

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

A Short Course on Church History

The English Reformation

“As for you, you meant evil against me, *but* God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result ...”

Genesis 50:20 (NASB)

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

Romans 8:28 (NASB)

Why study the English Reformation?

I. **BACKGROUND** TO REFORMATION

a. _____, _____, and _____ movements for reform ...

b. Cambridge and the “White Horse Inn” (1520)

c. William Tyndale (1494-1536) and the English Bible (1525)

i. Translated from _____ and _____

ii. Superior to _____ version (120 years prior), primarily because the former was translated from the Latin _____ (a corrupt translation by Jerome in 400 AD ... The Council of Trent condemned every other translation of the Bible except for the Latin Vulgate:

Moreover, the same sacred and holy Synod,—considering that no small utility may accrue to the Church of God, if it be made known which out of all the Latin editions, now in circulation, of the sacred books, is to be held as authentic,—ordains and declares, that the said old and vulgate edition, which, by the lengthened usage of so many years, has been approved of in the Church, be, in public lectures, disputations, sermons and expositions, held as authentic; and that no one is to dare, or presume to reject it under any pretext whatever.

iii. 100 years later, the _____ would use 90% of Tyndale’s text.

d. Corrupt and neglectful _____ and _____

II. Henry VIII (1509-1547)

a. An unhappy marriage without an heir ...

b. An annulment ...

If a man takes his brother's wife, it is impurity (Lev. 20:21)

c. Bishop Thomas Cranmer, and Henry's break with Rome ...

d. The 1534 Act of Supremacy: an independent, national church ...

... but still effectively Catholic in practice

III. Edward VI: The Protestant boy-king (r. 1547-1553)

a. His "protectors" helped implement a shift towards Protestantism ...

Some changes:

1) Images removed from churches

2) Priests allowed to _____

3) Many laws establishing Catholic doctrines repealed ...

b. Cranmer and the *Book of Common Prayer*

Some important changes:

1) "Altar" now called the "_____"

2) "Priests" now referred to as "_____"

3) In Communion, believers were told to "feed on Christ in thy heart with faith by thanksgiving"

4) Priests allowed to _____

c. Cranmer and the *42 Articles*

IV. Queen Mary (1553-1558)

- a. Edward dies, and Protestants are horrified ...

- b. Mary restores Catholicism to England ...

Some changes:

- 1) Parliament repeals all of Edward's religious laws
- 2) Book of Common Prayer banished
- 3) "Feast Days of the Saints" restored ...
- 4) Married priests ordered to ...

→ Some contemporary applications:

¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me. – Philippians 4:11-13

- c. "Bloody Mary" and Protestant Martyrs
 - i. _____ executed at her direction
 - ii. Nicholas Ridley

 - iii. Hugh Latimer

 - iv. Bishop Thomas Cranmer
 - 1) Recantation

 - 2) Repentance

V. **Elizabeth** (1558-1603), and the Elizabethan Settlement

a. “Bloody Mary” dies, and Elizabeth takes the throne

b. Elizabeth’s Protestantism

i. Political motives

ii. Legal Actions

Some changes:

1) Act of Supremacy renewed

2) Pope repudiated

3) Act of Uniformity and the restoration of the _____

iii. Anglicanism, national unity, and “via media”

“Protestant in _____, Catholic in _____”

iv. Catholics: persecuted, then tolerated

VII. Conclusion

Next week: The Puritans