

VI. THE COUNTER REFORMATION (A.K.A. CATHOLIC REFORMATION)

A. Introduction

1. The Roman Catholic response to the gains of the Protestant Reformation
2. Did not affect doctrinal systems, traditional practices, or papal control
3. Reform occurred on two major fronts:
 - a. Internal moral reform
 - b. External organized resistance

B. The Council of Trent

1. Located in Northern Italy
2. Met at intervals from 1545 to 1563
3. Delegates were handpicked by the pope
4. Reaffirmed old doctrines
5. Declared the Latin Vulgate with the Apocrypha to be the only true version of the Bible
6. Put tradition on the same level as the Bible as a source of truth
7. Made the church the only valid interpreter of the Bible
8. Made some moral requirements of the clergy
 - a. Denounced pluralism (the holding of several offices)
 - b. Disapproved concubinage
9. Reestablished the authority of the pope and Rome

C. The Jesuit Movement

1. Founder—Ignatius Loyola
 - a. Lived from 1491-1556
 - b. Went off to war filled with ideas of glory and chivalry
 - c. Wounded and maimed for life in 1521
 - d. Read legends of the saints during his confinement and began developing ideas of a sort of spiritual knighthood
 - e. Practiced rigorous asceticism and began having visions
 - f. Wrote his Spiritual Exercises in 1522.
 - g. Trained in a number of schools ending up in the University of Paris where he earned his master's degree in philosophy in 1534
 - h. Gathered a group of students around him who took vows and formed the Society of Jesus in 1534
2. History
 - a. Received approval of pope in 1540 with Loyola as their general
 - b. Gained much influence in European affairs
 - c. Responsible for turning the Protestant tide in several countries
 - d. Because of their tremendous power, they have been in and out of papal favor through the years.

3. Characteristics
 - a. Take the standard vow of poverty, chastity, and obedience
 - b. Take an additional vow to go without questioning or hesitation wherever the pope may command.
 - c. Extreme emphasis on education and training
 - d. Highly develop their preaching ability
 - e. Acquire much political power
 - f. Carefully use the confessional
 - i. Developed doctrinal systems which rationalized most sin
 - ii. Accordingly became popular as confessors to the rich and powerful
 - iii. Used these connections and this knowledge to influence events

4. Training
 - a. Spiritual exercises
 - i. This is their initiation
 - ii. Involved a four week, twenty-eight day, course of five hourly meditations
 - iii. Two-fold purpose
 - (a) Complete subjection of the will
 - (b) Development of a vivid imaginative power

 - b. The Novice
 - i. Separated from family and friends
 - ii. Absolute obedience required
 - iii. Allowed to read only devotional material
 - iv. Required to perform the most disagreeable and difficult tasks
 - v. Usually lasts for about two years

 - c. The Scholar
 - i. Pledges to devote his life to the society
 - ii. Undergoes extensive training in secular and theological fields
 - iii. As much as twelve years is devoted to this stage

 - d. The Coadjutor
 - i. Now promoted to service in spiritual or secular work
 - ii. Many become teachers
 - iii. All remain under full control of the society

 - e. The Professed
 - i. After proving themselves a small proportion of the coadjutors are chosen to this inner circle

- ii. From this group the officers are chosen and among them secrets are entrusted
5. Basic Doctrines
- a. Obedience—absolute, unquestioned, and immediate obedience of superiors is demanded
 - b. Expediency—the supreme end (the will of the pope) can be reached by whatever means deemed necessary
 - c. Probabilism
 - i. A theory is probable as long as there are one or two reputable authorities in favor of it
 - ii. A probable opinion may lawfully be acted upon
 - iii. Theological literature was searched for passages which favored lay moral conduct and justifications for other questionable actions
 - d. Intention—as long as the intention is good, the act is acceptable; i.e., you may murder, steal, commit adultery, etc. as long as you have a good intention
 - e. Mental Reservation—you may lie as long as the word or phrase which would make the statement true is in your mind

VII. HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE

A. Anglo-Saxon Versions

- 1. Caedmon wrote many Old and New Testament stories into Anglo-Saxon verse about 670 AD
 - a. Caedmon is believed to be the earliest English poet
 - b. Bede stated: *“By his (Caedmon) verse the minds of many were often excited to despise the world, and to aspire to heaven.”*
- 2. Bede (c. 673-735) translated the Psalms and the Gospels into Anglo-Saxon
- 3. Alfred the Great (849-899), king of the west Saxons, ordered a translation of the whole Bible, but did not live to see its completion

B. Wycliffe’s Bible

- 1. Made by John Wycliffe (c. 1330-1384) who was called “The Morning Star of the Reformation”
- 2. The first to translate the entire Bible into English
- 3. Made the translation from the Latin Vulgate
- 4. Took him 22 years to complete
- 5. Each copy took about ten months to write out
- 6. A load of hay was sometimes given for a few pages

C. Tyndale's Bible

1. William Tyndale completed his translation of the New Testament in 1525
2. He later completed the Pentateuch and Jonah
3. His New Testament reads more like the King James Bible than the New King James Version

D. Coverdale's Bible

1. Made by Miles Coverdale in 1535
2. Location of first printing was long disputed
3. Since 1997 it is believed the printer was Merten de Keyser in Antwerp, Habsburg Netherlands (now Belgium).
4. Contained the entire Bible as well as the apocrypha
5. In one of its early editions, Psalm 119:161 was mistakenly printed as "Printers have persecuted me without a cause."

E. Matthew's Bible

1. Published in 1537 by John Rogers
2. Basically a combination of Tyndale's New Testament translation and Old Testament notes with Coverdale's translation
3. Its printing was authorized by King Henry VIII

F. Great Bible

1. Brought out in 1539 with orders to place one in every church
2. It was 13-1/4" long and 7-1/2" wide
3. Also called the Chained Bible because it was originally chained to a desk to keep it from being stolen

G. Geneva Bible

1. Prepared by exiles in Geneva, Switzerland during the Marian Exile and printed in 1560
2. The first English Bible to use italics, the first divided into verses, and the first to omit the Apocrypha
3. The most popular English Bible for many years being used by the Pilgrims and Puritans
4. 150 editions were printed between 1560 and 1644

H. Bishop's Bible

1. Prepared by a committee of bishops under the supervision of Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury
2. Published in 1568
3. Probably the weakest of the early translations and fell out of use by 1606

I. Douay—Rheims Bible

1. Roman Catholic New Testament published in 1582 at Rheims, France
2. Entire Bible printed in 1610
 - a. OT translated at Douay (France)
 - b. NT translated at Rheims
3. Translated from the Latin Vulgate
4. Completed to combat other English Versions

J. King James Bible

1. Based on six earlier versions
 - a. Tyndale's (1526)
 - b. Coverdale's (1535)
 - c. Matthew's (1537)
 - d. Great (1539)
 - e. Geneva (1560)
 - f. Bishop's (1568)
2. 54 men appointed while only 47 actually worked on the translation
3. Divided into six companies, two each at Westminster, Cambridge and Oxford
4. Each passage was translated individually and then jointly
5. Each translation was then reviewed by the other five companies
6. A general committee made up of two men from each company reviewed the final translation
7. Other scholars were free to offer suggestions throughout the translation process
8. Seven years transpired from the commission of the translation in 1604 to its completion in 1611
9. Soon became the accepted translation of English-speaking people and was not seriously opposed for almost 300 years

VIII. SEVENTEENTH CENTURY ENGLAND

A. Political Developments

1. James I
 - a. Reigned from 1603 to 1625, the first of the Stuarts
 - b. Had been king of Scotland
 - c. Brought up under Scottish Presbyterianism but later rebelled against it
 - d. In 1603, received the Millenary Petition, signed by almost 1,000 Puritans requesting reform
 - e. Arranged the Hampton Court Conference in 1604
 - i. Ridiculed and threatened the Puritans
 - ii. Agreed to authorize a new translation
 - f. Persecuted large numbers of Nonconformists and Separatists
2. Charles I
 - a. Reigned from 1625 to 1649
 - b. A Roman Catholic at heart, he married a Catholic French princess
 - c. From 1629 to 1640, his persecution resulted in 40,000 Puritans migrating to America
 - d. Lost power through Scottish invasions and the Civil War; also called Great Rebellion or Puritan Revolution (1642-1649)
 - e. Tried and beheaded in 1649
3. The Commonwealth (1649-1660)
 - a. Began when the Independents won the Civil War
 - b. Established the Protectorate in 1650 with Oliver Cromwell as the Lord Protector
 - c. Cromwell firmly ruled both church and state until his death in 1658
 - d. The throne was restored to Charles II in 1660
4. Charles II
 - a. Reigned from 1660 to 1685
 - b. Used an Act of Uniformity to drive 2,000 ministers from their churches (Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Baptists) on St. Bartholomew's Day in 1662
 - c. Received absolution from a Roman Catholic priest before his death
5. James II
 - a. Reigned from 1685 to 1688
 - b. A Roman Catholic with obvious intentions of restoring Catholicism in England

- c. Fled to France in 1688 when attacked by William of Orange (in the Netherlands)
 - 6. William and Mary
 - a. Reigned in England from 1689 to 1702 (Mary died in 1694)
 - b. Passed the Toleration Act of 1689
 - i. Granted Nonconformists their own places of worship and preachers
 - ii. Dissenters were still excluded from political office
 - iii. Act did not apply to Catholics and Unitarians
 - c. Oldest college in Virginia named after these rulers
- B. Important Men
- 1. Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626)
 - a. A capable Anglican known for his preaching abilities
 - b. Spent many hours each day in private and family devotions
 - c. One of the most learned men of his time. During his yearly vacation of one month, he would learn a new language. Master of 15 languages.
 - 2. William Laud (1573-1645)
 - a. Archbishop of Canterbury from 1633-1640
 - b. His persecution of Puritans led to the migration of thousands to America
 - c. Tried for treason by the Independents during the Civil War and was hung in 1645
 - 3. James Usher (1581-1656)
 - a. Irish priest and archbishop
 - b. A Calvinist who was strongly in favor of episcopacy (government of a church by bishops).
 - c. Wrote *Annals of the Old and New Testament* from which the KJV got its chronology
 - 4. John Milton (1608-1674)
 - a. English poet and theologian
 - b. A Puritan with unusual leanings: liberty of speech, freedom of will, divorce on grounds of incompatibility, soul sleep, subordination of Christ to the Father
 - c. Famous for epic poems: *Paradise Lost*, *Paradise Regained*, etc.
 - 5. Stephen Charnock (1628-1680)
 - a. Nonconformist Puritan theologian
 - b. Wrote *Discourses upon the Existence and Attributes of God*

6. John Owen (1616-1683)
 - a. Puritan theologian
 - b. Extreme Calvinist
 - c. Academic administrator at Oxford
 - d. Wrote many books

7. John Bunyan (1628-1688)
 - a. Baptist preacher and writer
 - b. Imprisoned from 1660 to 1672 for not accepting a preacher's license
 - c. Wrote *Pilgrim's Progress* while in prison

8. Richard Baxter (1615-1691)
 - a. Nonconformist Puritan pastor
 - b. Hymn-writer
 - c. Known for his practical pastoring
 - d. Wrote more than 100 books

NOTE: Poem by Richard Baxter: “**Lord, it belongs not to my care**”

LORD, it belongs not to my care,
Whether I die or live;
To love and serve Thee is my share,
And this Thy grace must give.

If life be long I will be glad,
That I may long obey;
If short—yet why should I be sad
To soar to endless day?

CHRIST leads me through no darker rooms
Than He went through before;
He that unto God's kingdom comes,
Must enter by this door.

Come, LORD, when grace has made me meet
Thy blessed face to see;
For if Thy work on earth be sweet,
What will Thy glory be!

Then I shall end my sad complaints,
And weary, sinful days;
And join with the triumphant saints,
To sing JEHOVAH's praise.

My knowledge of that life is small,

The eye of faith is dim;
But 'tis enough that CHRIST knows all,
And I shall be with Him.

IX. THE ENGLISH BAPTISTS

A. The English Anabaptists

1. Baptist groups existed in England long before the Reformation
2. The Reformation added the group known as Anabaptists
3. They came mostly from the Netherlands
4. Many died for their beliefs
5. They passed their ideas of religious liberty and congregational government to the Separatists and modern Baptists
6. A number of Anabaptists still existed during the reign of James I

B. The General Baptists

1. In 1607, an English Separatist church made a friendly division; one pastored by Richard Clyfton, the other by John Smyth
2. In 1608, both churches moved to Amsterdam because of persecution
3. The church pastored by Clyfton later moved to Leyden with John Robinson as their pastor and in 1620 sent the first Pilgrims to America.
4. In 1609, John Smyth led his congregation to accept believer's baptism
5. In 1610, when Smyth tried to join the church with the local Mennonites, a portion of the church separated under the leadership of Thomas Helwys.
6. Helwys, having been convicted to stand, led this group back to England (London) to establish the first modern Baptist church in England in the year 1611.
7. The General Baptists, called such from their doctrine of general atonement, developed from this group.

C. The Particular Baptists

1. In 1616, Henry Jacob founded a semi-Separatist church in the London area
2. In 1638, a group under John Spilsbury started a new church and accepted believer's baptism
3. In 1644, seven London congregations signed the First London Confession, the first confession of faith of Particular Baptists
4. The Particular Baptists, so known because of their belief in limited atonement, eventually became the dominant Baptist group in England

D. Early Baptist Growth

1. These modern Baptist must have absorbed many of the pre-existing Anabaptists

2. During the time of the English Civil War and the Commonwealth (1640-1660), the Baptists grew rapidly
3. The Baptists were numerous in the army and held prominent places of authority under Cromwell.

E. Baptist Decline

1. After 1660, the Baptists were forced to go underground
2. When given relief by the Act of Toleration in 1689, they became complacent
3. The General Baptists had numerous defections, first to the Quakers, then to the Unitarians
4. The Particular Baptists became so hyper-Calvinistic so as to destroy all evangelistic spirit.
5. The Baptists continued in their lethargy until the later part of the 18th century.

X. THE ENGLISH COLONIES

A. Virginia

1. Jamestown was the first permanent English settlement in 1607 with 105 colonists
2. Established for monetary gain but went bankrupt
3. Beginning of Virginia, which was named for Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen
4. Although the Anglican Church was established here, the state of religion was very low

B. Plymouth Colony

1. Led by the English Separatists from Leyden, Netherlands (John Robinson—Pastor), later known as Pilgrims

NOTE: From *Protestantism in America* by Jerald C. Brauer:

“On July 21, 1620, the congregation met together for the last time. Their ship, *The Speedwell*, was ready in the port of Leyden. John Robinson preached a heart-warming farewell sermon and gave stirring advice to those departing. He reminded his congregation that they must follow him no farther than he followed Christ, and he urged them to be open to all truth from the ministry of others who live in Christ.

‘Let us be certain, brethren, that the Lord hath more truth and light yet to break forth out of his holy word. It cannot be possible that we have so recently come out of such great anti-Christian darkness and already stand in the full light of divine truth.’

‘Is it not a pity,’ he said, ‘that the Churches of the Reformation, starting so gloriously, have stopped short in their reforms? Lutherans stop with what Luther saw. Calvinists cannot be

drawn beyond what was revealed and imparted to Calvin. God has not revealed his whole will to these men.'

'If Luther and Calvin were living,' he cried, 'they would be as ready and willing to embrace further light, as that they had received. Search the Scriptures and learn the depth of the covenant God has worked out,' he exhorted.'

2. Of the 102 passengers to leave the *Mayflower* and settle at Plymouth, Massachusetts in December 1620, only half survived the first winter. These survivors celebrated the first Thanksgiving in the fall of 1621.

NOTE: *The Mayflower Compact*:

In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, etc., having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod the 11 of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord, King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Dom. 1620.

3. The colony expanded slowly and at the same time lost its religious fervor
4. United politically with Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1691; united ecclesiastically with the Puritans of New England in the Congregationalist Church

C. New England Colonies

1. Under severe persecution, more than 20,000 English Puritans migrated to New England between 1630 and 1640.
2. Included among the immigrants were preachers such as John Cotton, Richard Mather, Roger Williams, Thomas Hooker (founder of Connecticut) and John Davenport (founder of New Haven).
3. The Puritans founded the colony of Massachusetts and later Connecticut and New Haven (eventually part of Connecticut)
4. The New England colonies were governed by the Bible Commonwealth, a system in which Church and State were combined and in which State was dominated by the Church

5. These Puritans established what came to be known as the Congregational Church which was the largest denomination in America until superseded by the Baptists in the late 1700's. They are now one of the smallest denominations.
6. Harvard College, America's oldest, was founded in 1636 at Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the purpose of training ministers. Its first president, Henry Dunster (lived from c. 1612-1659) was expelled from the college when he rejected infant baptism and became a Baptist
7. A problem arose in the 17th century. Church membership was still based on infant baptism. Yet, full membership was not realized until the person gave ample proof of receiving saving grace. Until this proof was given, access to the Lord's Supper and the right to have children baptized was denied. As the second and then the third generation of New Englanders came along, fewer and fewer were full members of the church. In desperation, the Massachusetts General Court passed the Half-Way Covenant in 1662. This covenant, though opposed by some, allowed baptized to have their children baptized whether they were full members or not. However, the decline of the church continued.
8. The Quakers, also known as the Society of Friends, also caused problems. Founded by George Fox (1624-1691) in England in 1652. The Quakers emphasized direct revelations from God and denounced the standard church establishment. Massachusetts was responsible for much persecution of this group, including the hanging of four Quakers between 1659 and 1661. However, the Quakers survived and even grew with the help of a visit by George Fox to America in 1672.

D. Rhode Island

1. Founded in 1638 by Roger Williams (c. 1603-c. 1683) who had been expelled from Massachusetts for teaching freedom of conscience and advocating that the Indians be paid for the land taken from them.
2. The Baptist John Clarke (1609-1676) established the settlement of Newport, helped Williams secure the charter for the colony, and about 1639 founded the first Baptist church in America.

NOTE: *Obadiah Holmes:*

1. *Came from the Baptist Church in Newport, Rhode Island*
2. *In the summer of 1651, walked 80 miles with Pastor John Clarke and John Crandall to the home of William Witter, an elderly and blind Baptist living in Massachusetts.*

3. *All three men from Newport were arrested for holding private services in Witter's home on Sunday morning.*
 4. *Each man was charged with a fine or a whipping*
 5. *Each man refused to pay the fine. That of the other two men was paid by friends. Obadiah Holmes would not allow his fine to be paid on the principle that he did nothing wrong.*
 6. *Obadiah Holmes was struck 30 times with a 3-prong whip for Bible reading and prayer in a private home in Massachusetts!*
4. Established the first civil government which granted true freedom of worship and maintained separation of church and state for that purpose
- E. Maryland
1. Founded by Lord Baltimore in 1634 partly as a refuge for Roman Catholics
 2. The Catholics were soon outnumbered and Anglicanism became the established religion of Maryland
- F. The Carolina's
1. Greatest early influence from Anglicans
 2. Because of wilderness terrain and scattered homesteads, general religious state was very weak.
- G. New York
1. Founded first by the Dutch in 1623 as New Amsterdam
 2. Peacefully taken by the English in 1664
 3. The source of the Dutch Reformed Church in America
- H. Pennsylvania
1. Founded by the Quaker William Penn (1644-1718) in 1682 as a refuge for religious dissidents.
 2. Philadelphia, which was long dominated by Quaker merchants, became the most powerful commercial center in America until about 1810 when it was surpassed by New York.