

The Protestant Reformation

I. The Beliefs & Authority of the Catholic Church

- A. During the Middle Ages, the _____ was the dominant religion in Western Europe
1. Without a common _____ in Europe, the Catholic _____ became an important political leader
 2. On the manor, _____ were powerful because they controlled people's access to _____ by delivering the sacraments & absolving sins
- B. The Catholic Church taught that people could gain access to heaven (called _____) by having faith in God & doing _____ for others
1. The church taught that Christians could gain more of God's _____ through a series of spiritual _____ called the Holy _____
 2. Sacraments included _____, Confirmation, Communion, Confession, _____, Ordination of Priests, Last Rites for the Dying
- C. But, the church was also growing _____
1. Clergy members took vows of _____ to abstain from _____...but some church leaders fathered children
 2. Priests were required to go through rigorous _____ in a monastery...but some church positions were _____ to the highest bidder called _____
 3. Sometimes, feudal lords would use their influence to have friends or children named as priests, called _____
 4. As a result, some clergy members were poorly _____
 5. One of the most _____ church practices was the selling of _____
 - a. Indulgences began as a way for people to _____ for their sins through _____
 - b. But rather than requiring good deeds, church leaders began selling indulgence certificates as a way of _____
- D. These practices went _____ during the Middle Ages

II. The Renaissance Influence on Catholicism

- A. By the time of the Renaissance, some Christians began _____ church corruptions & questioned Catholic teachings
1. Christian _____ believed that they could help _____ the Catholic Church
 2. In the 1300s, Reformers like John Wycliffe & priest Jan Hus attacked corruptions like indulgences, said that the _____ (not the Pope) was the ultimate authority on Christianity, & wanted church teachings in the _____ (local language) not Latin

3. Catholic leaders responded to these criticisms by _____ Wycliffe & Hus
 4. In 1509, Christian humanist _____ published *Praise of Folly* which called for an end of corruptions
- B. As a result of Johann _____ invention of the moveable-type _____ in 1453, Erasmus' book _____ throughout Europe & increased calls for church reform

III. The Protestant Reformation

- A. By the early 1500s, the Catholic Church was in _____ over the controversy of corruption & its unwillingness to adopt reforms
1. In Germany, a Catholic monk named _____ became involved in a serious dispute with the Catholic Church
 2. Martin Luther's _____ from the Catholic Church began the _____ & inspired a series of new Christian denominations
 3. During the Protestant Reformation, reformers _____ church corruptions & practices in hopes of _____ Christianity
- B. Martin Luther
1. As a young boy in Germany, Luther was going to become a _____, but after he nearly died in a thunderstorm he vowed to become a Catholic _____
 2. After _____ the Bible as a monk, Martin Luther became a priest & scholar
 - a. During his studies of the Bible, Luther became convinced that _____ could not be achieved by good works & _____
 - b. Instead, Luther was inspired by St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans: "*A person can be made good by having _____ in _____*"
 - c. Martin Luther believed that salvation was gained through having faith in God; He called this idea _____
 - d. Martin Luther was also deeply troubled by the church's selling of _____, which he saw as false salvation
 3. In 1517, Martin Luther wrote a list of arguments against church practices called the "*_____*"
 - a. He _____ the Ninety-Five Theses on the church door in the town of Wittenberg & welcomed _____ of his ideas
 - b. The "Ninety-Five Theses" _____ quickly through Europe causing an incredible _____
 - i. Many people, especially in Northern Europe, were _____ about his ideas
 - ii. But the Catholic Church _____ Luther & rejected his ideas

4. In 1521, Luther was called before the _____, a meeting of church & political leaders
- The Church demanded that Luther _____ his teachings
 - Luther _____, argued that the Bible was the only source of religious _____, & encouraged Christians to _____ the Bible for themselves
 - At the Diet of Worms, Martin Luther was _____ from the Catholic Church
- C. Martin Luther's stand against the Catholic Church led to the formation of a new Christian denomination known as _____
- Lutheranism was the first of a series of " _____ " Christian faiths that _____ from the Catholic Church

	Lutheranism	Calvinism	Anglicanism
Origins of the religion/Leadership			
Beliefs about salvation			
Beliefs about the ultimate source of religious authority (i.e. the Bible)			
Service & worship			
Interpretations of the Bible			