

Week 14, Monday, May 10, 2021

THE REFORMATION CHURCH (1500–1648) (Cont'd)

Lecture 1: The English Reformation

Gonzalez, 2.135–163; 193-209

Lecture 2

Topic: The English Reformation

“Puritans, Pilgrims, and British Restorationism”

Due: Gonzalez, 2.87–104

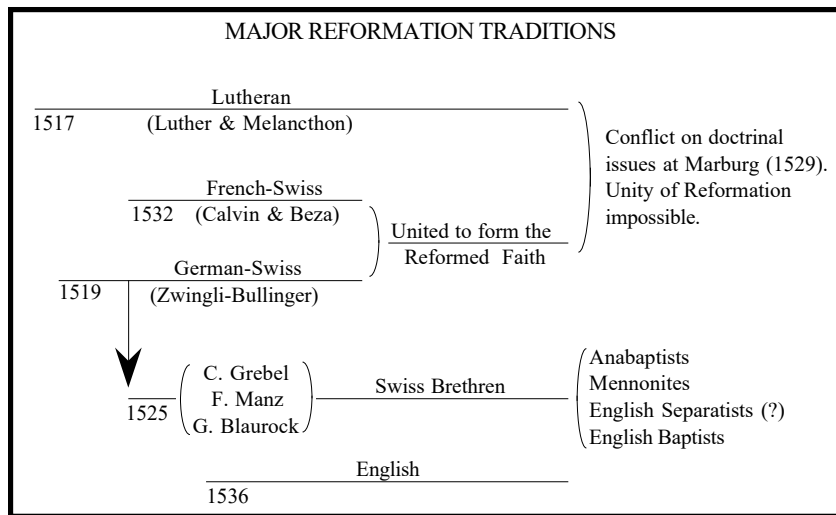
The English Reformation

E. The English Reformation.

Liberals from the Enlightenment to the present have attempted to make the case that the English Reformation was political, even if they admit to some theological motivation, they consider it an afterthought. It was all about Henry’s desire for an heir. The reality is that the theological shift began to impact England at a grassroots level as soon as Luther’s writings became known. There was an enormous grass roots turning to Lutheran and Reformed doctrines, which Henry’s divorce problems only made easier.

Misses the impact of men like Thomas Bilney.

Thomas Bilney (1495-1531) 19 Aug, 1531.



1. The context of the Reformation.

a) Political background.

The Hundred Years War

The War of the Roses:**Henry VII founded the Tudor dynasty.**

b) The Lollards.

Wycliffe had had a great influence over a hundred years earlier. Followers of Wycliffe were still resident in the land, especially in areas where they had flourished, around Cambridge and Oxford. The places where the Reformation doctrine first took root was in these same areas of Lollard influence, though it was underground.

b) The influence of Humanism.

As I have mentioned, this is not the secular humanism of the 20th century which was opposed to Christianity. This was a movement that was pro-RC, but wanted to reform the church, improve the morality.

COLET, JOHN (c.1466–1519).**MORE, SIR THOMAS (1478–1535).****1504 entered Parliament****1529 Chancellor after fall of Wolsey.**c) The writings of Luther.
Primarily his *Babylonian Captivity* (against the sacraments)

In fact, in 1521, Henry wrote a treatise entitled *Assertio Septem Sacramentorum* (*An Assertion of Seven Sacraments*), which was precisely directed against Luther's *Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, which Luther had published in 1520.

Henry was awarded by Pope Leo X the title of *Defensor Fidei*, Defender of the Faith, a title still held by the monarch of England, even though it is a different faith.

Merchants would bring and/or smuggle in Luther's writings.

1527 – Anne Boleyn, a protestant lady of the court caught Henry's eye and he was working to find a way to wed his new love.

1529 – No Roman divorce was forthcoming, the decision was made by Henry to dismiss Cardinal Wolsey, his Lord Chancellor, and he appointed Thomas More to the position. He held this from 1529 to 1532.

N.B. Thomas More remained a loyal son of the RC and refused to swear the oath of loyalty to Henry. For this he was executed. Note that it wasn't for his humanism, but for his devotion to Rome.

d) The early production of Bibles.

THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE
Wycliffe's Bible (1384)
Tyndale's Bible (1534-1536)
Coverdale's Bible (1535)
Thomas Matthew's Bible (1537)
The Great Bible (1539)
(The Chained Bible)
The Geneva Bible (1560)
(The Breeches Bible)
The Bishop's Bible (1568)
The King James Bible (1611)
The American Standard Version (1885)
The Revised Standard Version (1952)
The New American Standard Version (1971)

(1) William Tyndale (1494–1536).

He first made a translation of the New Testament from the Greek, then began to work on the Hebrew.

- (a) He was a scholar at Oxford
- (b) He studied at Cambridge, influenced by Erasmus text and Luther's writings.
- (c) He had to flee to Europe. He went to Wittenberg to consult with Luther. He then went into hiding, avoiding Henry's agents, continuing his work of translation.
- (d) 1525 – First translation, poorly done,
- (e) 1534 – Second translation (financed by the Bishop of London, Nicholas Ridley.
- (f) 1536 – arrested and burned.

(2) Miles Coverdale (1488–1569).

Anne Boleyn's Chaplain

First Bible to be sold and sanctioned in England. Coverdale

did not know the original languages.

(3) Thomas Matthew's Bible.

John Rogers translated this Bible. Rogers was a friend of Tyndales. This is mostly Tyndale's translation, except for work he was unable to complete on the Old Testament.

Sanctioned and approved by the king.

2. The course of the Reformation.

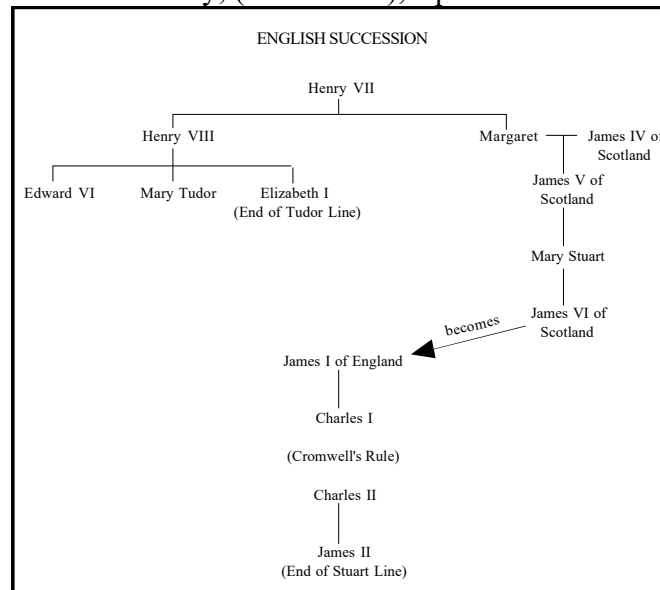
Hugh Latimer (1487-16 October 1555)

"It may come in my days, old as I am, or in my children's days, the saints shall be taken up to meet Christ in the air, and so shall come down with Him again" (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4).

"Be of good comfort, and play the man, Master Ridley; we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out." This was quoted in *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*.^[18]

Thomas Cranmer (1489–1556). Archbishop of Canterbury from 1533¹

Nicholas Ridley, (c. 1500–55), Bp. of London²



¹ J. D. Douglas, Earle E. Cairns, and James E. Ruark, *The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church*. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1978), 269.

² F. L. Cross and Elizabeth A. Livingstone, eds., *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 1407.

RULERS OF ENGLAND	
Henry VIII	(1509-1547)
Edward VI	(1547-1553)
Mary	(1553-1558)
Elizabeth	(1558-1603)
James I	(1603-1625)
Charles I	(1625-1649)
Long Parliament	(1640-1660)
Charles II	(1660-1685)
James II	(1685-1689)
"Glorious Revolution"	
William & Mary	

- a) Under Henry VIII (1509–47).
- (1) The context
- (a) **Henry VII desired a peaceful succession.** He used his children for poetical and financial advantage. He married Margaret to the King of Scotland, her grandson was James VI. Arthur he married to Catherine of Aragon,
- (b) Thomas Cranmer Archbishop of Canterbury.
- (c) The Act of Supremacy. King would be the head of the English Church
- (d) 1536 Closed all monasteries, gave all of the RC lands to loyal followers.
- (e) 1536 – Permitted another translation of the Bible. The Chained Great Bible. So that it couldn't be moved. Basically it was Coverdale's work.
- (f) 1536 Tires of Anne Boleyn, cuts off her head and marries Jane Seymour.
- (g) 1539 Published the Six Articles, called the “whip of the six strings”. Henry began to repress Protestantism. Many left for Zurich and Geneva, the Henry exiles

Basically, he removed the church from the authority of the Pope, but kept the theology and ritual. Henry introduced a reformed romanism. The only positive was he gave people the Bible in their language.

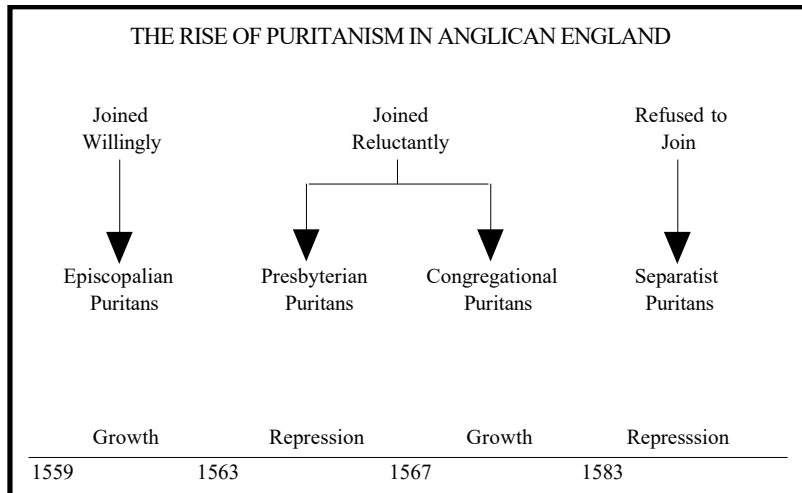
The story of Henry VIII's wives is a famous one. Schoolboys used to have to memorize those wives in England, and so they developed a little poem to help them. The poem went this way:

King Henry VIII to six wives he was wedded.
One died, one survived, two divorced, two beheaded.

- b) Under Edward VI (1547–53).
He was 9 years old when he came to the throne. England was governed by Regents.
- (1) Repealed the Six Articles, the Henretian exiles return
 - (2) 1549 – Priests permitted to marry, dissolved the endowed church, all worship services changed to English, the *Act of Uniformity*, brought England to Protestantism by law. First Edwardian prayer book. *First Book of Common Prayer*, stabilized the church as Protestant, it was written by T. Cranmer.
 - (3) 1552 Cranmer wrote the Second Prayer Book, which was more Calvinistic.
 - (4) Persecuted protestants were permitted to flee to England for refuge. Organized the Strangers church, worship was patterned on Geneva.
 - (5) 1553 The Forty Two articles, the official creed of the church of England.
- But Edward was afflicted with a disease and was sickly and died at 16.
- Mary became Queen and passionately advanced RC.
- Though they hurriedly married Edward to Lady Jane Grey to maintain a Protestantism, the attempt to put her on the throne failed, she was Queen for a day.
- c) Under Mary Tudor (1553–58).
She was a deeply committed Roman Catholic. She took vengeance for her mother against the Protestants.
- (1) Her mistakes
Married Philip [II, King of Spain] English became afraid of losing their independence.
Restored the Papacy over the church
Persecuted Englishmen.
 - (2) Clergy Options – three choices.

1. Stand and die, 300 burned at Smithfield including Latimer, Ridley, Cranmer
 2. Hide out
 3. Flee to Europe, the Marion exiles.
- d) Under Elizabeth (1558–1603). She was the greatest of women monarchs. She was a Protestant by conviction, but was canny enough to have a private RC chapel for show.
- (1) Period of the Return of the Marion exiles (1558–1563)
 - (a) The *Act of Supremacy*. Made her the governor of the church and state.
 - (b) The *Thirty Nine Articles*. Revised down to 39. Removed the High Calvinism at crucial points.
 - (c) The Elizabethan Settlement (1559). Made the Church Episcopalian, Protestant in theology; RC in ritual, the church of the *via media*, the middle way.
 - (d) The result: Those schooled under Calvin and Bullinger screamed at the new church.
 - 1) Some willingly took ecclesiastical positions
 - 2) Damned the Church and didn't join, Separatists
 - 3) Damned the Church and joined it to to change it –Puritans
 - (e) The rise of the Puritan Movement.

THE PURITANS OF ENGLAND (THEOLOGICALLY THE SAME)	
<i>Conformists</i>	<i>Non Conformists</i>
Episcopalian (Anglican)	Separatists
Presbyterian Puritans	
Congregational Puritans	



- 1) Neglect: forgot candles, robes, communion
 - 1) Patience: Elizabeth won't last long
 - 1) Petitioned Parliament to change the form.
- (2) Period of the Enforcement of the Via Media (1564–1567)
- Repression by the Church of the Middle Way
Ordered Archbishop Parker to repress independent Bible studies. Many lost their jobs.
- (3) Period of Revived Puritan Sentiment (1568–1575) Puritans became teachers at Cambridge

Causes

- (a) Elizabeth liked them because they were loyal citizens and she was having trouble with the Spanish.
- (b) Ecclesiastical life lost its morality and became very decadent.
- (c) Thomas Cartwright began to lecture at Cambridge on Acts, concluded that Episcopal government wasn't in the Bible.

Course

- (d) John Strickland M.P. moved for a correction of the Prayer Books... he lost his job.

- (e) 1572 Admonitions controversy
- (f) Parker replaced as Archbishop by Grindal who favored Puritans.

(PARENTHESIS) What is Puritanism theologically?

1. Stressed the superiority and centrality of the Scriptures.
2. Insisted upon preaching.
3. Insisted on an educated clergy.
4. Emphasized simplicity – the plainer the better.
5. Emphasized Covenant Theology of William Perkins.
6. Emphasized the New Birth experience as the “root of the matter”.
7. Emphasized that “fruit” was the basis for the assurance of salvation.
8. At the beginning they still strongly favored allegorical interpretation, amillennialism, and replacement theology. But by the 1620s literal interpretation took hold and many began to shift to premillennialism and recognizing God would restore Israel to their historic homeland in the future. This is known as British Restorationism.
9. Emphasized pastoral work.

(4) Period of Puritan Repression (1583–1603)

- (a) Under Grindal: He was dismissed in 1583 for being pro Puritan.
- (b) Under Whitgift: had an axe to grind against the Puritans.
 - 1) Enacted test articles, the Thirty Nine Articles Prayer book, List of things you must believe. No Puritan could sign it.
 - 2) Twenty Questions
 - 3) Court was set up to try theological deviants
 - 4) He restricted all Puritan Publications.

- 4) Puritan Reaction
 - (a) They began to print tracts from secret presses.
 - (b) Many fled to Holland, eventually many of these went to the New World

Parenthesis: Ecclesiastical division within Puritanism.

- e) Under James I (1603–25) (**T-34)

James is the grandson of Margaret, daughter of Henry VIII through the marriage of Mary Queen of Scots and Lord Darnley.

1603 Elizabeth dies

1603 James came to throne, he is given the Millinary Petition, signed by 10000 English Presbyterians to change the form of the church and reform it according to presbyterian standards.

1604 The Hampton Court conference was the answer to the Millinery Petition. The only thing James granted was a new translation, but he put Richard Bancroft, who is anti-Puritan, in charge. James also made Bancroft Archbishop of Canterbury. Bancroft and John Reynolds translator, were sworn enemies.

- f) Under Charles I (1625–49).

- 1) Puritans were persecuted. Charles refused to grant them any say. Archbishop Laud was their avowed enemy.
- 2) In 1629 Charles I dismissed Parliament and ruled as an absolute monarch. At this crisis point he foolishly allowed the publication of the *Book of Sports* (1618 which advocated lawful recreational activities on Sunday.
- 3) 1637 Laud encouraged Charles I to achieve religious uniformity in his kingdom, i.e., enforcing the Arminian episcopacy of the *Prayer Book* on Scotland. The Scots rebelled. The Scottish people signed a national covenant to resist Laud.
- 4) Charles moved against the Scots rebels and, due to the refusal of the Puritans to fight, his army was defeated.
- 5) Charles then recalled Parliament to get money for his new army. The Parliament dethroned him and took control of

England. This is known as the Long Parliament.

- 6) Parliament then refused to be dismissed.
 - a) 1640 Archbishop Laud was arrested and jailed for treason.
 - b) Abolished “high commission,” the king’s agency for important functions.
 - c) When Charles tried to stop Laud’s arrest civil war ensued.
 - (1) Royalist: Cavaliers, Arminian Episcopalians.
 - (2) Puritans, Roundheads, led by Oliver Cromwell, a congregationalist. Puritan, No military training, but he never lost a battle.
 - d) In 1646 Charles I surrendered. He was later tried and executed by Parliament.

N.B. Under Cromwell congregationalism replaced Presbyterianism as the major Puritan denominational structure.

- g) The Interregnum: The Parliament, Protectorate, and Civil War (1642–60).
 - (1) The Westminster Assembly and Presbyterian Puritan Dominance (1642–48).
 - (a) Abolished Episcopalianism (1643).
 - (b) Secured the “Solemn League and Covenant” (1643).
 - (c) Wrote the *Directory of Worship* (1644). England’s Presbyterian ecclesiology.
 - (d) Executed William Laud and Charles I by decapitation (1645)
 - (e) Wrote the Longer and Shorter Catechisms (Westminster Confession). The Shorter Catechism was for children, 118 questions with prescribed answers. The Longer Catechism of the Westminster Assembly was written for Pulpit explanation.
 - (2) Cromwell, Rump rule, and Congregational Puritan Dominance (1648–60).

Since Cromwell was a Congregationalist, the Puritans shifted from Presbyterianism to Congregationalism and this

worried the Scots.

1648 – Scots tried to overthrow Cromwell. He destroyed their Army

1653 Cromwell dismissed Parliament and ruled as a dictator. Lord High Protector. Benevolent and made England Congregational.

1658 Cromwell died, succeeded by his son Richard. Weak and unable to unify and lead. Presbyterian forces took over and recalled Charles II.

During this time we have the rise of British Restorationism.