

Protestant Reformation



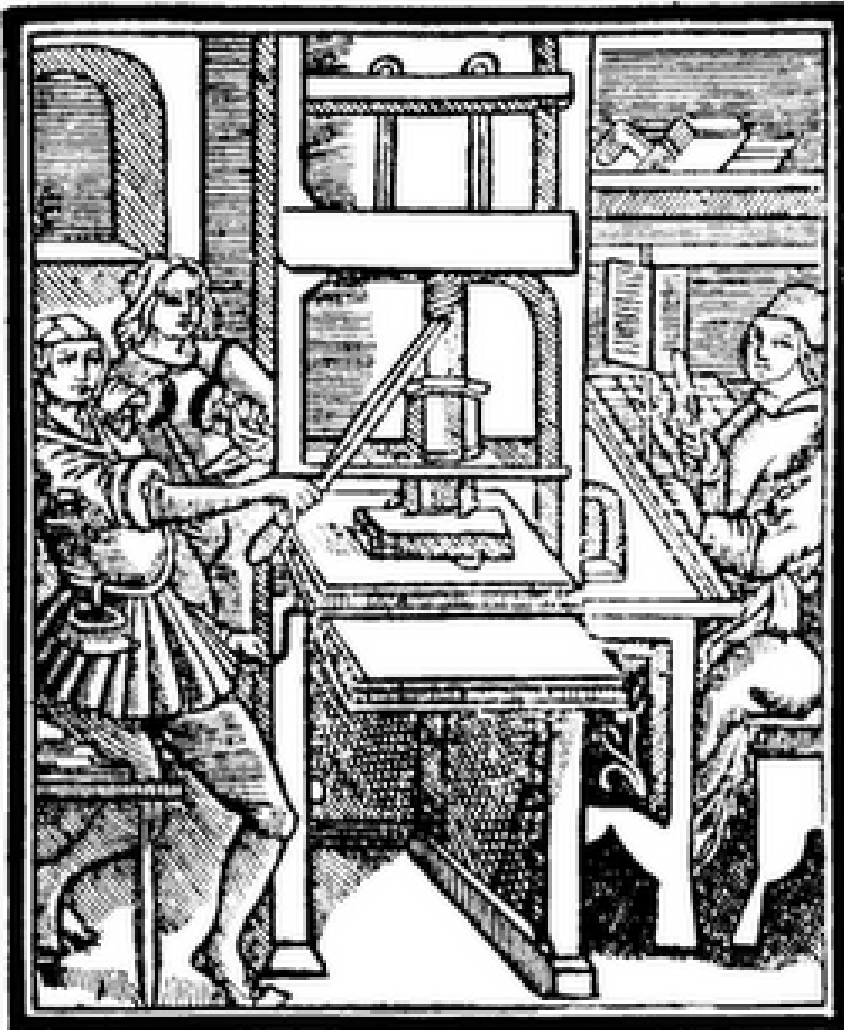
Reasons for the Conflict with the Catholic Church



Contemporary representation of indulgence sales in a church

- Church leaders were corrupt and worldly
- Church offices were sold, simony
- Lack of celibacy by church officials
- Sales of indulgencies or buying away your sins
- Poorly educated priests; some were even illiterate

Non-Religious Reasons



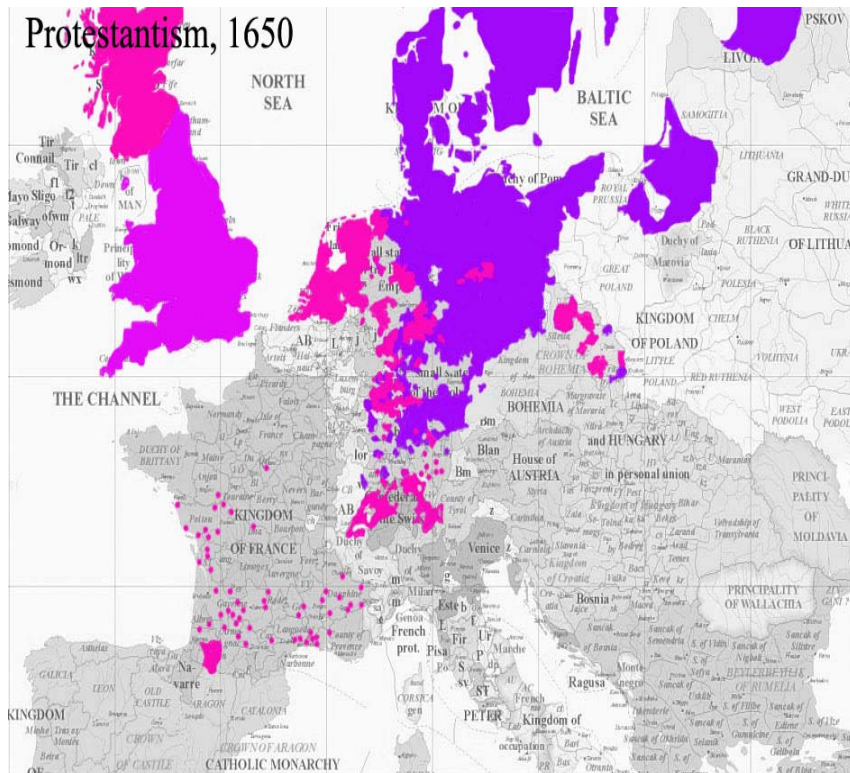
- Renaissance values of humanism and secularism led people to question the church
- The printing press helped spread ideas that were critical of the church
- Powerful monarchies resented and challenged the authority and supreme power of the church
- Pope was viewed as a foreign power
- Wealth of the church was resented by kings and princes
- Widespread opposition to having to pay taxes to the church

Martin Luther 1483 – 1546



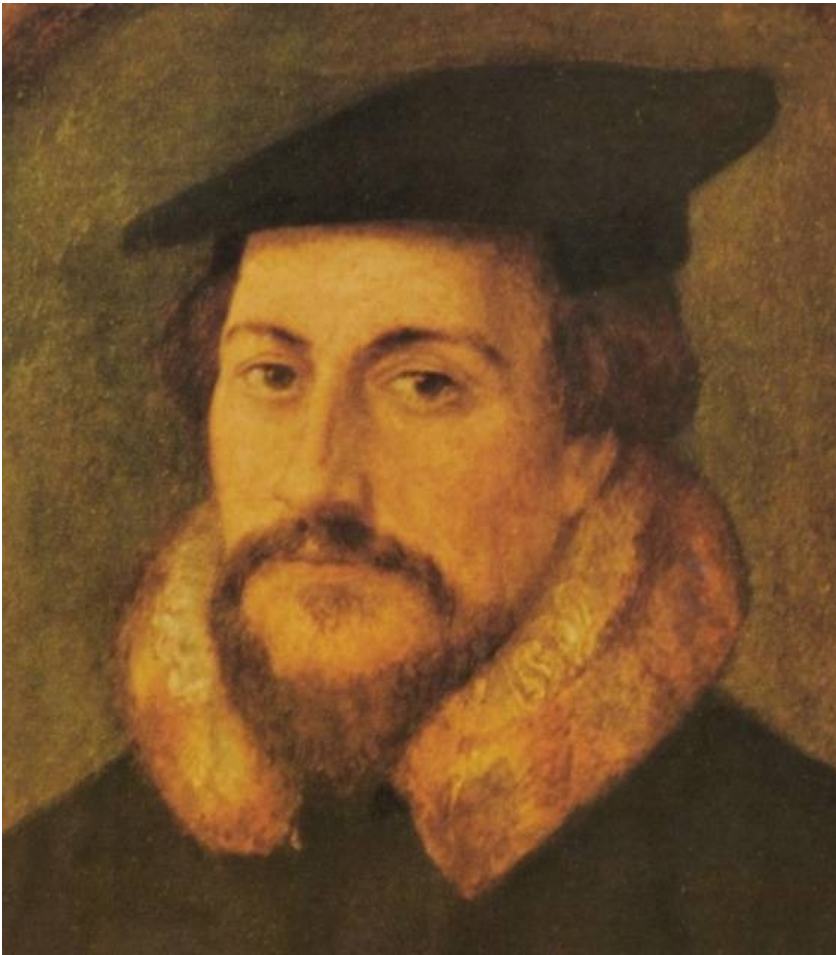
- Former monk and priest
- Was angered over the sale of indulgences
- Luther's response was his "95 Theses" an attack on the selling of "pardon merchants"

Luther's 95 Theses



- Salvation is achieved by faith alone
- The Bible is the only authority for Christian life – not the church – priesthood of all believers meant all people could communicate directly with God
- Luther's ideas were published in German and spread across Germany
- Luther refused to recant his ideas and was excommunicated from the church and later tried and declared a heretic and outlaw

John Calvin – Switzerland



- Believed everyone is sinful and only God can save
- Believed in predestination or that God knows if you will be saved or not
- Those saved were called “the elect”
- Believed government should be run by the church – theocracy
- Followers were known as Calvinists

John Knox – Scotland



- Was a follower of Calvin's ideas
- Helped overthrow Queen Mary of Scotland (a Catholic)
- Set up a theocracy
- Followers were known as Presbyterians

Henry VIII of England



- Henry broke with the Catholic Church when the Pope refused to give him a divorce
- Created the Church of England with himself as the new head of the church
- Henry confiscated all Church property
- Henry's daughter, Elizabeth I, formally set up the Church of England, the only legal church in England

Outcomes of the Reformation

Religious and Social



- Protestant churches flourished and new denominations developed
- Catholic Church became more united
- Greater emphasis on the role of education in promoting religious beliefs

Political Effects of Reformation



- Decline of the Catholic Church's moral and political authority led to greater power of monarchs and state power
- Led to the development of modern nation-states
- Questioning of beliefs and authority laid the groundwork for the Enlightenment