

Lutherans and Other Denominations

Calvinists

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Swiss Reformation

Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) = Born a few weeks after Luther

1519 - Catholic priest in Zurich = (Luther's theses posted in 1517)
Soon began denouncing abuses = Secretly married in 1522 and raised 4 children

1524 - Zurich Reformation = Images removed, Organs nailed shut, Mass abolished

Sacraments = Same as Luther but didn't see God involved

Baptism - Initiation = like circumcision

Eucharist - Only a memorial and symbolic = Main point of disagreement with Luther (1529)

1531 - German princes stopped support after debate with Luther

Catholic Forest Cantons sent army to stop Zwingli = Zwingli killed in battle of Kappel

William Farel

Protestant preacher in Bern = Bern was a mission from Zurich

1532 - Moved from Bern to Geneva = Strong preacher but couldn't affect morality problem

1535 - Effected reforms = Protestantism was imposed by the city government

John Calvin (1509-1564) = Born when Luther was 26 - Write underlined influences on board

Began studies to be a Catholic priest

19 yrs old (1528) - Priest to lawyer = Father fell out of favor with church leaders

John sent to Law School = Law School friend showed him Luther's catechism and other writings

22 yrs old (1531) - Lawyer to writer = Graduated and father died, Went to Paris to be a writer

24 yrs old (1533) - Sudden Conversion = details unknown

27 yrs old (1536) - "Instruction in the Christian Religion" = His doctrinal statement was first published

Left Paris for Strassburg = King Francis began persecuting Paris Protestants

Stopped overnight in Geneva = Refused Farel's invitation to stay, Stayed after:

Farel: "*If you refuse to devote yourself with us to the work ... God will condemn you.*"

21 Articles = Written to combat Geneva immorality, Government enforced them

29 yrs old (1539) - Moved to Strassburg = New government kicked Calvin and Farel out of Geneva

Joined up with Martin Bucer = Bucer was a Lutheran, Bucer influenced him greatly

31 yrs old (1540) - Married widow of an Anabaptist = Anabaptists rebaptized those baptized as infants

Son and wife died within 9 years = Had son 2 years later (lived a few days), Wife died 9 years later

32 yrs old (1541) - Begged by Geneva to return = Didn't want to but did anyway

Very harsh punisher = Had "heretics" killed

Died at 54 yrs old = Stayed VERY busy - his health failed

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Calvinism

Spread of Calvinism = Spread of Calvinism - Due to 2 factors:

Geneva was a refugee center = Over half of the population were refugees

Calvin was a refugee working with refugees = Emphasized "Union with Christ"

Geneva Academy = Set up by Calvin to train especially for the ministry

Attracted students of theology throughout Europe

Ecclesiastical Ordinances

Calvin's Church Constitution = 2 Sections - Ministry and Consistory

Ministry = Disciplined Clergy

Strong Educational Program = Early grades through college

Church Officials

Teachers = teach

Pastors = preach, give sacraments

Elders = discipline

Deacons = care for poor

Consistory = 6 ministers and 12 elders

Enforced purity and punished moral offenses = Relatively excessive punishment

1542-1546 - 76 banished from Geneva, 58 executed

Other cities were very strict also = Calvin just worked with the government

Calvin Theology = Final doctrine closer to Luther than Zwingli

Described in *Instructions in the Christian Religion* = 6 chapters in 1st version, 80 ch. in final edition (4 volumes)

Salvation = Justification by grace through faith, not works (same as Lutherans)

Scripture = Emphasized

Bible is inerrant, only source of doctrine = Reject divine tradition of catholic church (same as Lutherans)

Inner word = Enthusiasm - Given personally by Holy Spirit only to the elect (visions, feelings, emotions)

Predestination = Based on two hearing the same Word; One believed, other didn't - God must have made it happen

Predestination of the Elect (those to be saved) = Bible can both support and condemn

Predestination of the Reprobate (those to be damned) = Bible does not support

Emphasizes that salvation is a free gift from God = Be obedient to show that you are of the elect

Lutheran view of Predestination

Formula of Concord: *The eternal election of God, however, not only foresees and foreknows the salvation of the elect, but through His gracious will and good pleasure in Christ Jesus is also a cause which procures, works, facilitates and promotes our salvation.*

From Our Church & Others: *God did not, however, elect or predestine any man or number of men to damnation. Those who are lost have been redeemed by Christ and God earnestly desires their salvation. Why are some saved and others are lost? This mystery Lutherans do not try to solve.*

God is not the cause of man's damnation; man is not the cause of his election to salvation.

Class materials are available at www.biblestoriesforadults.com/denominations

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More Calvin Theology

Sacraments = Grace is received only by the elect - Lutherans: Grace is offered to all

*A testimony of the grace of God towards us, confirmed by an outward sign,
with a reciprocal attestation of our piety towards Him.*

Baptism - Initiation into church membership = Lutherans: Acceptance by God into His family

Need evidence of faith = Parent's faith is evidence for infants, Symbolizes cleansing through Christ

Lord's Supper - Elect receive body and blood spiritually through faith = A memorial of Christ's death

Spiritual presence = Neither symbolic nor physical presence - Lutherans: physical presence

Morals

Luther spared *everything that Scripture did not expressly forbid*

Calvin sacrificed *everything that Scriptures did not expressly sanction and justify*

Underlying Theme - God's Sovereignty

Calvin - God is master, man is servant

Luther - God is father, man is child

Calvin - Bible is book of rules and regulations

Luther - Bible is letter from loving father

Calvin - Obedience

Luther - Trust

TULIP Doctrine

Total Depravity = Humans by nature are totally depraved and unable to merit salvation, Lutherans agree
Original Sin

Unconditional Election = Some people are unconditionally elected by God's saving grace
Predestination

Limited Atonement = Lutherans disagree, Jesus came to save all, God wants all to be saved, man rejects
Christ came only for the elect, not the whole world = Otherwise all would be saved

Irresistible Grace = God's grace from the Holy Spirit cannot be resisted by humans = Lutherans disagree
Inner Word = All can hear "Outward Word" (preaching), Only elect hear "I W" from Holy Spirit

Perseverance of the Saints = Follow from doctrine of Irresistible Grace
Once saved, always saved = Lutherans disagree

Puritans

Reformed (Calvinist) movement in the Church of England = Stricter discipline

To *Purify* the church of Roman Catholic influences = Abolish ceremonies, statues, stained glass, music

Reformed church government with synods, etc = Equal rank among clergy, no bishops

Elizabethan Puritans = Tried to reform the Church of England from within, Very limited success

Separatists = Also called *Brownists* after leader Robert Browne, Rejected the Church of England as the true church
1581 - Independent congregation at Norwich = Harassed, imprisoned & exiled by bishops & government

Most moved to the Netherlands, some to New England = Led to Congregationalist movement

Pilgrim Fathers = Most radical, unpopular Puritan faction

1620 - Settled Plymouth Colony = Less radical Puritans later settled around Massachusetts Bay

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Reformed

Closest to pure Calvinism of all denominations = Smaller bodies (<500K total), Mostly from Dutch immigrants

Reformed Church in America = Traces roots in US to 1600s, Less than 200K members, Norman Vincent Peale
1766 - Founded first seminary in US = Renamed twice, now Rutgers University

Christian Reformed Church = Largest at 300K, Same doctrine as RCA but differing stands on discipline

Scottish Reformation

John Knox (1505-1572) = The most responsible man for the Reformation in Scotland
32 yrs old (1537) - Prisoner on a French Galley Ship = Because he was Protestant
35 yrs old (1540) - Preached 5 years in England
40 yrs old (1545) - Fled to Geneva = Mary Tudor (Bloody Mary) began reign, Worked with Calvin
45 yrs old (1550) - Returned to Scotland = Reshaped the Church of Scotland around Calvin's doctrine

Presbyterian

Scottish-Irish immigrants to America = Found religious havens in Pennsylvania, Maryland and New Jersey
1683 - Frank Makemie = Immigrated to Maryland, Banded settlers together in 5 churches
1706 - Formed first presbytery with 6 other ministers in Philadelphia
Arrested in New York for preaching without a license = Trial helped establish religious freedom in N Y

Presbyterian Church (USA), 2.3 million = Presbyterians had split north/south at the Civil War
1983 - Merger of United Presbyterian Church in the USA and Presbyterian Church in the US (Southern)
Presbyterian Church in America, 300K = Formed 1973 in split from PCUS (Southern) over liberal issues

Presbyter = Means "Office of the Elders"

Teaching Elders = ministers, elected by the members of the congregation

Ruling Elders = lay leaders, elected by the members of the congregation

Sessions = Ruling group of a congregation (elders), Like our "Board of Directors" (Church Council)

Presbytery = 1 teaching and 1 ruling elder from each congregation in a region

Approves calls to ministers and church property sales and purchases

Synod = Covers a wider area, such as a state

General Assembly = Annual meetings that include representatives from every presbytery

Predestination = Not as strong as Calvin was

Morals = Stem from New England Puritanism, Strong preaching on moral and social issues
Important to influence the morality of the world around them = Example - blue laws

Worship = More liturgical than Calvin, Make use of symbols removed by Zwingli

Sacraments = Signs and symbols instituted by God, Sacraments seal, renew and mark believers

Baptism = Symbolic, Baptize infants since *God claims people before they are able to respond in faith*

Communion = Symbolic of communing with Christ, For all baptized, Quarterly, People stay in pews

Closing Prayer

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