

THE HISTORY OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

Introduction and the Call for Reform

WHY STUDY CHURCH HISTORY?

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

- A series of Reformations in the continent of Europe
- The Reformation involved many different figures, events, and institutions.
- We'll have to be somewhat selective in our study!





Aug	16	Introduction and The Call for Reform
	23	Luther and the 95 Theses
	30	The Augsburg Confession
Sept.	6	Book of the Month
	13	Zwingli
	20	Calvin
	27	Canons of Dordt
Oct	4	Book of the Month
	11	Radicals of the Reformation
	18	The Counter-Reformations
	25	Council of Trent
Nov	1	Book of the Month
	8	The Reformation in England and the Westminster Assembly
	15	WCF and Catechisms
	22	No Wed Night Meeting
	29	Israel Slideshow
Dec.	6	Book of the Month
	13	Conclusion to History of the Reformation

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

- We need to first consider the context into which the Reformation entered—we need to understand, to some extent at least, the prevailing influences of the day which (1) rose to oppose Luther when he took his stand, and (2) actually helped to create fertile soil for reform of church and doctrine.





Europe, 1500



— Boundary of the Holy Roman Empire

0 150 300 Miles
0 300 600 Kilometers
Conic Projection

THE PLAGUE



SALVATION AND ROME

- In order for a sinner to enter heaven, grace must be infused by the working of an elaborate system of saints and sacraments.
- When sufficient holiness is achieved *per se*, the believer may enter heaven.



SALVATION AND ROME



MARY

- In the sixth month the angel ^xGabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named ^yNazareth, ^zto a virgin betrothed² to a man whose name was Joseph, ^aof the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, ^bO favored one, 'the Lord is with you!'"³ ²⁹ But ^dshe was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for ^eyou have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, ^fyou will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and ^gyou shall call his name Jesus. (Luke 1:26-31)
- ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant⁶ of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And ^hthe angel departed from her. (Luke 1:38)



RELICS

- Relics were believed to have some real historical connection with important religious figures, and saints in particular.
- Thereby, relics could convey something of the pious blessing attained by original subjects.



SACRAMENTS OF ROME

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. The Eucharist (the Mass)
4. Penance
5. Anointing of the Sick
6. Holy Orders
7. Matrimony

THE MASS

1324 The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life."¹³⁴ "The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch."¹³⁵

1327 In brief, the Eucharist is the sum and summary of our faith: "Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking."



THE MASS

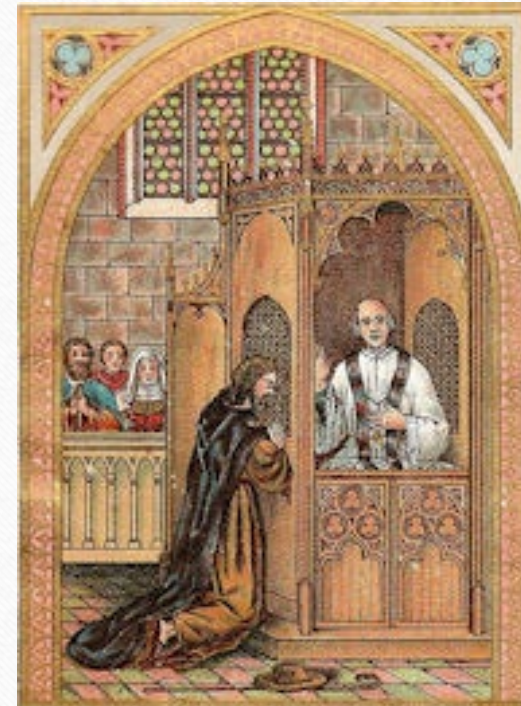
1414 As sacrifice, the Eucharist is also offered in reparation for the sins of the living and the dead and to obtain spiritual or temporal benefits from God.

1418 Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, he is to be honored with the worship of adoration.

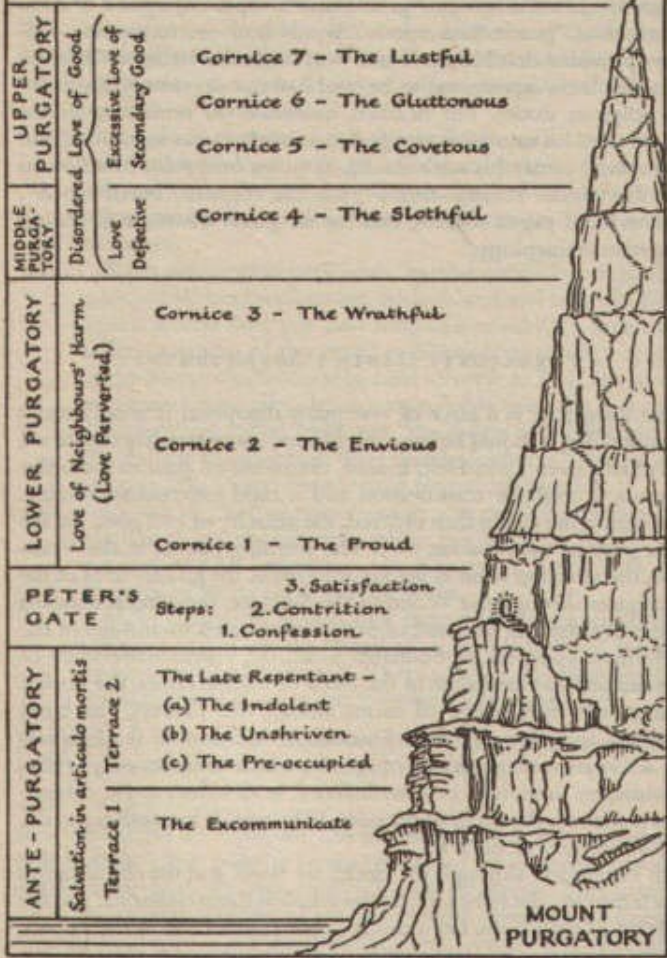


PENANCE

1422 "Those who approach the sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against him, and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which by charity, by example, and by prayer labors for their conversion."⁴



THE EARTHLY PARADISE



PURGATORY

1030 All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.

1031 The Church gives the name *Purgatory* to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence [1431] and Trent [1545]. The tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire ...

1032 This teaching is also based on the practice of prayer for the dead ... From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them ... so that, thus purified, they may attain to the beatific vision of God.

INDULGENCES

1471 The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the sacrament of Penance.

What is an indulgence?

"An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints."⁸¹

"An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin."⁸² Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead.



“And I tell you, ⁱyou are Peter, and ^jon this rock² I will build my church, and ^kthe gates of ^lhell³ shall not prevail against it.” (Matt. 16:18)