

Hello. /We will begin the eleventh lecture on “Church History.” /In our last lecture, we studied Medieval Church History.

Part 3: Modern Church History

/Chapter 1: The Age of the Reformation

/The period is from 1517 to 1648.

I. Introduction

/1. The Need for the Reformation

/The medieval church had become corrupt. /Church offices were sold, and high-ranked clergymen lived immoral lives. /The church became secularized, and it lost its authority.

/2. The Cause of the Reformation

/The church’s corruption is what caused the Reformation. /Also, because church officers were corrupt, humanism emerged. /There were several reformers before the Reformation happened. /John Wycliffe and John Huss greatly influenced the Reformation.

/Pope Leo X sold indulgences. Martin Luther, who was opposed to this practice, rose up against it.

/3. The Shape of the Reformation

/(1) The Lutherans. /The Lutherans reformed Germany and northeast Europe.

/(2) The Zwinglians. /The Zwinglians focused on reforming Zurich, Switzerland, and their reform activities were focused in southern Germany.

/(3) The Calvinists. /Calvin focused on reforming Geneva, Switzerland, and he also focused his reform activities in France, Scotland, and the Netherlands.

/(4) The English Reformers. /Their reformation was focused on people who spoke English.

/(5) The Anabaptists. /The Anabaptists reformed most of the region of West Europe.

/Numbers (1) to (5) listed here were all opposed to Catholicism.

/(6) The Jesuits. /The Jesuits were centered on Catholicism, advocating reflection and reform within Catholicism. This was the Counter-Reformation.

/4. The Successes and Failures of Reform

/We can say that there are two regions, a region in which reform was successful and a region in which it failed. /The Reformation was successful in North Europe and **regions outside of Rome**. /However, reform didn’t happen in Rome where the Latin people dominated, or in southern Europe.

/5. The Forms of Church Government

/(1) The Lutherans. /The Lutherans did not have a finalized form of church government.

/(2) The Calvinists. /The Calvinists had a Presbyterian church government.

/(3) The Anglican Church. /The Anglican Church had a form of government that was like that of the Roman Catholic Church.

/ (4) The Anabaptists. / The Anabaptists had a Baptist congregational government.

/6. Theological Ideas

/ Some aspects of the reformers' theology were identical to those of Roman Catholicism. / Catholicism and Protestantism shared the theological idea of the doctrines of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the Trinity. / Apart from these things, they had many different theological beliefs.

/ Their church governments were different, / their views of the Bible were different, / and their views of salvation and the afterlife were different. / Protestantism rejected church tradition and the Apocrypha while only accepting canon. / Protestantism denied the idea that salvation lies only within the church. / It also rejected the idea of purgatory, indulgences, and transubstantiation.

/ Luther and Zwingli were pioneers of the Reformation. / Calvin and Melancthon organized the church.

/7. Protestant Worship Rituals

/ The Protestants gave sermons in the language spoken in the region. / They were different from the Catholics who preached in Latin. / The practice of educating believers was restored. / They abolished Mass and the burning of incense.

/ Furthermore, Protestantism abolished the worship of saints, the worship of relics, prayer for the dead, and pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

/8. The Pros and Cons of the Reformation

/ a. The Pros of the Reformation. / The Bible became the basis for thought. / Worship, which had become idolized and ritualized in the Middle Ages, reverted to a biblical basis. / People found freedom in their personal faith. / People were guided on how they were to interpret the Bible, and they were taught how to have direct fellowship with God. / The Roman Catholic Church also did have a reform movement within itself.

/ b. The Cons of the Reformation. / Protestantism was divided into various denominations. / War also happened. / Many people died, and they experienced economic failure.

/9. The Effects of the Reformation on the Economy

/ First, feudalism collapsed and the middle class rose up. / Second, common knowledge became more advanced, which led to improvements in culture. / Third, individualism saw a revival, and this was the beginning of the formation of a capitalist society. / Fourth, various industries developed.

II. Martin Luther and the Reformation

/1. Luther's Life

/Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483, in Eisleben, Germany. /His father was a miner, and his mother was a devout believer. /When he was nineteen, he entered the University of Erfurt, where he majored in scholasticism and Latin literature.

/While he was majoring in law, he entered the Augustine monastery. /He later served as professor of logic and humanities, and he later became a professor of theology.

/In 1511, he left behind his calling as monk and travelled to Rome, where he learned about the church's corruption. /In 1512, he was awarded his Doctor of theology. /In 1525, Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, who was a nun. /He died on February 18, 1546.

/2. Luther's Reform Work

/a. How it Started. /Pope Leo X sold indulgences, and Martin Luther, who was opposed to this practice, attacked him with the 95 Theses on October 31, 1517. /The Roman Catholic Church sent him a letter of excommunication. Because a man named John Eck had quickly reported Luther's behavior, the letter was immediately sent out.

/If we look at the letter, it says that all of Luther's writings must be burned. /An order was made to arrest Luther and his followers if he did not repent within 60 days.

/On December 10, 1520 at the university, Luther, in the presence of the professors and students, burned the letter.

/b. The 95 Theses. /Let us look at the important details. /(1) Indulgences cannot cancel the penalties of God; they only cancel the condemnation of the church. /(2) Indulgences cannot forgive someone of their sins. /(3) Indulgences cannot eliminate the penalties a sinner ought to receive from God.

/(4) Indulgences cannot do anything for the souls in purgatory. /(5) A believer who has repented of their sins has already been forgiven of their sins by God, and indulgences are useless. /(6) The common person cannot understand what good works, merits, and treasures are, but the treasure is the gospel of the glory and grace of God. /The Pope does not have the right to sell the merits of Jesus Christ or the merits of believers, but he only has the right to cancel condemnation.

/Let us analyze the details. /Theses 1 to 7 are the introduction. /Theses 8 to 29 address the issue of pardoning the sins of those in purgatory. /Theses 30 to 80 are about the pardoning of sins of those who are alive. /Theses 81 to 91 are about being opposed to indulgences as a layperson. /Theses 92 to 95 point out the wrong motives for selling indulgences.

/3. Luther's Ideas and Writings

/a. Ideological Background. /At the University of Erfurt, Martin Luther studied scholasticism and Latin classics. /There was a man by the name of Staupitz, who was abbot of the monastery of Augustine, and this person influenced Martin Luther to work

hard in studying the Bible. /Staupitz introduced to Luther Augustine's grace theology. /Luther learned the idea of "being made righteous by faith."

/William Ockham is another figure for Luther's ideological background. /Ockham's individualistic ideas had a large impact on Luther's theology. /The mystics also were a part of Luther's ideological background. /He learned about experiential faith from mystics such as Eckhart and Thauler. /By studying the Bible, Luther came to believe that the Bible, which is God's word, is the standard for everything.

/b. Luther's Ideas. /Luther searched for an experiential and practical religion. /Concerning communion, he believed in consubstantiation. /He has three main claims. First, he believed in the truth that one is "made righteous by faith."

/Second, he believed in the priesthood of believers. /This means that all believers are priests. /Third, he strongly believed in the Bible's authority.

/c. Luther's Views on Salvation. /Luther said that "salvation comes only from God." /Of course, this is a truth that is found in God's word. /He also said, "Salvation comes only by faith." /He said, "Salvation is a new relationship with God that is fulfilled in Christ." /He further said, "Man cannot be saved by good works."

/d. Luther's Views on the Church. /Luther saw the church as being divided into the invisible church and the visible church. /Roman Catholicism did not make this distinction, but it saw it as one church. Luther divided the church into two.

/He also said, "The Holy Spirit brings the believer to church and protects the believer." /He said, "The Holy Church is the fellowship of all believers who believe in Christ."

/Luther said, "If God's word is spread and if the sacraments are properly carried out, then God's church can be established." /He said, "God rules over the church with his right hand, and he rules over the nations with his left hand."

/e. Luther's Views on the State. /Luther made the distinction between church and state, but that does not mean he denied the sovereignty of the state. /He said, "All believers are in principle righteous, but they must be ruled by the state because they are in reality sinners."

/He said, "Believers cannot submit to the state's authority when their religious lives are persecuted." /He also said, "Believers may seek asylum when they are persecuted, but they must not use revolutionary means."

/ "Christians leaders may criticize rulers and give advice to them when they are doing wrong." /He claimed that "the church must be protected from the interference of the state." /For this reason, he left the church's administrative power to the state. /Because the state ruled over the church, the rights of the church and the rights of the world were mixed up. As a result, the church became spiritually weaker.

/f. Luther's Writings. /In May 1520, he wrote a book called "On Good Works." /In this book, he said, "Good works only happen in faith."

/In August of 1520, he wrote a book called, "To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation." /In this book, he attacked the corruption of the papacy. /He said the following things. First, he was opposed to the idea of the Pope's temporal power. /Second, he was opposed to the idea that only the Pope can interpret the Bible. /Third, he was opposed to the fact that only the Pope could call a council.

/In October of 1520, Martin Luther wrote a book titled, "The Babylonian Captivity of the Church." /Here, he said, "All believers are priests, and communion, baptism, and penance are the only sacraments." /In December of 1520, he wrote, "Concerning Christian Liberty." /In this book, he wrote, based on Romans, that people are "made righteous by faith."

/4. Luther and the Diet of Worms

/The Diet of Worms was convened in Worms on January 27, 1521 by **Karl V**. /The **subject at hand** was how they were to deal with Martin Luther. /The Pope sent an envoy, Alexander, to the assembly.

/Luther participated in this diet. /Karl V summoned Luther, guaranteeing his safety. /Luther, prepared to die, left for the diet on March 26, 1521. //He said, "Even should there be as many devils in Worms as tiles on the housetops, still I would enter it." /On his way to the diet, many crowds saw him off.

/Before going before the diet, Luther sang the hymn that he wrote and composed, "Ein Feste Burg." /He was **interrogated by the diet** on April 17. /The first question the assembly asked Luther was, "Did you write the twenty-five books?" /To this, Luther answered, "Yes."

/Then the assembly asked him this: / "Would you retract the things you wrote in the books?" /To this, Luther replied, / "Unless it is proven that these books go against what the Bible says, then I will not retract anything." // "My conscience is captive to the Word of God. /I cannot recant anything."

/The Emperor issued the following order. / "Luther is a sinner." / "Whoever meets with him will be punished." / "Luther's writings are forbidden."

/On April 26, Luther returned home. /In order to save Luther's life, Frederick, the Prince-Elector of Saxony, kidnapped him and took him to the Wartburg Castle. //There, Luther **translated the Bible to German**. /He began translating the Bible in November 1521 and completed the translation in 1522. The Bible was published in September of that year.

III. The German Reformation

/1. Philipp Melanchthon

/He was born in 1497 and died in 1560. /From the age of 21, he served as language professor at a university. /He taught Hebrew and Greek. /He had a meek personality and was not only humble, but he was also a man of integrity who was the revolutionary Luther's one and only partner.

/He wrote "Loci Communes Rerum Theologicarum." /Let us take a look at what the book says. It says that "authority lies in the Bible." /He said, "Faith is being certain that Jesus died for our sins." /He said, "The only sacraments are baptism and communion."

/2. The Two Forms of the German Reformation

/a. The Moderates. /Erasmus is a key figure of the moderates (1466-1636). /Erasmus criticized Luther's Reformation for being too aggressive. /Let us summarize Erasmus' life.

/He was born in the Netherlands. /He studied at the University of Paris and the University of Oxford. /Erasmus was a humanist and a master of classical literature. /He revised the New Testament to Greek, and he wrote "Encomium Moriae." /He criticized the corrupt Roman Catholic Church in this book.

/After 1513, he lived in Germany and took part in the German Reformation. /He exposed the flaws of scholastic theology. /Doing so, he also criticized the corruption of church officers of the time.

/Because of his Greek and Pelagian tendencies, Erasmus did not understand the true meaning of the gospel. /Instead of relying on God's power, he tried to use human power for reform. /He died in Basel in 1536.

/b. The Extremists. /(1) Karlstadt. /Karlstadt was born in 1480 and died in 1541. /He said that "to have icons in the church is to violate the first of the Ten Commandments." /He said that "clergy should marry as well." /He said that they should "forbid the use of music and instruments in worship."

/He also said that "everyone should become farmers," that there is "no need to educate and no need to study." /He also said that "the Lord's second coming is near, that the end of the world is near." /He was against infant baptism.

/(2) Thomas Munzer. /Thomas Munzer was born in 1490 and died in 1525. /He was a German radical religious person. /He himself said that he is "a prophet who received the Holy Spirit's revelation." /He disapproved of the Bible and church positions.

/He was opposed to infant baptism. /Munzer emphasized that the end of the world was near. /He claimed that society's organization needed to be completely remodeled. /He denied government and scholarship. /He started the Peasants' Revolt, and when the revolt was quelled, he was arrested and executed.

/In this way, while Thomas Munzer and Karlstadt had their aggressive movements, Luther visited Wartburg in March of 1522. /He preached there for 8 days, put an end to the confusion, and completely restored order. /This is because he rejected extremism. /Many monks and regular nobles supported him.

/3. Division

/(1) The Peasants' Revolt happened. /In 1524, the nobles quelled the Peasants' Revolt with force. This resulted in 150,000 people being killed. /Because Luther cooperated in suppressing the Peasants' Revolt, people had the misconception that he sided with the nobles.

/(2) Erasmus' Division. /Erasmus, who had moderate ideas, emphasized free will. He spoke his opinions that were in disagreement with Luther, who was Bible-centered.

/(3) Luther's Marriage. /When Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, the nun who came from nobility, many people ridiculed him.

/4. The Emperor's Persecution and Petition

/a. In 1526, the Diet of Speyer was called. /It said, "Princes may choose their faith within the limits of being able to answer to the Pope and the emperor."

/b. The diet was convened again in 1529. /If a prince were Catholic, then the people who lived in the prince's state were to be Catholic as well. They were forbidden from propagating Protestantism in those places.

/On the other hand, a law was passed that if a prince were Protestant, then the people living in the state could freely practice Catholicism. /A law said that the taxes that had been in place since the past were to be collected as they always had been.

/c. Protestants protested against this. /On April 19, 1529, the Protestants submitted a letter of protest. /Five princes and fourteen cities took part in these events.

/This concludes the eleventh lecture on "Church History." /Thank you.