

Conclusion of the Reformation

Sources

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Carter Lindberg, *The European Reformations*, 2nd ed. (2010)
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I. Final Wars of Religion

A. Thirty Years' War (1618-48)

1. Nature
 - a. Last and greatest of the wars of religion
 - b. Convulsed the Holy Roman Empire
 - c. Last attempt of Catholic empire to roll back the Reformation
2. Phases
 - a. Bohemian: starting point—Protestants crushed
 - b. Danish: Protestants defeated
 - c. Swedish king Gustavus Adolphus rescues Protestant cause
 - d. French bring victory to Protestant cause
3. Significance
 - a. Empire is devastated
 - b. Protestant Sweden becomes a significant power
 - c. France fights for the Protestants—religion fades as a rationale for war
4. Results
 - a. Independence of the Netherlands & Switzerland recognized
 - b. Protestantism safeguarded
 - 1) Peace of Augsburg confirmed
 - 2) Reformed faith recognized along w/ Catholicism & Lutheranism

B. English Civil War (1642-51)

1. Nature
 - a. Parliament (including Puritans) vs. King
 - b. Traditional rights of Parliament vs. Stuarts' divine right of kings
2. Outcome
 - a. Parliamentary victory
 - b. Execution of Charles I
 - c. Writing of Westminster Confession (González, 233-35)
 - d. Rule of Cromwell
 - 1) Temporary Puritan ascendance
 - 2) Attempt at religious tolerance
3. Aftermath
 - a. Restoration of Stuarts (Charles II) in 1660
 - b. Repression of strong Protestants
 - c. Glorious Revolution (1688): William and Mary
 - 1) Preserved Protestant succession
 - 2) Paved way for Act of Toleration

II. Conditions Before and After

A. Political

1. Before
 - a. One empire—the Holy Roman Empire
 - b. Balance of nobility and monarchy
 - c. Example: Charles V
2. After
 - a. Nation-states—France as dominant
 - b. Different paths
 - 1) Monarchical Absolutism
 - 2) Parliamentary, constitutional monarchy (British Isles)
 - c. Example: Louis XIV

B. Intellectual

1. Before
 - a. Authority of the church and ancients
 - b. Tendency toward *acceptance*
2. After
 - a. Authority of Scripture/reason
 - b. Tendency toward *examination*

C. Social

1. Before
 - a. Vocation: service to the church (priests, monks, nuns)
 - b. Family
 - 1) Celibacy the holy ideal (e.g., the Virgin Mary)
 - 2) Marriage/family the lesser route for procreation & controlling lust
2. After
 - a. Vocation: all Christians following God's calling
 - b. Family
 - 1) Marriage a spiritual relationship
 - 2) Family circle a "school of faith"
 - 3) New role: Pastor's wife (e.g., Katie Luther)

D. Religious

1. Before: One papal "empire"
2. Course of Controversy
 - a. Breaking papal monopoly
 - b. Renaissance tools for Reformation change
 - c. Linking nationalism w/ religion
3. After: Many church "nations"
 - a. Different nations, different creeds
 - b. A "leaner, meaner" Roman Catholic Church
 - c. Growth of dissent: Anabaptist, Puritan, etc.
 - d. Growth of religious liberty

Summary: From *unity* to *diversity*