

STUDY PAK 12

THE REFORMATION IN SWITZERLAND, HOLLAND AND FRANCE

“Never in my life have I seen such a bold man.” ~Erasmus about Farel~

I. SWITZERLAND

Switzerland was a loose confederation of states under the Holy Roman Empire – mountains – very independent local governments called Cantons.

II. ULRICH ZWINGLI 1484-1531

- A. Studied the Bible with Anabaptists; humanist – Doctor in Liberal Arts.
- B. Became a priest in 1506.
- C. Wrote the book *Beginning and End*; defended sole authority of the Bible against the Roman Catholic system.
- D. 67 conclusions included:

III. REFORMED CHURCH AT ZURICH – 1523

- A. The local government came under the control of evangelical preachers with Baptist support.
- B. Reform movement spread to other cities.
- C. He had contacts with Luther and with the Waldenses and with the Anabaptists.
- D. In 1525 infant baptism became synonymous with _____
– broke with Baptists and some Waldenses.
- E. The Sacramentarian controversy led to a break with Luther.

IV. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

- A. Zwingli made anti-emperor, anti-pope political alliances (Francis I).
- B. Catholics began to invade areas of Switzerland.

- C. Zwingli, (famed statue with Sword and Bible) formed a league of Swiss cities – Swiss Confederation.
 1. First Peace of Keppel – 1529.
 2. Civil war broke out again. Zwingli was found wounded on the battlefield; he was drawn and quartered, his body burned and his ashes scattered.
 3. Second Peace of Keppel – Heinrich Bullinger became the leader of the Swiss Reformation.

V. THEOLOGY

- A. _____ – through the state church.
- B. _____
- C. _____ – Textus Receptus. Three judges Latin, Greek, and Hebrew for the Swiss Scripture.

VI. WILLIAM GUILLAUME FAREL 1489-1565

- A. Traveled from Swiss city-to-city preaching Protestantism.
- B. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Geneva was overthrown because of the corruption. Anarchy followed in Geneva and they turned to Farel. John Calvin became his assistant.
- C. John Calvin
 1. His father died when he was three.
 2. He was appointed a chaplain at age 12.
 3. Frenchman Jacques Lefevre converted at age 70 and translated the Textus Receptus into French.
 4. Calvin studied law at Orleans he studied Greek and wrote his first classical work at age 22.
 5. Calvin fled France in disguise and wandered for almost two years.
 6. His cousin Olivetan published a French translation and Calvin wrote the introduction.
- D. Farel left Calvin in charge of Geneva. Calvin left but Farel persuaded him to go back.

VII. INSTITUTES OF CHRISTIAN RELIGION

- A. Written by John Calvin.
- B. Was the _____ ever.
- C. It was dedicated to Francis I and written in Latin and French.

VIII. CALVIN IN GENEVA

- A. He debated and then outlawed the Anabaptists.
- B. Constant opposition to Calvin personally.
- C. Servetus was a Spanish anti-Trinitarian. He was eventually burnt at the stake.

IX. SWITZERLAND BECAME A VIRTUAL PROTESTANT NATION

X. THE REFORMATION IN HOLLAND

In the first half of the 16th century Lutheran, Calvinist, and Baptist ideas spread throughout Holland but Roman Catholicism remained in control of the government.

XI. PHILIP II (OF SPANISH ARMADA FAME)

As the Holy Roman Emperor technically was the ruler over the Low Countries, Philip decided to use the Low Countries for a base for his armies to subjugate the rest of Europe.

- A. The Dutch resented the Spanish armies in their midst and the encroachments on their liberties.
- B. Calvinism flourished during this time.

XII. WILLIAM THE SILENT (WILLIAM OF ORANGE)

- A. He was born to a Lutheran family but converted to Catholicism then back to Lutheranism then to Calvinism.
- B. He was a clever diplomat and a strong military leader. He was a patriotic friend of freedom. He became leader of the Dutch without an official royal title.
- C. He refused to carry out the orders of the Spanish Inquisition.

- D. His property in the Low Country was seized by Catholics so he fled to Germany.
- E. Alva was a Spanish general with a reign of terror. He took 10,000 Spanish troops into Holland and within one year they killed over 8,000 people. They collected a tax.
- F. William was called back from Germany to lead an army to resist the Spanish.
- G. William united the people. He was called _____
_____. They had a written agreement about religious freedom. "Touching religion each shall be free for we answer to God." They got enough support to drive the Spanish from the Low Country.
- H. Philip II placed a bounty on William dead or alive. The book *Vindiciae Contra Tyrannos* is about proper government in the Bible. _____
was William's explanation for why he resisted the Spanish. William got shot in the jaw and later was killed by Catholic agents.

XIII. MAURICE (SON OF WILLIAM)

- A. William's son Maurice became leader of the Dutch people.
- B. Maurice formed a powerful enough army to keep the Spanish from returning.
- C. After his death, Catholics were able to seize part of the low country.

XIV. JACOB ARMINIUS 1560-1609

- A. He had been a Calvinist but had questioned the doctrines.
- B. He offered his own explanation of salvation:
 1. Man does have the ability to call upon the Lord.
 2. Election is _____.
 3. Atonement _____.
 4. Grace is _____.
 5. Man can _____.

XV. WILLIAM OF ORANGE, GRANDSON OF WILLIAM THE SILENT

- A. He became the unofficial leader.
- B. He leads the people fighting off both the Spanish and the English invasions.

- C. He established an enduring _____.

XVI. THE FRENCH MONARCHY

The French kings traditionally exercised more independence than most European kings.

- A. Francis I was a very powerful secular king. He was a lifelong enemy of Charles V the great Spanish defender of the Papacy.
- B. His sister, Margaret was a Protestant, and Francis allowed her to protect Protestants.
- C. In 1525, Francis was captured by Charles V. In order to gain his release, he had to promise to persecute Protestants.
- D. Nicholas Cop openly preached justification by faith all over France. Gospel pamphlets written by Antoine Marcourt were spread all over France. One was posted on the bedroom door of Francis I.

XVII. HENRY II AND CATHERINC de' MEDICI

- A. Henry II succeeded Francis I upon his death.
- B. Henry proceeded with the persecution of Protestants with enthusiasm. 500 Protestants were killed the first two years of his reign. He attended a public ceremony where Protestants were roasted over an open fire.
- C. Henry died unexpectedly after 12 years. His wife Catherine continued his policies.
- D. Henry was succeeded by Francis II. The Edict of Saint Germain allowed Protestants to hold public services. They were now called Huguenots.
- E. A prominent military family, the Coligny's became the protector of the Huguenots.

XVIII. PROTESTANT STRENGTH

- A. Protestants comprised only 10% of the population of France but held over one third of the wealth.
- B. Protestants fortified cities and estates.

IXX. THE SAINT BARTHOLEMEW'S DAY MASSACRE

“Several years later a marriage took place between *Henry of Navarre* (Henry IV) and *Margaret de Valois*. Henry’s mother was *Jeanne D’Albret*, a staunch Huguenot. Around this time a famous Bible believing Huguenot (*Admiral De Coligny*) and other distinguished guests were invited to the French king’s court, including *Jeanne D’Albret*, Queen of Navarre. When they had all assembled (supposedly on the best of terms – Henry of Navarre had fought on the Protestant side of the fence earlier with Coligny and the Prince De Conde), a Catholic assassin stabbed Coligny, and this sparked the Catholic “revival.” The cathedral bell of St. Germain le Auxerrois tolled at 2:00 a.m. (Aug. 24, 1572) as a prearranged signal for all Catholics to “prevail against the gates of hell,” etc. *Mezeray* says,

“The populace, being warmed by the smell of blood, _____ men armed in different ways ran about wheresoever example, vengeance, rage, and the desire of plunder transported them. The air resounded with a horrible tempest of blasphemies and oaths of the murderers, of the firing of pistols and guns...of the pitiable cries of the dying, of the lamentations of the women whom they dragged by the hair...with furious expressions, ‘Kill, stab, throw them out the window.’ Some were shot on the roofs of houses, others were cast out of windows. Some were cast into the water and knocked on the head with blows of iron bars or clubs; some were killed in their beds, some in the garrets, other in cellars; wives in the arms of their husbands; husbands on the bosoms of their wives; sons at the feet of fathers. They neither spared the aged, nor women great with child, nor even infants. A man was seen to stab one of them who was playing with the beard of its murderer. The streets were paved with the bodies of the dead or the dying. There were heaps of them in the squares. The streams were filled with blood.”

In three days six thousand houses were repeatedly pillaged, and more than four thousand people were massacred in Paris alone. Another six thousand were killed in other cities, and altogether fifty thousand were killed in less than forty days.

Now, how do you suppose that a Holy Father who was the “Vicar of Christ” from “blessed Simon Peter” would react to such news? How did “his holiness” Pope Gregory XII receive such tidings? Did he go into St. Peters and ask God to forgive his church members for carrying on like a bunch of psychotic killers? No. Did he kneel at the altar

and pray for the poor “souls in purgatory” who may have gone there after getting murdered? No. No, of course not. He did exactly what any student of church history would expect a really “holy” pope to do: he marched straight to the Church of St. Mark (taking his cardinals with him), and there he solemnly *gave thanks to God for the great “BLESSING”* He had just conferred on the “CHRISTIAN WORLD.” Then he had fireworks discharged to *celebrate it* as a “triumph of the *church militant*” – and we do mean “militant.” “Militant Christianity” to a pope means *armed warfare against unarmed civilians*. Not content with a few bonfires, fireworks, and high masses, Gregory caused a medal to be struck commemorating the great “blessing.” It pictured *himself* (naturally) on one side and an angel on the other side: the angel was carrying a cross (chapter 7, notes 1-6) and a *sword*.” (From David Cloud’s, *For the Love of the Bible*.)

XX. WAR OF THE THREE HENRY’S

- A. Three armies took the field:
 - Henry III – King of France
 - Henry of Navarre
 - Henry de Guise
- B. Henry III and Henry of Navarre became allies of necessity.
- C. Henry III had Henry de Guise assassinated.
- D. The de Guise family aided an agent of the Roman Catholic Church in assassinating Henry III.
- E. On his deathbed Henry III asked his army to swear loyalty to Henry of Navarre.

XXI. HENRY IV

- A. In order to ensure peace Henry IV officially converted to Catholicism.
- B. He issued the Edict of Nantes – _____ ;
it covered Baptists as well.