

Church History



Church History

- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1st-3rd centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19th century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20th century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21st century



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- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
 - *Martin Luther*
 - *Conquests of Various Kinds*
 - *The New Martyrdom of the Church*
 - *Die Warhet Ist Untödllich*
 - *Calvinists and Mennonites*
 - *The Counter-Reformation*
 - *The Wars of Religion (part 2)*



The Reformation

- Religious warfare kicked into high gear
1560 The French Wars of Religion began...



The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Remember, trouble had been brewing for a while
 - Back in 1542, King Francis I had slaughtered thousands of Waldensians in the city of Mérindol and dozens of surrounding villages
 - Since the 1530s, a movement known as the Huguenots had been growing in France, and by 1560, there were over 1,000 Huguenot churches and King Henri II didn't like any of them
 - But in 1559, Henri was unexpectedly and mortally wounded in a jousting tournament
(which is in large part why they stopped having jousting tournaments in France)



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 - But in 1559, Henri was unexpectedly and mortally wounded in a jousting tournament, and he was succeeded by his weak son, teenaged Francis II
 - Since he was a sickly child, his consort—Mary, Queen of Scots—essentially ran the country
 - This gave the House of Guise an immense and sudden amount of power and influence...



The Reformation

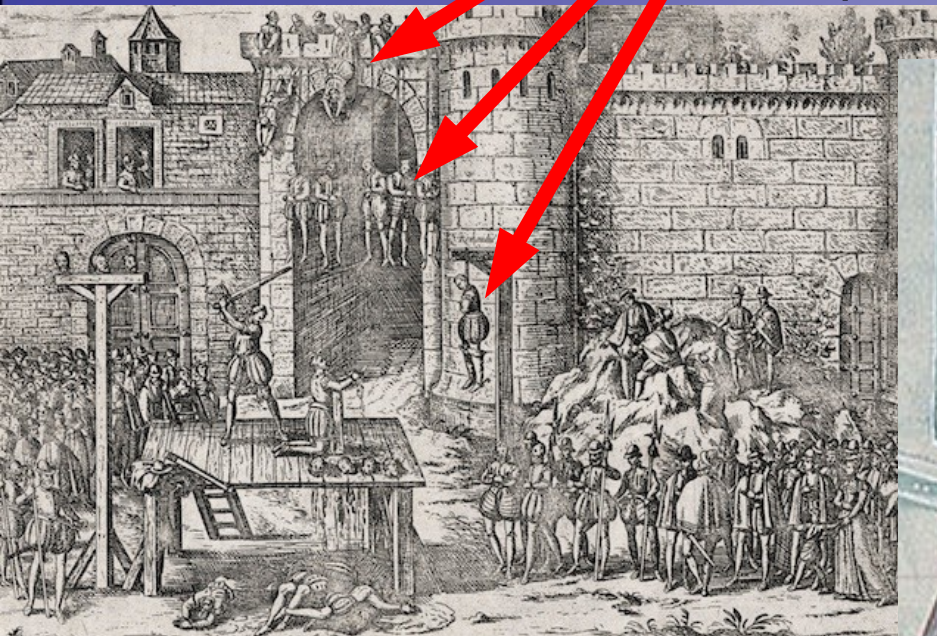
- Religious warfare kicked into high gear

1560 The French Wars of Religion began...

- In 1560, a faction of Huguenots led by Godefroy de la Renaudie plotted a conspiracy to kidnap the king, arrest the Guise family, and place a new, Calvinist king on the throne

- The conspiracy didn't even remotely work, and everyone involved was arrested and executed

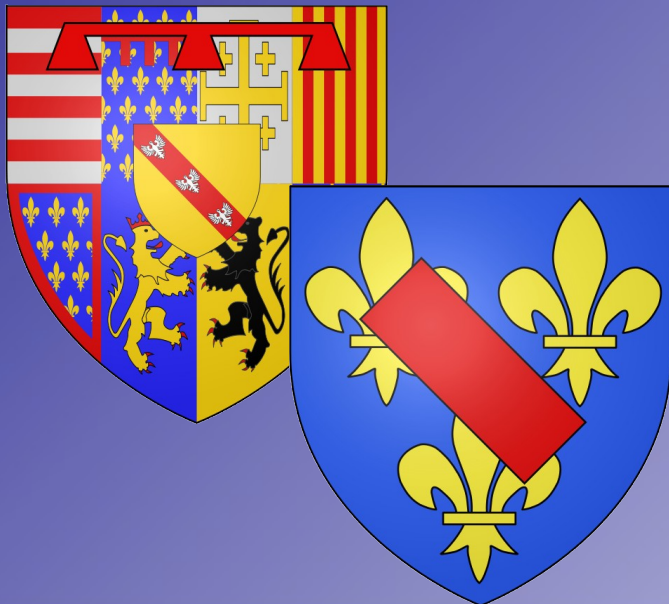
The bodies of la Renaudie's 1,500 followers were left on iron hooks outside Castle Amboise but la Renaudie himself was drawn and quartered for everyone to watch



The Reformation

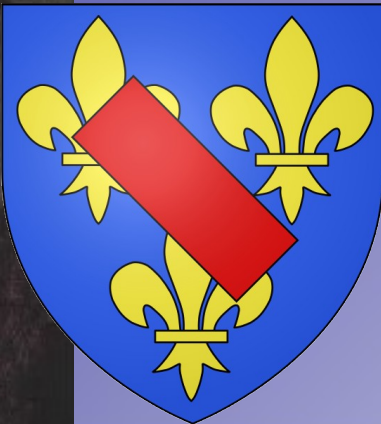
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 - The conspiracy didn't even remotely work, and everyone involved was arrested and executed
 - One of those arrested on suspicion was actually Prince Louis de Bourbon—who was actually in line for the throne
 - Louis was found innocent (or, at least, the House of Guise couldn't find any charges that would stick) and released
 - But this arrest shifted rivals Guise and Bourbon into bitter enemies



The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - It also didn't help that *part* of the reason why Louis had been suspected was that—on his way back from defending Guise holdings in Lorraine from invasion by Holy Roman Emperor Carlos V Louis had passed through Geneva, and been moved by a sermon by a Calvinist preacher
 - Whether or not Louis had converted to Calvinism by the time of his arrest is a matter of great debate but he was *certainly* a Huguenot *after* his arrest



The Reformation

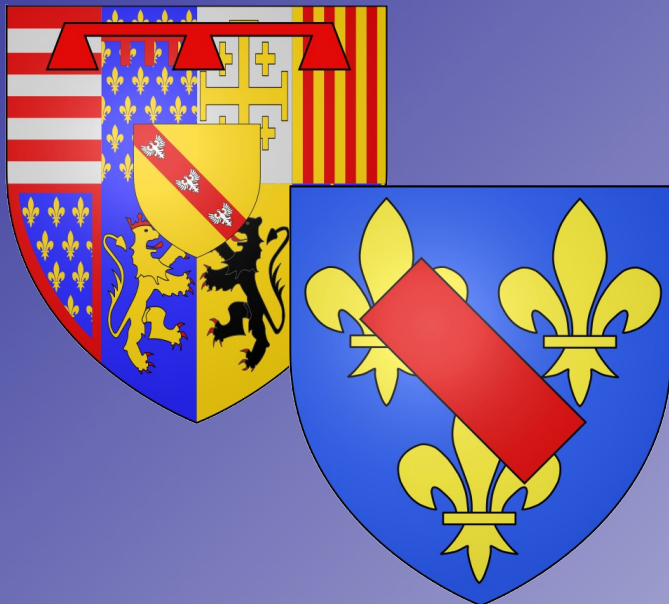
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 - In 1560, a faction of Huguenots led by Godefroy de la Renaudie plotted a conspiracy
 - That same year, a sickly Francis II died anyway and was succeeded by his little brother, Charles IX, whose mother, Caterina de Medici, acted as regent
 - So now the Houses of Medici, Guise, and Bourbon are all involved



The Reformation

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- In 1560, a faction of Huguenots led by Godefroy de la Renaudie plotted a conspiracy
- In 1562, François de Lorraine set fire to a Huguenot church in Vassy and ordered the execution of any survivors
 - At least 60 people were killed, and over 100 were seriously wounded
 - In response, Louis de Bourbon led another coup, intending to “liberate” Charles IX from his “corrupt” advisors and regent, and laid siege to Orléans
 - A civil war in France had officially begun...



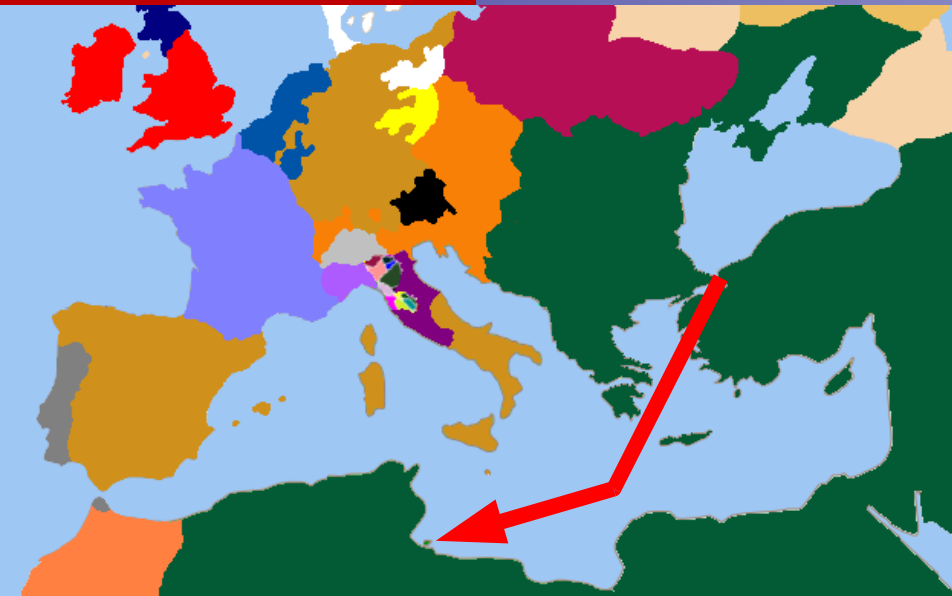
The Reformation

- Religious warfare kicked into high gear
 - 1560 The French Wars of Religion began...
 - The Ottomans fought the Battle of Djerba
 - King Philip II of Spain saw that the Ottomans were growing their empire exponentially
 - After the Turks took Spanish-held Tripoli in 1551, Philip petitioned Pope Paul IV to call for a crusade to re-take the region
 - The Pope agreed, and nearly 200 Spanish ships sailed for Tripoli in 1560
 - But freakishly bad weather and disease decimated the fleet, and they ended up making port on the island of Djerba instead



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 - What they didn't know was that a fleet of 86 ships was already underway to Djerba from Istanbul
 - The Turkish fleet, under Piyale Pasha, caught the Christians completely unawares, and destroyed the Spanish fleet (killing 18,000 men and taking another 5,000 men prisoner)



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 - The Spanish focused inward to rebuild their navy, and the Ottoman Turks became the undisputed masters of the Mediterranean Sea



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The Ottomans fought the Battle of Djerba

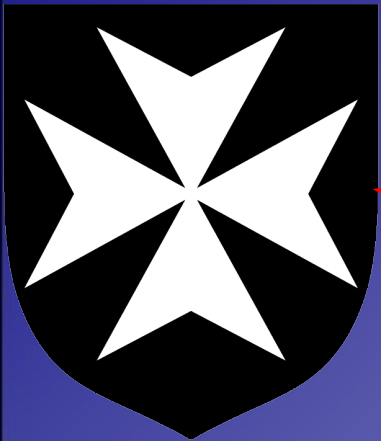
1565 **The Ottomans laid siege to Malta**

- 48,000 Turks attacked a garrison of 700 knights—the last of the Knights Hospitaller



The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - The Knights Hospitaller constituted the last of the Crusaders—the last remnants of the European forces who travelled East to fight the Muslims
 - But they'd evolved a bit since we last saw them
 - They'd pulled back to the island of Malta after having lost Tripoli to the Turks in 1551 (which is why they became known as the “Knights of Malta,” and their symbol became known as a “Maltese cross”)



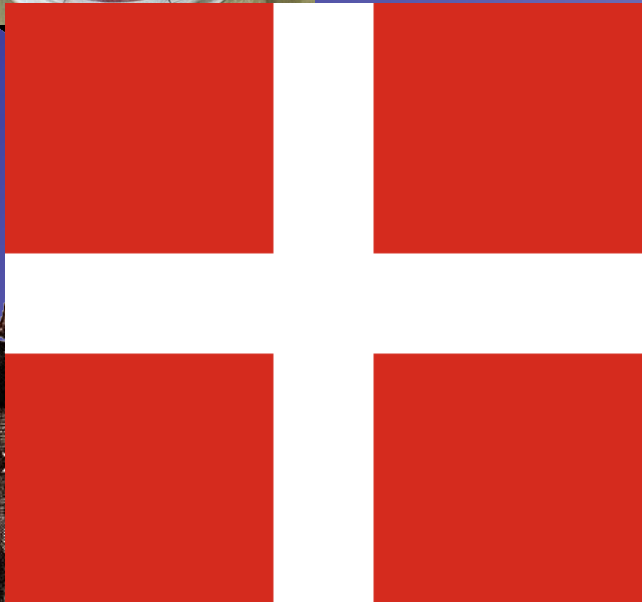
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 - They'd pulled back to the island of Malta after having lost Tripoli to the Turks in 1551 and they focused on consolidating their massive wealth in Europe
(gained by centuries of providing medical aid and shelter for *all* Christian knights, regardless of nationality)



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 - But they'd evolved a bit since we last saw them
 - They'd pulled back to the island of Malta
 - Even their famous emblem had evolved and simplified, until their battle standard eventually looked a lot like what what later became the official flag of Switzerland and their knights looked more like this

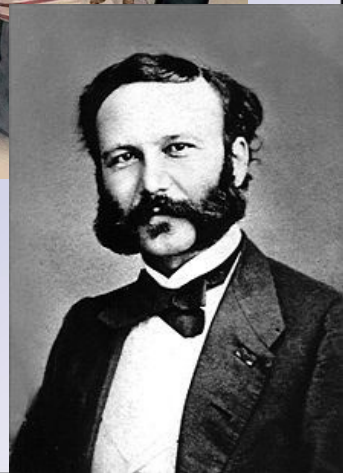
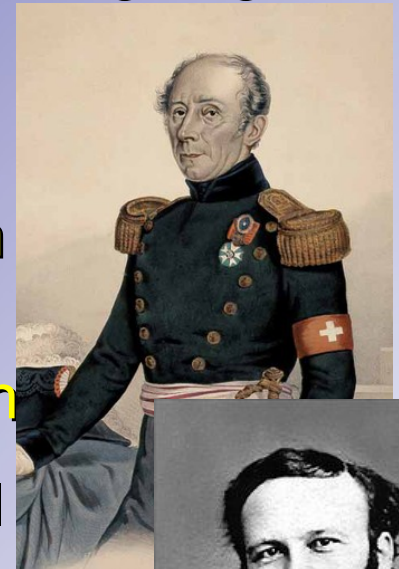
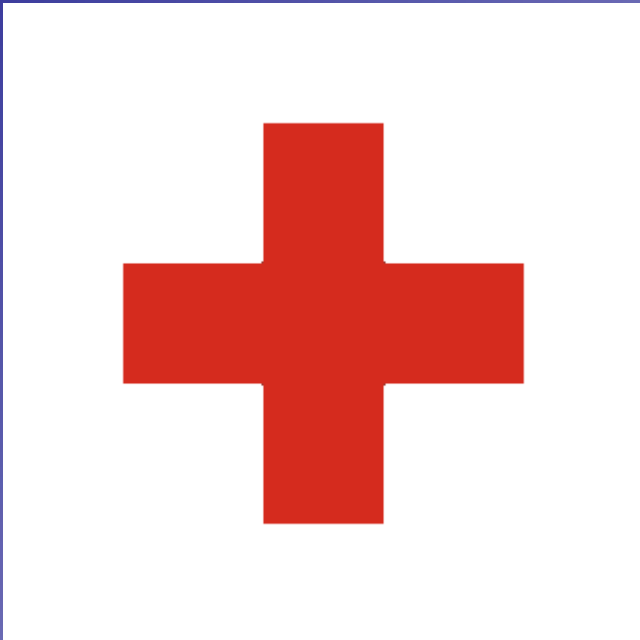


The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment²—
 - Actually, the argument has been made that the Knights Hospitaller—with their financial wealth and privilege across Europe, and their relative political neutrality—were essential in creating the Swiss banking system
 - So there's good reason why the Swiss flag might look like the Hospitaller flag

- In 1863, Swiss Army officer Gen. Guillaume-Henri Dufour and Swiss social activist Henri Dunant proposed setting up an international committee to tend to wounded soldiers, without preference to any given nationality

- They proposed a new, neutral symbol be adopted for it—
a red cross on a white field...
(which looks suspiciously Swiss, if you ask me)



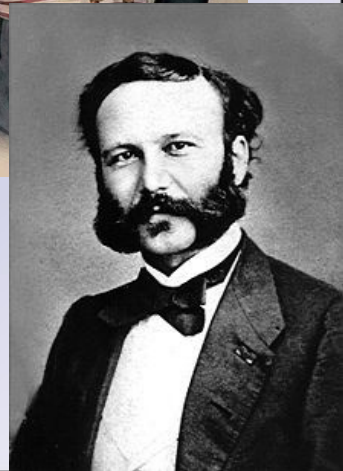
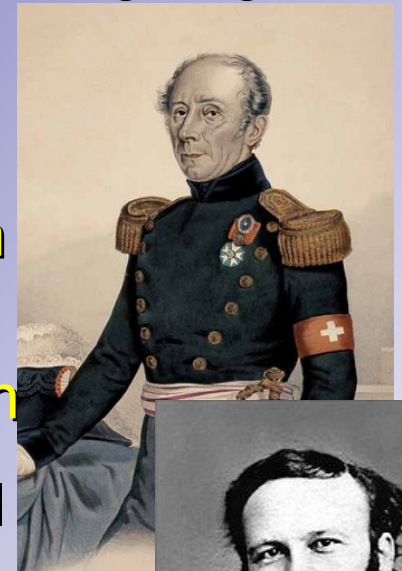
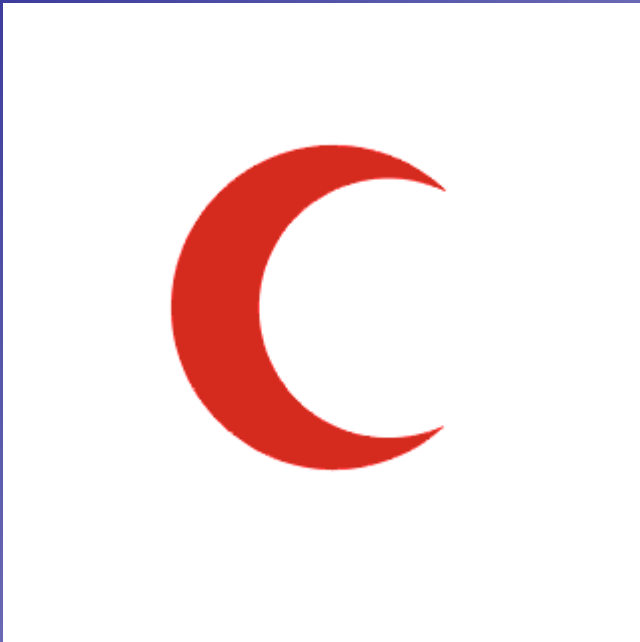
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- Given this connection to the Crusaders, *Muslim* countries instead use a *Red Crescent*



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1560

The French Wars of Religion began...

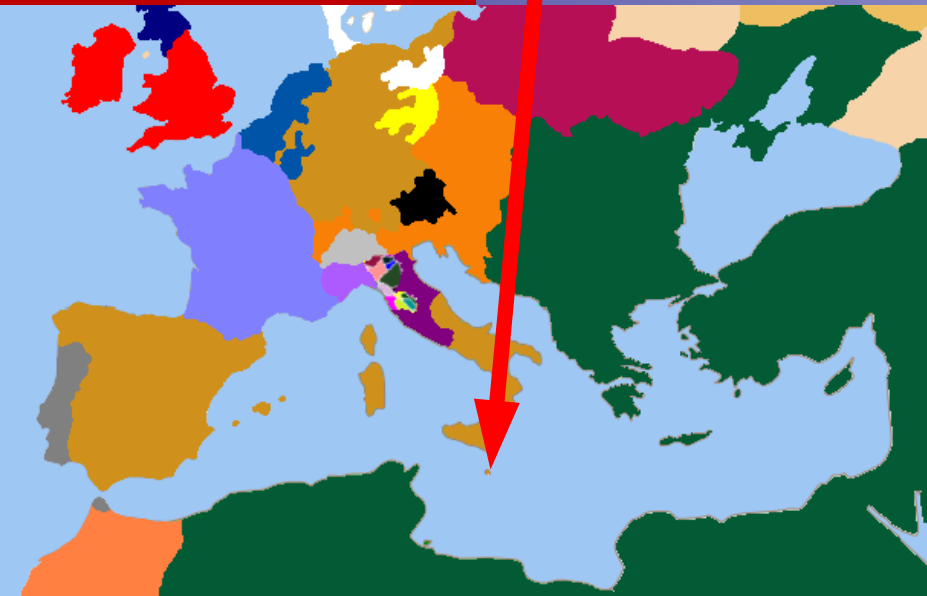
The Ottomans fought the Battle of Djerba

1565

The Ottomans laid siege to Malta

The Turks realized that the ports and fortresses of Malta were crucial to attacking Sicily and—in succession—Italy and the rest of Europe

- Even Queen Elizabeth was scared, warning, “If the Turks should prevail against the Isle of Malta, it is uncertain what further peril might follow to the rest of Christendom...”



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- With the Spanish fleet out of the picture, Piyale Pasha knew that taking Malta would be a relatively simple matter

...but he didn't count on Jean Parisot de Valette—the grandmaster of the order—leading the defense



The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - De Valette had been a naval hero, but he'd also been wounded in battle, thrown into the Turkish galleys, and had ultimately led the disastrous attempt to re-take Tripoli that had ended with the defeat at the Battle of Djerba back in 1560 (though, arguably, that wasn't his fault)
 - By the time the Turks attacked Malta, he was 71 years old (shades of septuagenarian Niklas of Salm, leading the defense of Vienna against the Turks back in 1529)



The Reformation

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The Ottomans fought the Battle of Djerba

1565 **The Ottomans laid siege to Malta**

- Piyale Pasha attacked Fort St. Elmo and its surrounding villages first, to gain a beach-head
 - The next morning, the Hospitaller defenders of Fort St. Angelo and Fort St. Michael saw, floating in with the tide, the decapitated bodies of 1,500 fellow Christians, nailed to crosses—Piyale Pasha's idea of psychological warfare—and behind them, the Muslim forces preparing to attack
 - In response, de Valette had all of the island's Muslim prisoners decapitated as well, and used his cannons to fire their heads back at the Turks



The Reformation

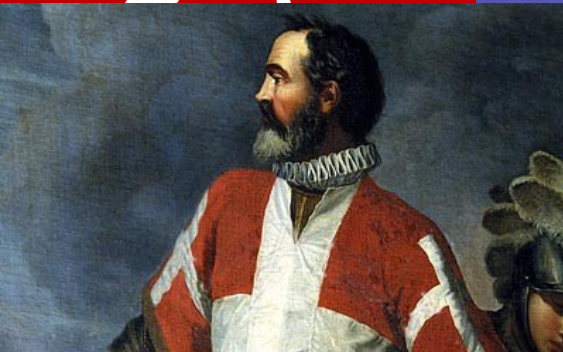
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- **You'd think that the remaining 42,000 Turks would make quick work of the 700 remaining knights**
 - But de Valette had built up Malta's defenses, and he was not only a master strategist, but also a brilliant innovator of technologies
 - The knights made use of grenades and fire lances, and flame hoops that they rolled into pools of pitch



The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - De Valette was also willing to take crucial risks
 - For instance, near the end of the siege, the Turks worked for weeks to build a huge siege tower to breach the walls of St. Michael
 - What they didn't realize was that while they had been building the tower, de Valette had been making his engineers dig through those same walls so that, once the tower was in place against the wall, the defenders broke through their own wall with a cannon and blew up the tower



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 - **Ultimately, the knights killed 30,000 Turks**
 - **With the siege dragging out for months, Turkish morale plummeted and Piyale Pasha was ultimately forced to withdraw to the Aegean...
...and Europe was saved...**



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The Reformation

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Though the French Wars of Religion and the fight against the Turks in the Mediterranean were the big news stories, other things were going on, too
 - In 1569, Metropolitan Philip II of Moscow was strangled by Malyuta Skuratov of Ivan the Terrible's *Oprichniki*
 - If you'll remember, Ivan used the *Oprichniki* to torture and remove his rivals—in the city of Novogorod alone, they killed nearly 15,000 people



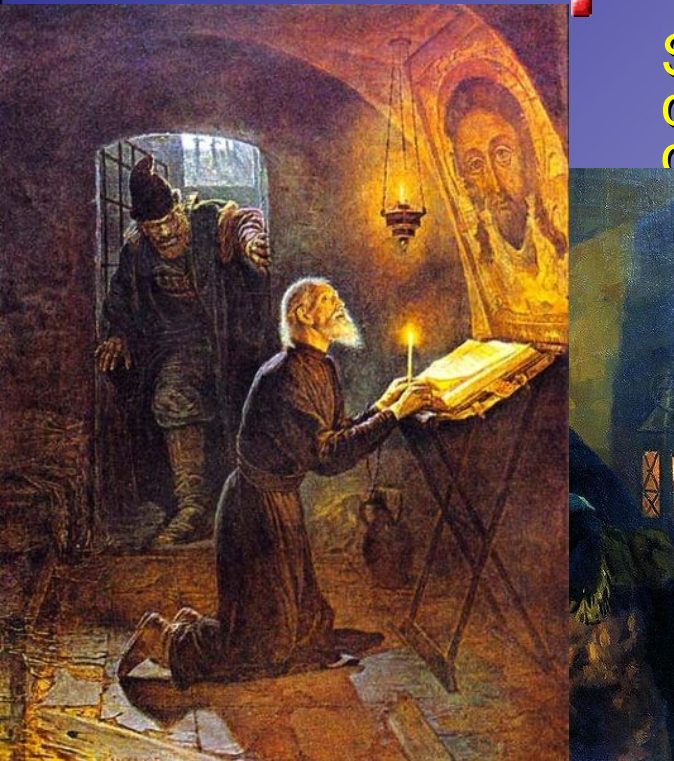
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 - Philip decried the slaughter, and rebuked Ivan publicly during Lent



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 - Ivan had Philip arrested on charges of sorcery and immorality, and forced the bishops to defrock him
 - Two days before Christmas, Skuratov gained entry to Philip's cell and strangled him—presumably on Ivan's orders



The Reformation

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 - Though the French Wars of Religion and the fight against the Turks in the Mediterranean were the big news stories, other things were going on, too
 - In 1569, Metropolitan Philip II of Moscow was strangled by Malyuta Skuratov
 - That same year, Dirk Willems was arrested for being an Anabaptist
 - Born and raised in Asperen, in the Netherlands, Willems had come to accept the teachings of the Anabaptists—and even hosted secret worship services in his home
 - When both the Calvinist and Catholic leaders in his town cracked down on Anabaptism, Willems was arrested and sent to a makeshift jail
 - Using a rope made from knotted cloths, he escaped from the jail and began to run across a frozen pond—with a guard in close pursuit behind him
 - Willems had lost weight, having been nearly starved in prison, but the guard was heavy, and fell through the ice...
...so Willems turned around and saved his pursuer's life



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 - When they got back to shore, the guard thanked him, and decided to let Willems go but by that time, the burgomeister had arrived with his troops, and demanded that all criminals must be delivered to justice
 - Willems was tortured over the next several months, but refused to recant his faith
 - He was burned at the stake that May...
...and yet, is still considered a folk hero by many of the locals



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 - In 1570, Pope Pius V issued the *Regnans in Excelsis*, encouraging English Catholics to rebel against quasi-Protestant Queen Elizabeth
 - Even if a Catholic had sworn an oath before God to obey the queen,
“We charge and command all and individually the nobles, subjects, peoples and any others, that they should not dare obey her orders, mandates, or laws. Those who shall act to the contrary, we shall include in her similar sentence of excommunication.”



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 - Even if a Catholic had sworn an oath before God to obey the queen...
 - Interestingly, this bull served to push Elizabeth far more dramatically away from Rome and Catholicism, and put so much pressure on English Catholics that the Jesuits begged the Pope to rescind the bull...
...which Pope Gregory XIII sorta did in 1580



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 - And in 1571, the Dutch Reformed Church was founded at the Synod of Emden, in Germany



The Reformation

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1560 The French Wars of Religion began...

The Ottomans fought the Battle of Djerba

1565 The Ottomans laid siege to Malta

1571 **The Ottomans fought the Battle of Lepanto**

- To try to end the Turkish threat once and for all, Pope Pius V called together all of the Catholic maritime kingdoms to fight the Turks
 - They formed the “Holy League,” and set sail with an armada to help defend Venetian-held Cyprus
 - Though they lost Cyprus, they re-engaged the Turks at Lepanto



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- 206 Catholic galleys met 206 Turkish galleys... but the Catholic ships' guns outnumbered the Turks nearly 3 to 1

- All told, the Christians lost 50 galleys, while the Turks lost almost all of theirs

- Though the Turks rebuilt their navy, they couldn't replace that many sailors, and by 1580, they'd let most of their new ships rot in the harbor of Istanbul

- The Ottoman Empire was never again a threat on the Mediterranean...



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 - 1572 **St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre in Paris**

