

# Essential Questions:

- What were indulgences?
- Why was Martin Luther opposed to the sale of indulgences?
- Why did Roman Catholic Church officials respond to Luther's ninety-five theses with the eventual excommunication of Luther?
- Why did German princes protect Luther?
- How did the invention of the printing press help Protestants?

# Protestant Reformation



The reform movement that divided the western church into Catholic & Protestant

# Renaissance Popes

- Not meeting the spiritual needs
- Concerned w/ Italian politics & worldly matters
- Concerned w/ money & used church offices to advance career & wealth
- Ignorant of spiritual duties
- Sold indulgences

# Religious Reformation

- In 1500 the Catholic Church was benefiting from European prosperity
- The Catholic Church was building new churches including the new Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome
- Pope Leo X raised money for the new basilica by authorizing the sale of indulgences.

# Saint Peter's Basilica





During the Middle Ages, Catholics could buy indulgences.

# Protestant Reformation

- **Selling indulgences** - The Church taught that most Christians after death went to purgatory to suffer a time of punishment for their sins before going to heaven. Indulgences were intended to remit a part of that time. They were granted previous to death by the Church for various good works that came to include monetary offerings → This became very controversial because it appeared that the Church was selling the right to avoid all or part of an individual's time in purgatory.



# Martin Luther

- **The German monk Martin Luther challenged the Pope on the issue of indulgences and other practices that he considered corrupt or not Christian**
- **Luther began the Protestant Reformation**
- **Translated Bible into German.**







Martin Luther believed that faith alone could save a person.

# Martin Luther

- Martin Luther questioned the Catholic Church's power to save a man from Hell.
- He believed that only through personal faith in Jesus Christ could a person be saved.
- Luther challenged the power of the Roman Catholic Church and called for reforms within the Church.
- In 1517, he posted his ninety-five theses on a church door in Germany. He criticized the Church for indulgences.



When Luther refused to recant his statements, the Pope excommunicated him.

# Excommunication

- An excommunicated Catholic cannot participate fully in Church sacraments.
- It is the most serious penalty that the Church can inflict.





Fortunately for Luther, German princes protected him and he was able to start his own church.

# German Princes

- German princes protected Luther because they were tired of the power of the Catholic Church.
- Given protection, Luther was not burned at the stake and was able to start his own church.
- Protestants were individuals who had protested against the power and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church.

# John Calvin

- Predestination – God chooses who goes to heaven (you don't get there by good works)
- Our moral lives reveal if chosen
- Work ethic that honors God
- Calvinist Church



# King Henry VIII

- Divorce – wants out, but Pope says no
- Anglican Church – Henry is in charge
- Did away with Catholic Church's land & wealth in England





# Counter Reformation

- Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
- Inquisition – church court to punish Protestant heretics
- No more indulgences
- Thirty Years' War – stop the spread of Protestants
  - Hapsburgs (Catholic rulers of Holy Roman Empire – Charles V)
- Reformation in France
  - Edict of Nantes (first religious freedom law)
  - Huguenots (French Protestants)



**Ignatius Loyola –  
founder 1534**

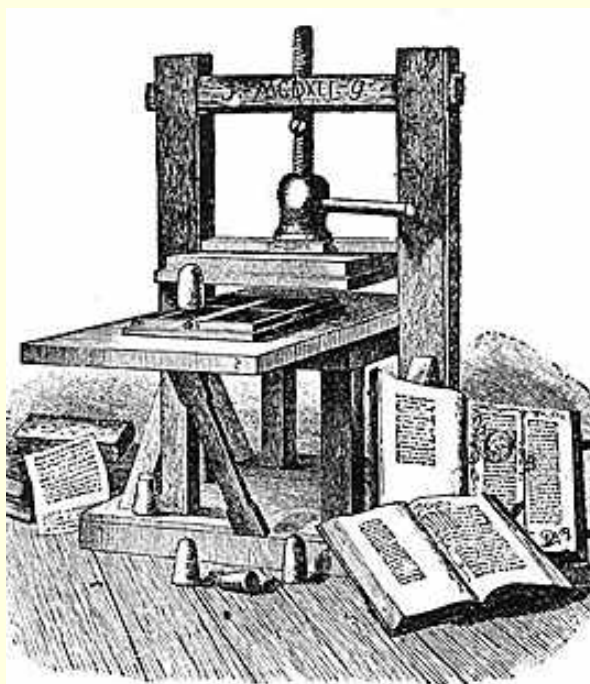


**Galileo facing an  
inquisition trial**

# The Printing Revolution



- **Printing Press** – allowed new ideas to spread more easily. Spread from China to Middle East to Europe.
- **Gutenberg**: invented a new type of printing press. Used movable type.
- Books suddenly within reach of ordinary person.



The invention of the printing press in 1455 by Johann Gutenberg helped Luther. The printing press allowed books to be manufactured faster and cheaper. Ideas spread.

# Significance

- The Protestant Reformation appealed not only to religious sentiments
- It also appealed to Germans who disliked the Italian-dominated Catholic Church
- It also appealed to peasants and urban workers who wanted to reject the religion of their masters

# **Christian missionaries - Spanish America vs. China**

You badly want to convert the native population

—what should you do to be as effective at the  
job as possible?