# Church History



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- Introduction to Church History
- The Ancient Church
- The Rise of Christendom
- The Early Middle Ages
- The Age of Crusades
- The Renaissance
- Conquest and Reformation
- The Age of Enlightenment
- The Age of Revolution
- The Modern Age
- The Postmodern Age

- AD 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries
- AD 4th-5th centuries
- AD 6th-10th centuries
- AD 11th-13th centuries
- AD 14th-15th centuries
- AD 16th century
- AD 17th-18th centuries
- AD 19th century
- AD 20th century
- AD 21st century

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- The Ancient Church
- The Rise of Christendom
- The Early Middle Ages
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- The Renaissance
- Conquest and Reformation
  - Martin Luther
  - Conquests of Various Kinds
  - The New Martyrdom of the Church
  - Die Warhet Ist Untödlich
  - Calvinists and Mennonites
  - The Counter-Reformation (part 2)

AD 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries

AD 4th-5th centuries

AD 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries

AD 11th-13th centuries

AD 14th-15th centuries

AD 16th century



The Catholic Church was still in business
1540 Pope Paul III approved the Society of Jesus
Founded by Ignatius of Loyola, the "Jesuits"
formed companies of teachers, theologians, and
social reformers—bringing a new Catholic
emphasis on priests actually reading the Bible



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1540 Pope Paul III approved the Society of Jesus
1542 Pope Paul III institutionalized the Inquisition
There had been various localized inquisitions for centuries, and the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions had been running for decades, but Paul centralized their authority and general reform by creating a permanent "congregation" of cardinals and bishops in Rome to supervise all of the other Inquisitions and keep them in check





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Books got people into trouble
Prussian astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus
published De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium,
arguing that the Earth revolved around the Sun
It actually didn't raise that much of a stir at the
time, but paved the way for Galileo to get into
serious trouble a century later for publishing the
same basic theory

same basic theory





The Catholic Church was still in business

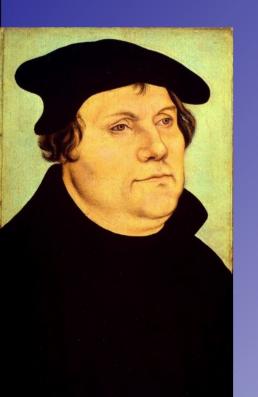
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This was also the same year that Henry VIII's
Parliament officially banned William Tyndale's
1526 English translation of the Bible as a "crafty,
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Instead, the Church of England pushed the use of Henry's official English "Great Bible" for use in British worship services



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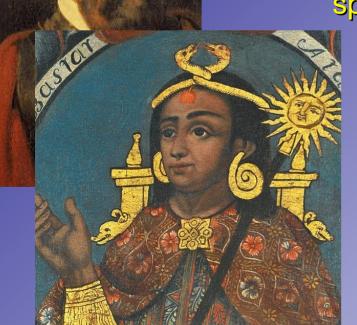
This was also the same year that Martin Luther published Von den Juden und Ihren Lügen, calling them "the devil's people" and inciting violence against them





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1545 Millions of Aztecs died from disease
If you'll remember, back in 1527, Incan ruler
Huayna Cápac died from European smallpox
weakening the Empire enough for Spanish
conquistador Francisco Pizarro to seize power fairly easily

So European diseases like smallpox began to spread throughout the New World





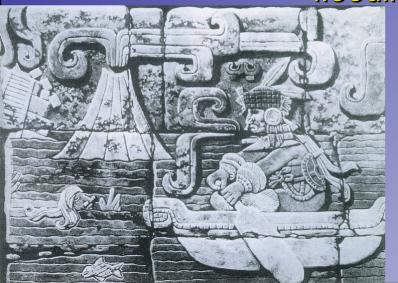
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It also didn't help that Mesoamerica experienced years of prolonged drought, followed by years of

flooding

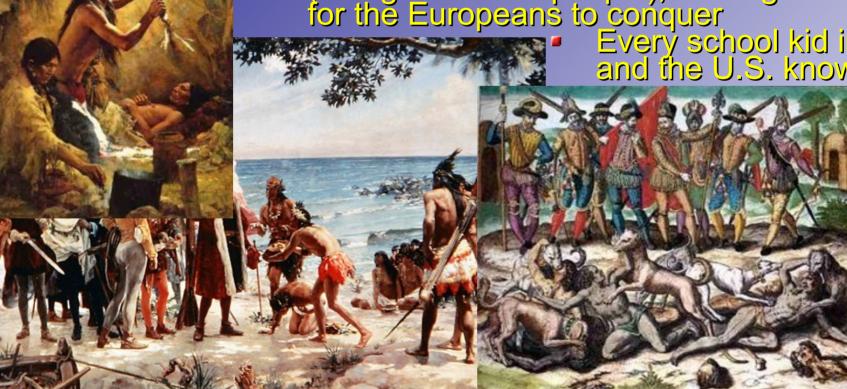
Does that sound familiar?





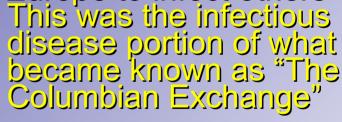
Funky little teaching moment
This is the same sort of thing that we saw in Asia and Europe in the 1330s, isn't it?
It's been a generally-accepted fact that the first Europeans came to the Americas as conquerors bringing diseases like smallpox and typhus with them, against which the natives had no defense This destroyed 90% of the native population (killing 20 million people), making them easier for the Europeans to conquer Every school kid in Mexico and the U.S. knows this







Funky little teaching moment—
This is the same sort of thing that we saw in Asia and Europe in the 1330s, isn't it?
But that's only sorta true...
Yes, the first Europeans did bring infectious diseases (like smallpox and typhus) with them, against which the natives had no defense but the Americans also shared their diseases with the Europeans (like tuberculosis and syphilis), who then took them back to Europe to infect others
This was the infectious disease portion of what







Funky little teaching moment

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Yes, the first Europeans did bring infectious diseases (like smallpox and typhus) with them, against which the natives had no defense

But that's not really what destroyed the native

populations

Harvard trained, Mexican epidemiologist
Rodolfo Acuña-Soto investigated the growth of
the Mexican smallpox plague of the mid-1500s,
and discovered that it wasn't really smallpox
It seemed very much like the hemorrhagic
fever virus which the natives called "cocolitzli"

and which had similarly devastated their populations years <u>before</u> the Spanish arrived it hit the natives more dramatically because A) They're the ones who worked in the fields and had more contact with the

disease vectors (rats, insects, etc.)

B) The Spanish and natives didn't really interact very much with one another



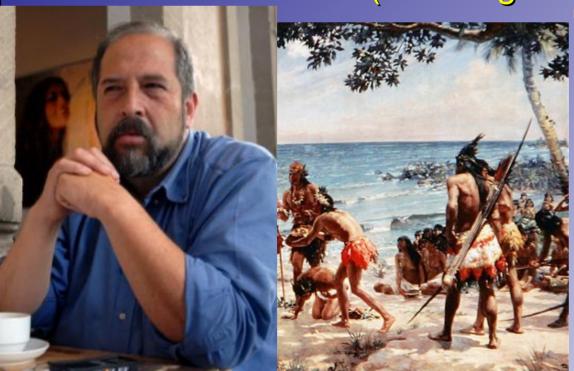
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But that's only sorta true...

So though the Spanish were certainly treasure-stealing imperialist slave traders, we really can't blame them for the mass genocide of millions of Mesoamericans in the mid-16th century due to disease (so let's give 'em a break)...

(Note: Acuña-Soto isn't yery popular in Mexico—



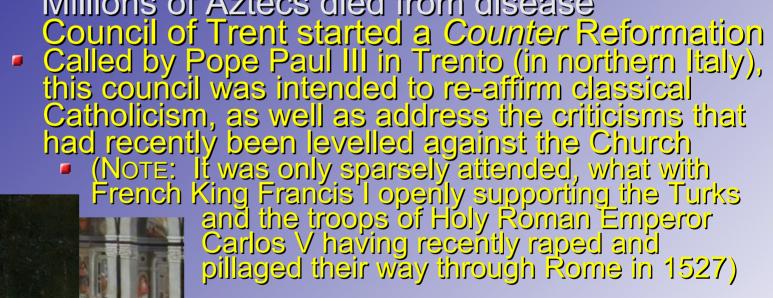
very popular in Mexico—which has developed a long and comfortable history of blaming the Spanish for everything)



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Council of Trent started a Counter Reformation
Called by Pope Paul III in Trento (in northern Italy),
this council was intended to re-affirm classical
Catholicism, as well as address the criticisms that
had recently been levelled against the Church
The Council began with re-affirming tradition and
attacking Protestantism



(Note: That term had come into vogue amongst Catholics since 1527, when fourteen Imperial Free Cities had protested the Church's sudden and unilateral reversal at the Diet of Speyer of earlier concessions made to the Lutherans)

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The bishops in attendance denounced all Reform movements in general, and Lutheranism in particular, arguing that any further "innovation" in Christian worship is inherently sinful because it assumes that Church tradition and hierarchy were not sufficient in and of themselves

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They also affirmed the veneration of holy relics and saints, as well as the doctrine of salvation by faith and the works that come from faith (together) and the doctrine of transubstantiation

(affirming that "the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ" are all "fully present" in the Host)



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(Note: Calling Communion bread the "Host" comes from the Latin "hostia," meaning "sacrificial victim"
—Christ is being re-sacrificed)



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They also finally officially designated
Jerome's Latin Vulgate Bible from 382 to
be the one, true Bible of the Church
(thus affirming that
A) The true Word of God is Latin
B) The "Apocryphal" books which
Jerome had included in his

Appendix should be placed at the same level of basic canonicity as the existing Old Testament books)

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They also finally officially designated
Jerome's Latin Vulgate Bible from 382 to
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And they also re-affirmed the use of
inclulgences to fund the ministries of the
Church and save souls from Purgatory
and re-affirmed that the Church alone must be the sole interpreter of Scripture (and Scripture thus cannot be the interpreter of the Church)

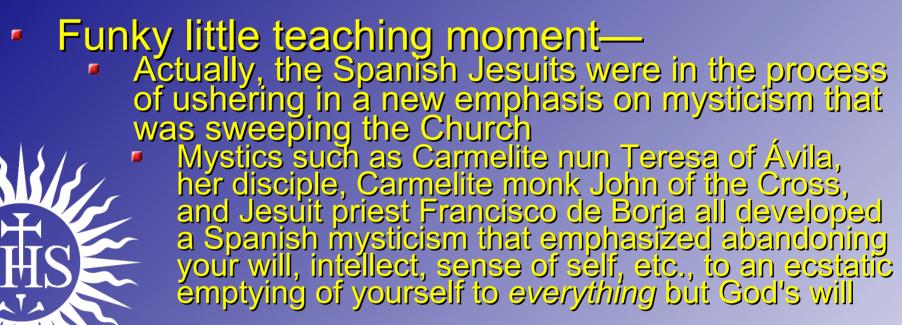


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Council of Trent started a Counter Reformation But at the same time, Paul made sure that at every step of the process, the bishops clarified that each of these core doctrines of the Church must be held with the highest degree of integrity, or else they're merely the sort of outward formalism that Erasmus had so bitterly denounced

Thus, though indulgences were valid, they should not be used to avoid true contrition or line the pockets of clergy If the Church hierarchy was to be the true interpreter of Scripture, it was incumbent upon them to actually read the Bible so that they actually knew what they were talking about (everyone say, "Thank you," to the Jesuits for that)





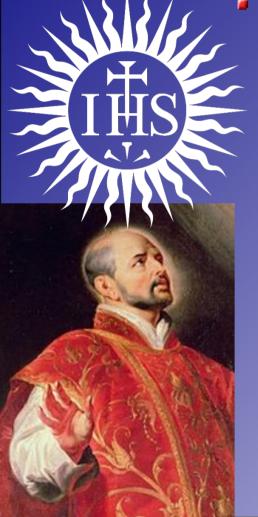


Funky little teaching moment—
Actually, the Spanish Jesuits were in the process of ushering in a new emphasis on mysticism that was sweeping the Church
Mystics such as Carmelite nun Teresa of Ávila, her disciple, Carmelite monk John of the Cross, and Jesuit priest Francisco de Borja all developed a Spanish mysticism that emphasized abandoning your will, intellect, sense of self, etc., to an ecstatic emptying of yourself to everything but God's will one was to become lost in the peaceful sense of being in the all-encompassing presence of God All that was to be left of the worshipper was one's imagination and creativity

imagination and creativity

You should imagine yourself being at the Nativity, feel the roughness of the cradle, etc.; or imagine yourself drifting through the infinity of space with the Person of God as your guide,

The resulting ecstasy was often akin to the same euphoria felt by Native American shamans, etc., as you feel that you have transcended flesh and mind and thought, and connected to the Infinite



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They emphasized how much bigger God is than we are, and thus, how sovereign He should be over us and emphasized having a personal time with God
They thus argued for lives that are personally touched by and changed by God, lived out in meaningful and genuinely Christian ways

Funky little teaching moment<sup>2</sup>—

At the same time, there was a parallel movement of spiritualism growing in France

Theologians such as Cardinal Pierre de Bérulle and François de Sales emphasized a more structured form of mysticism which created the foundation for what we now refer to as "spiritual direction" or "spiritual formation"

Again, they focused on personal, introspective time with God, much like the Spanish mystics

But within spiritual direction, they made use of more structured times and worship rituals

Thus, one might begin by spending time quietly meditating in contemplation on the nature of sin, followed by time contemplating the love of God, followed by time contemplating Christ's work of atonement to apply God's love to our sin

Or one might lose one's self in walking creatively through the life of Christ alongside Jesus, and then allow the Holy Spirit to let you experience His resurrection with Him

Or you could walk through Rible passages

Or you could walk through Bible passages with moments of specific reflections built into the Bible study time, etc.



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The idea was that by abandoning reason and self-will to mysticism—but within a regular, repeated, disciplined structure of ritual—one could grow spiritually in ways and to depths that simply couldn't be achieved through study alone, or through the "chaotic" prayer lives of the Reformers

Again, this was a decidedly Catholic way of attempting to reach a comparable level of personal relationship (albeit with a more inherently un-reachable Deity) that the Protestants had been finding in their own worship



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1549 Religion finally came to the Church of England

