



## Overview of Church History

<b>DONE</b>	Early Fathers, Theologians and Councils
<b>DONE</b>	Events of the Reformation
<b>DONE</b>	Shared Beliefs between Roman Catholics and Protestants
<b>DONE</b>	Overview of Key Differences
<b>TODAY</b>	Denominations Since the Reformation

### **CHURCH HISTORY**

This class will briefly touch on the major events in church history that explain how we went from the first-century church to today, with all of the different denominations.

#### **Topics covered today:**

- Denominations since the Reformation

#### **Meeting Mondays**

6:30 pm

Light Church Chapel

831 3rd St, Encinitas

As Christians in 2018 ever wonder...  
**Where did *all these different churches* come from?**



Looked at **1<sup>st</sup> century to Reformation... now Reformation to today.**

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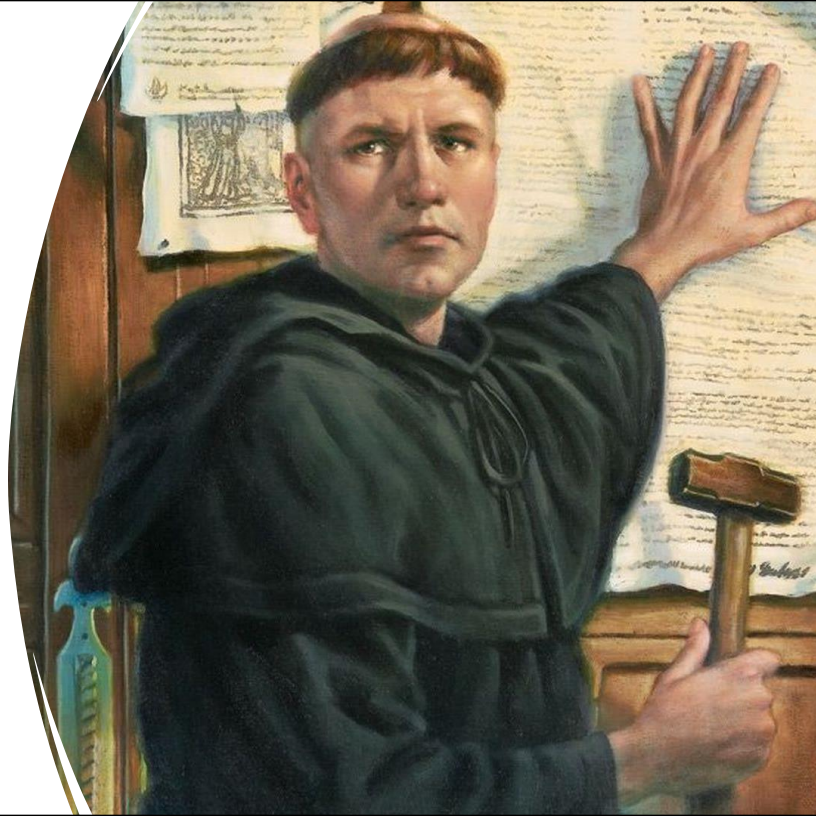
We will look at where many of these denominations came from today!

# FIVE PROTESTANT REFORMATIONS

We tend to talk about “the Reformation.” But there were really **five** different protestant Reformations!

We’re going to look at each five. From these five came all the different denominations we have today.

# #1. German Reformation



## Martin Luther (1483-1546)

- Protested sale of indulgences.
- Rejected all sacraments but two: baptism & Lord's Supper.
- Rejected idea of priestly class.
- Followers known as Lutherans

## #1. German Reformation

### Martin Luther and his beliefs:

#### Martin Luther (1483-1546)

- Famous **95 Thesis** was against sale of **indulgences**.
- Rejected **sacramentalism**. Affirmed forensic justification (salvation is an act of faith).
- Rejected **auricular confession** (confession to a priest), saying that biblically people are supposed to confess to their fellow brothers.
- Rejected **authority of the pope**. He went so far as to say that the primary problem with the RCC is the pope's desire for opulence and luxury
- Rejected **all sacraments except two**: baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- Rejected **ordination of priests** (idea of priestly class).
- **Followers known as Lutherans**

### Political and social consequences of his Reformation:

- The Reformation contributed to the **fragmentation of the Holy Roman Empire** and the **emergence of nation-states** in Europe.
  - Local rulers had to choose whether to support or resist Luther's ideas, resulting in conflicts and shifts in power.
- Luther's followers became **known as Lutherans** and their beliefs became the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation.

# #2. Swiss Reformation



## John Calvin (1509-1564)

- Was 8 years old when Luther nailed Ninety-Five Theses to door.
- People used to say they were of the "Reformed faith." Around 20th c. started saying "Calvinists."
- Helped transform Geneva into "Protestant Rome."

## Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531)

- Brought reformation to hometown of Zurich, Switzerland.
- Calvary Chapels hold his view of Lord's supper.
- Held to infant baptism (brings into Covenant Community like circumcision).

## #2. Swiss Reformation

### John Calvin:

- John Calvin (1509-1564) played a key role in the Swiss Reformation.
- Calvinism and Reformed theology were developed by Calvin's followers, including Theodore Beza and John Knox.
- The term "**Calvinist**" became more commonly used in the 20th century, replacing "Reformed faith".
- Calvin established **Geneva as a center for the Reformation movement**, earning it the title of the "**Protestant Rome**".
- Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion became a foundational text for Reformed theology.

### Calvin's Teachings:

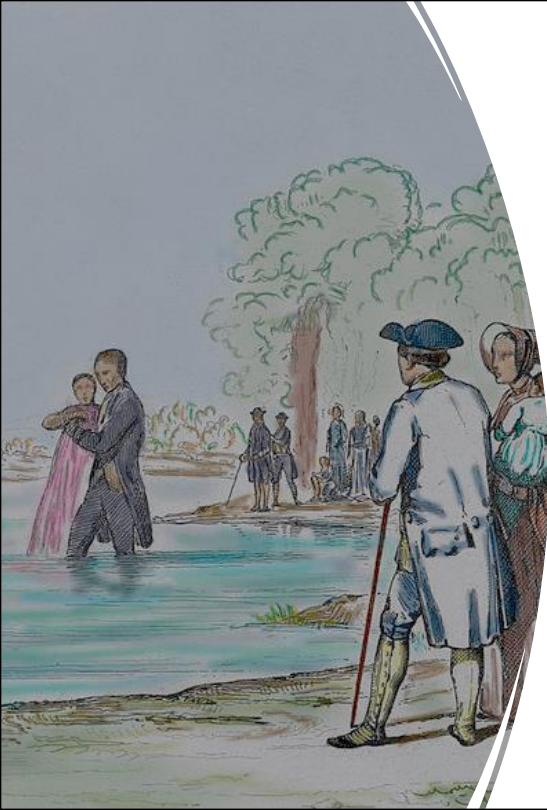
- Calvin emphasized predestination, the doctrine that God chooses some individuals for salvation and others for condemnation.
- Calvin's teachings led to the establishment of a **theocratic government in Geneva**, where church and state were intertwined and moral regulations were strictly enforced.
- Calvin helped create the **Consistory, a church court** responsible for maintaining discipline among the **Genevan population**.

- Calvin's doctrines spread beyond Geneva, impacting the religious landscape of Europe.
- Calvinism emphasized a specific church structure, consisting of pastors, teachers, elders, and deacons.
- Calvin's doctrines are summarized in the **TULIP acronym**: Total depravity, Unconditional election, Limited atonement, Irresistible grace, and Perseverance of the saints.

### **Ulrich Zwingli:**

- Zwingli was an academic who brought the Reformation to **Zurich, Switzerland**.
- His views on the Lord's Supper, known as memorialism, are held by Calvary Chapels as a purely symbolic tool for remembering Jesus' work on the cross.
- Zwingli believed in infant baptism, seeing it as a way to bring individuals into the Covenant Community, similar to circumcision.

## #3. Radical Reformation



### #3. Radical Reformation

#### Anabaptist Beliefs and Practices

- Anabaptist = **“baptized again”** (adults should get baptized again even if done as infant).
- Called “Radical” because **wanted to take reformation even further.**
- Anabaptists advocated for adult baptism and rejected infant baptism.
- They also **rejected the link between church and state**, Christian participation in war, and reliance on external authority.
- Instead, they promoted common ownership of property, pacifism, and non-resistance.
- The **Amish, Hutterites, and Mennonites** are descendents.

#### Anabaptist Persecution and Influence

- Anabaptists **faced persecution** from German and Swiss Reformers, as well as Catholics.
- An estimated 5,000 Anabaptist men and women were tortured and executed.

*“Zwingli was too conservative and that the reforms he advocated were too few, and too slow... when the radicals began re-baptizing he had no choice but to side with the Council in its decision to outlaw private meetings and require that all children be baptized... Manz was publicly executed in Zurich in the River Limmat by drowning for the crime of rebaptism, by order of the Council. **“He who dips, shall be dipped,”** said the Council. Whether Zwingli consented to the death sentence for [Felix] Manz is not known, but he did not publicly oppose it.” [C. Matthew McMahon, *The Reformation Made Easy*, 2 ed. (Puritan Publications, 2012)]*

- Anabaptists promoted religious freedom and the separation of church and state, which later influenced the development of religious tolerance in Europe and North America.
- The **Amish**, **Mennonites**, **Hutterites** are modern Anabaptist denominations that can trace their roots back to the Radical Reformation.



# #4. English Reformation

## Anglicanism (1559-)

- Henry VIII wanted to divorce his wife to marry somebody else.
- When Pope refused to dissolve marriage, he broke away from Catholic Church.
- 3rd largest Christian church (after Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox)



## #4. English Reformation

Pic: Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, 2018

Notable Anglicans: **C.S. Lewis, John Stott, N.T. Wright.**

### Anglicanism Historical Context:

- In 1534, King Henry VIII made a decision to break away from the Catholic Church after Pope Clement VII refused to grant him an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon.
- The English Reformation was mainly motivated by political reasons, such as the desire for greater independence, rather than theological differences or disputes in doctrine.
- Elizabeth I became Queen in 1558 and established the national Church of England in 1559 through the Act of Supremacy and the Act of Uniformity.

### Anglicanism Beliefs and Practices:

- Anglicanism is a denomination that blends Protestant beliefs and Catholic liturgical practices, creating a "via media" or middle way between the two traditions.

- The Book of Common Prayer, which was first published in 1549, is a significant Anglican liturgical text that has had a significant impact on the English language and other Christian denominations.
- The Thirty-Nine Articles, which were adopted in 1571, offer a fundamental statement of Anglican doctrine and serve as a compromise between Calvinist and Catholic beliefs.

### **Anglicanism Structure and Governance:**

- The Church of England has a unique governance structure in which the British monarch is the Supreme Governor, while the Archbishop of Canterbury is the spiritual leader.
- Anglicanism is the third-largest Christian denomination in the world, behind the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church.

# #5. The “Second” Reformation

## Puritanism (England/North America)

- Emphasized spiritual and pastoral application in addition to doctrine.
- Many fled to North America.
- Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield.

## Pietism (Germany)

- Hostile to heavy doctrine/theology.
- Stressed the need for a “living faith.”
- Emphasized personal Bible study.



## #5. The “Second” Reformation

(Note: The term "Second Reformation" is not commonly used by historians)

### Puritanism (England/North America)

- **Emphasized spiritual and pastoral application** in addition to doctrine.
- King Charles I **repressed the Puritans**, and **many fled to North America**, founding the Plymouth Colony.
- **Jonathan Edwards** was the most significant American Puritan theologian.
- Separatists: A group of radical Puritans who sought to separate from the Church of England, leading to the establishment of various independent congregations and, ultimately, the founding of the Plymouth Colony in North America.
- Key figures included **Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield.**

### Pietism (Germany)

- Emerged in the late 17th century, as a response to some of the perceived shortcomings of earlier reform movements.
- Criticized heavy reliance on doctrine and theology.
- **Stressed the need for a "living faith."**
- Emphasized personal Bible study and practical Christian living for everyday life.
- In Germany, Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1700–1760) stressed

the "religion of the heart" based on an intimate and personal relationship with Christ.

- Drawback: Emphasis on "feeling" over doctrine/theology contributed to German criticism and theological liberalism.
- **The Holiness Movement:** A movement that arose within Methodism and other evangelical denominations in the 19th century, emphasizing sanctification and personal holiness as key aspects of Christian living.

A man in a dark, historical-style robe stands in a room. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the right. His right hand is pressed against a large sheet of paper or parchment that is pinned to a wooden wall. In his left hand, he holds a wooden hammer. The room is filled with various papers, some with drawings and some with text, pinned to the walls. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

## Summary: Protestant Reformations

1. **German** Reformation (Lutheranism)
2. **Swiss** Reformation (Reformed Calvinism)
3. **Radical** Reformation (Anabaptism)
4. **English** Reformation (Anglicanism)
5. The **“Second”** Reformation (Puritanism/Pietism)

There was also a Catholic Reformation:

### **Counter-Reformation: Catholic Reformation**

- Council of Trent (1545) was attempt at reformation within Catholic church; goal was to end corruption and abuse, set out lines of teaching on role of Scripture and tradition, sacraments.
- Also established new orders (Jesuits)
- Many writers were also responding to reformation literature by drawing arguments from Aquinas.
- Responded to Protestant appeals to patristic fathers.

**Now, some Midjourney images to help us visualize this time period...**

*(These were all created by AI from text prompts)*



Martin Luther, about to nail his 95 theses to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg.

Under the foreboding, iron-hued sky, Martin Luther, his heart pounding, makes his way toward the immense Castle Church in Wittenberg, gripping the hammer and parchment containing his groundbreaking 95 theses. As his robes whisper in the crisp autumn breeze, he contemplates the gravity of his actions, keenly aware that once he nails his theses to the door, there will be no turning back. As the enormity of the impending impact on Christianity and the world settles upon his shoulders, Luther, emboldened by the righteousness of his convictions, steels himself for the courageous act that will ignite a transformative religious reformation.



John Calvin writing *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 1536

In the dimly lit chamber, the flickering glow of candlelight casts shadows on the walls, as John Calvin, hunched over his worn wooden desk, pens the monumental *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. With each stroke of his quill, the ink flows onto the parchment, the scratching sound echoing through the stillness of the late-night air, as the profound ideas etched in his mind take shape. The palpable intensity in the room is a testament to the weight of Calvin's undertaking, as he diligently crafts the theological cornerstone that will come to define the Reformation and reshape the course of Christianity for centuries to come.

Anabaptists from the 16<sup>th</sup> century having a baptism at a river



Under the dappled sunlight filtering through the lush canopy of trees, a group of 16th-century Anabaptists gathers at the gently flowing river's edge, their faces radiating both solemnity and joy as they prepare for a baptism. The murmur of the water and the rustling leaves create a sacred symphony, while the simple, unadorned garments of the believers sway with each movement, reflecting their commitment to a humble and authentic faith. As the Anabaptist minister raises his hands and speaks the holy words, the candidate for baptism is submerged in the cool, crystalline waters, symbolizing a profound transformation and the beginning of a new life, united with their brethren in a shared spiritual journey.






16<sup>th</sup> century Geneva, Switzerland

In the heart of 16th-century Geneva, Switzerland, the crisp Alpine air hums with a palpable sense of spiritual transformation as Calvinist thought takes root within the city's ancient stone walls. Cobblestone streets echo with the footsteps of scholars, theologians, and earnest believers, drawn to this haven of religious freedom and intellectual curiosity, where the teachings of John Calvin resonate through the timber-framed buildings and quaint courtyards. As the city's influence grows, it evolves into a beacon of hope and a hub of religious fervor, its burgeoning reputation as a "Protestant Rome" attracting pilgrims and reformers alike, all seeking to partake in the revolutionary movement that is reshaping the fabric of Christianity and Europe's religious landscape.

## King Henry VIII signs a decree to start the Anglican Church



Bathed in the golden light streaming through a grand window, King Henry VIII sits at an ornate table, his commanding presence filling the royal chamber as he ponders the momentous decree before him. As sunlight dances on the parchment, casting intricate patterns upon the desk, the tension in the air is palpable, and the weight of history bears down upon the king's shoulders. With each decisive stroke of his quill, the ink weaves a legacy that will cleave England's ties to Rome and establish the Anglican Church, indelibly altering the course of British history and reshaping the religious landscape of the nation.




The Mayflower, carrying  
Pilgrims from England to  
Plymouth, MA, 1620

In 1620, the Mayflower stands ready to embark on her legendary voyage from the bustling port of Southampton. The air is charged with emotion as the Pilgrims, men, women, and children, say their final farewells, their hearts swelling with a blend of apprehension and excitement for the perilous journey that lies ahead. As the steadfast wooden vessel carves a path through the Atlantic waves, the Pilgrims find solace and strength in their unwavering faith in God, who they trust will guide them toward religious freedom and a new beginning in the distant land of Plymouth, Massachusetts. Their shared dream, bolstered by divine hope, serves as their guiding light, illuminating the path through the challenges of the unknown and sustaining their spirits on this momentous journey.



A devoted group of 16<sup>th</sup> century pietists gathers for their Sunday Bible study

In the warm embrace of a 16th-century home, a devoted group of pietists gathers for their Sunday Bible study, the soft glow of candlelight casting flickering shadows on the walls. The air is infused with the scent of wax and the faint aroma of a burning hearth, as they sit around large wooden tables, the worn, leather-bound Bibles open before them. The hushed murmur of their voices, rich with conviction and reverence, weaves a tapestry of shared faith, as they delve into the sacred text, seeking solace, guidance, and communion with God, in the intimate sanctuary of a fellow believer's home.

A photograph of Jonathan Edwards, an 18th-century American theologian and preacher, standing in a congregation at dusk. He is wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. The scene is dimly lit by several lit candles, creating a solemn and reverent atmosphere. In the background, other people are visible, some holding candles, suggesting a religious gathering or service.

Jonathan Edwards, American theologian and preacher of the 18th century, Puritanism

In the fading light of dusk, as the vibrant colors of sunset give way to the deepening blues of twilight, Jonathan Edwards, the esteemed 18th-century American theologian and preacher, stands on an improvised pulpit amidst a rapt congregation. The flickering glow of candlelight held by the devout listeners casts an ethereal radiance upon their faces, illuminating their unwavering attention and reverence. With a voice both powerful and resonant, Edwards passionately delivers the gospel, his words echoing through the still evening air, as the faithful gather under the expansive sky to be nourished by the wisdom and conviction of this Puritan luminary.

An aerial photograph of a mountain range, likely the Rocky Mountains, taken from a high altitude. The terrain is rugged and brownish, with some snow patches. The sky is a deep blue, and the horizon is visible in the distance.

# From these Five Protestant Reformations

Come **our denominations** we have today

From these Five Protestant Reformations, come our denominations we have today!

