10.3

Protestant Reformation

Causes of the Reformation

During the Middle Ages Christian unity under the Catholic Church would cause reform from within

Popes, during the time, would engage in corruption for power & wealth





To pay for large projects they would increase fees for marriage, baptisms, & indulgences- a payment to pardon a soul from their sins during life

John Wycliffe would argue the bible should be translated into English

John Hus rejected church beliefs like indulgences, was burnt at the stake

Martin Luther

German monk & professor of theology, saw corruption in the church & sought change

He would write a list of 95 Theses, arguments, & nailed them on the church door.

Luther would be accused & summoned to diet (assembly) to give up his teachings...

...He refused & was labeled an outlaw & enemy of the church

Support for Luther

Luther's writings spread through Europe & followers called themselves Protestants, those who "protest" the pope

Many saw Luther's view as a way to take down corruption in the church, Princes saw a way to gain power



The Peace of Augsburg allowed Princes to choose which religion his land supported, Lutheranism or Catholic

John Calvin

Swedish reformer who published the Institutes of the Christian Religion to provide advice on how to run a Protestant church

Predestination- Idea that God decided long ago who would gain salvation to heaven

Theocracy- Government by church leaders

Calvinists stressed harsh discipline, hard work, honesty, & morality