

The Sixteenth Century

History: The Modern Church

Main Idea: The Hinge of Church History Is the Protestant Reformation

1. The Reformation: Why did it occur?

- **Politically Necessary:** *The Fall of Christendom*
 - Weakened by the **Hundred Year's War** (1337-1453).
 - Weakened by the **Bubonic Plague** (1347-1350).
 - Weakened by the **Western Schism** (1378-1409).
- **Culturally Necessary:** *The Rise of the Renaissance*
 - Led to the **Suspicion of Tradition:** *Ad Fontes*
 - Led to the **Study of Texts:** *Gutenberg's Printing Press*



- **Theologically Necessary: *The Corruption of Catholicism***
 - Corrupted the **Gospel**: *Good Works, Mary, and the Mass*
 - Corrupted **Authority**: *The Papacy, Priesthood, and Tradition*
 - Corrupted the **Church**: *Christendom and Indulgences*

2. The Reformation: How Did It Occur?

- Began in **Germany**: *The Protestations of Martin Luther*
 - **Rediscovered Gospel in the Bible**: *Justification by Faith Alone*
 - **Protested Corruptions of Catholicism**: *Ninety-Five Theses (October 31, 1517)*
 - **Spurred Reformation by Defiance of Holy Roman Empire**: *Diet of Worms (1521)*.

- Spread through Europe: *The Protestant Reformation*
 - In Germany: *The Lutherans*

 - In Switzerland: *The Calvinists and the Anabaptists*

 - In Holland: *The Reformed*

 - In England: *The Puritans*

 - In Scotland: *The Presbyterians*

 - In Poland and Central Europe: *The Hussites*

 - In France: *The Huguenots*



3. The Reformation: What Did it Do?

o Reclaimed the **Gospel**: *The 5 Solas*

- **Scripture** Alone: *Sola Scriptura*

- **Grace** Alone: *Sola Gratia*

- **Faith** Alone: *Sola Fide*

- **Christ** Alone: *Solus Christus*

- **Glory of God Alone:** *Soli Deo Gloria*

- **Redefined Authority:** *The Authority of Scripture*

- **Reformed the Church:** *The Priesthood of the Believer*



The Sixteenth Century: A Timeline

- 1516 Erasmus Publishes *Novum Instrumentum*, the First Greek New Testament
- 1517 Martin Luther Nails 95 Theses to Castle Church Door in Wittenberg on October 31
- 1521 Luther Excommunicated; Translates Bible into German
- 1522 Swiss Reformation Begins with Huldreich Zwingli
- 1525 William Tyndale Translates Bible in English
- 1527 Luther Writes "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"
- 1530 Augsburg Confession Published
- 1533 Anglican Church Begun by King Henry VIII
- 1536 John Calvin Publishes *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
- 1539 Catholic Counter-Reformation Begins
- 1547 John Knox Brings Protestantism to Scotland
- 1555 Peace of Augsburg
- 1563 Heidelberg Catechism
- 1572 St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of French Protestants
- 1598 Edict of Nantes Grants Religious Freedom to French Protestants