation.</td>
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<td>The <strong>PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS:</strong>  All believers have equal access to God and no other earthly intermediaries are needed. This does not mean that the flock does not need teachers, but there are no special sacramental functions belonging to any particular class.</td>
<td>The <strong>CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD</strong> is necessary as only priests can perform the sacraments necessary for spiritual health and correctly interpret the meaning of scripture.</td>
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<td>The <strong>SCRIPTURES AS THE ONLY SOURCE OF TRUE DOCTRINE:</strong>  Studying and understanding the scriptures is therefore important to all believers. Translating the Bible into the vernacular tongues and making it available to all is essential.</td>
<td><strong>SCRIPTURE IS ONLY ONE WAY IN WHICH DOCTRINE IS REVEALED.</strong>  The decisions of church councils, encyclicals from the Pope, tradition, etc., are all part of it. Only the priesthood of the church can correctly interpret the meaning of scripture. Do not try this at home.</td>
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<td>The <strong>LORD'S SUPPER IS SYMBOLIC</strong> and the body and blood of Christ are not physically present. To believe otherwise is to commit idolatry.</td>
<td>The <strong>EUCHARIST IS A MYSTERY</strong> in which the sacrifice of Christ is reenacted; the bread and wine become spiritually transformed into the true body and blood of the Lord.</td>
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<td><strong>NO HEAVENLY INTERMEDIARIES ARE NEEDED</strong> to intercede with God. Although the Virgin Mary, saints, and angels are all in heaven, they should not be the objects of prayer or veneration. The making of images encourages idolatrous worship that should be directed at the more abstract concept of God.</td>
<td>Although the saints and angels should not be worshipped, their <strong>INTERCESSION IS VALUABLE AND NECESSARY</strong> to helping the Christian to achieve salvation. The Virgin Mary is especially honored by God, and should be also by believers. Religious images should not be worshipped, but they help to inspire devotion. (These fine points were often lost on the average peasant.)</td>
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<td>God's foreknowledge and omnipotence mean that <strong>EVERYONE IS PREDESTINED TO THEIR FATE:</strong>  either to be or not to be one of the elect. Human action avails nothing.</td>
<td><strong>GOD'S OMNIPOTENCE DOES NOT RESTRICT HUMAN WILL,</strong> and each individual is still responsible for earning their own salvation.</td>
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<td>The Bible only documents <strong>TWO SACRAMENTS:</strong> <strong>BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER</strong> (so called to distinguish the Protestant practice from the Catholic Eucharist)</td>
<td>There are <strong>SEVEN SACRAMENTS:</strong>  Baptism, Holy Eucharist (see above), Penance (confession/absolution), Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders, Extreme Unction (last rites). Of these, Baptism can be performed by anyone in an emergency and marriage (a historical newcomer to the list) is technically bestowed by the two partners on one another. All the rest can only be performed by a priest or bishop</td>
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