

When Jesus Came to America

A Look at the Evangelical and Oxford Movements in the Church

Part 1

The Swinging Pendulum

- From the late middle ages, through the reformation, the age of enlightenment, and into the modern period, the pendulum has been swinging between "traditional" religion and "reformed" religion.
 - Roman Catholic vs Reformed
 - Anglican vs Puritan
 - Evangelical vs Traditional
 - Mainstream vs fundamentalism

The Pendulum is Driven by Social and Cultural Forces

- Medieval Roman Church challenged by Plato and Aristotle, Hebrew and Greek thought.
- Power of Roman Church challenged by abuses against the poor
 - "Why does the pope, whose wealth today is greater than the wealth of the richest Crassus, build the basilica of St. Peter with the money of poor believers rather than with his own money?" [Martin Luther, Thesis 86]

The Pendulum is Driven by Social and Cultural Forces - 1

- Authority of Roman Church challenged theologically over issues of salvation.
 - The first and chief article is this: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification (Romans 3:24-25). He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), and God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6). All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works and merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (Romans 3:23-25). →

The Pendulum is Driven by Social and Cultural Forces - 2

- This is necessary to believe. This cannot be otherwise acquired or grasped by any work, law or merit. Therefore, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us ... Nothing of this article can be yielded or surrendered, even though heaven and earth and everything else falls (Mark 13:31)." [Martin Luther. Part 2, Article 1, Smalcald Articles]

Watch the Pendulum

- Throughout this presentation you will see a pendulum on certain slides. The pendulum will move from side to side as it's inertia is affected by societal, cultural, or denominational forces.

Medievalism

- Medieval Period
 - ca 800 – 1200 C.E.
 - Dominated by Papal authority and the Holy Roman Empire.




The Challenge of the Renaissance

- Renaissance
 - Cultural movement that spanned roughly the 14th to the 17th century, beginning in Italy in the late Middle Ages and later spreading to the rest of Europe.
 - Influenced by the migration of Greek scholars and texts to Italy following the Fall of Constantinople at the hands of the Ottoman Turks.
 - Fostered by the de Medici family in Tuscany (remember Michelangelo)
 - Martin Luther born in 1493 during Renaissance.

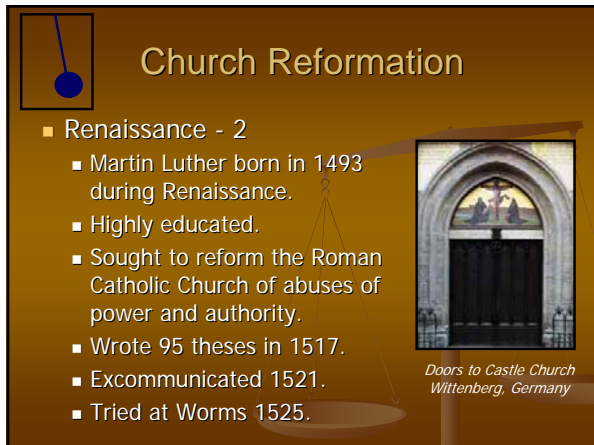


Church Reformation

- Renaissance - 2
 - Martin Luther born in 1493 during Renaissance.
 - Highly educated.
 - Sought to reform the Roman Catholic Church of abuses of power and authority.
 - Wrote 95 theses in 1517.
 - Excommunicated 1521.
 - Tried at Worms 1525.

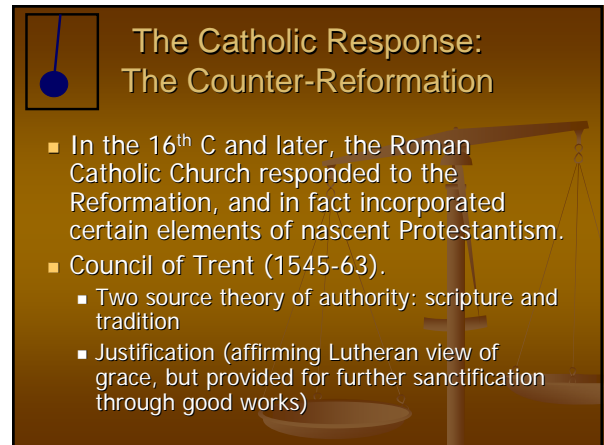


*Doors to Castle Church
Wittenberg, Germany*



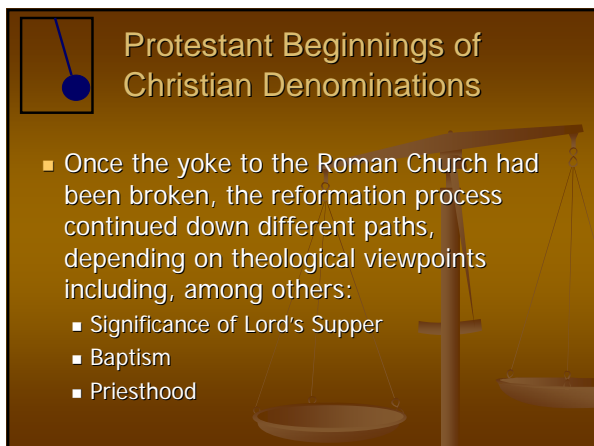
The Catholic Response: The Counter-Reformation

- In the 16th C and later, the Roman Catholic Church responded to the Reformation, and in fact incorporated certain elements of nascent Protestantism.
- Council of Trent (1545-63).
 - Two source theory of authority: scripture and tradition
 - Justification (affirming Lutheran view of grace, but provided for further sanctification through good works)



Protestant Beginnings of Christian Denominations

- Once the yoke to the Roman Church had been broken, the reformation process continued down different paths, depending on theological viewpoints including, among others:
 - Significance of Lord's Supper
 - Baptism
 - Priesthood

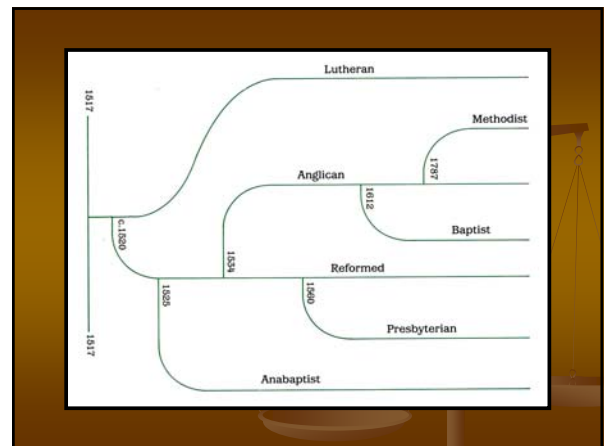


80. Four Views on the Lord's Supper

	Transubstantiation	Consubstantiation	Reformed	Memorial
Groups (Denominations)	Roman Catholic	Lutheran	Presbyterian, other Reformed Churches	Baptist, Mennonite
"Founder" of position	Thomas Aquinas	Martin Luther	John Calvin	Ulrich Zwingli
Presence of Christ	Through consecration of the bread and the wine, the bread changes into Christ's body and wine changes into Christ's blood. Christ is truly and substantially present in the elements themselves.	The elements do not change into the presence of Christ, but he is actually present in, with, and under the elements.	Christ is not literally present in the elements. He is present spiritually in the partaking of the elements.	Christ is not present in the elements either literally or spiritually.
Significance of Lord's Supper	Spiritual food for the soul; it strengthens participants and frees from venial sins. Christ is sacrificed at each Mass to atone for the sins of the partaker.	Recipient has the forgiveness of his sins and the confirmation of his faith. Participation must include faith or the sacrament conveys no benefit.	A commemoration of Christ's death that bestows grace to real partakers in the love of Christ. The supper gives spiritual nourishment and brings one closer to the presence of Christ.	A commemoration of the death of Christ. The partaker is reminded of the benefits of redemption and salvation brought about in Christ's death.

80. Four Views on the Lord's Supper (continued)

	Transubstantiation	Consubstantiation	Reformed	Memorial
Major Documents	Decrees of Council of Trent	Augsburg Confession Smaller Catechism	Westminster Confession Second Helvetic Confession	Schleitheim Confession Dordrecht Confession
Proper Administrator	Priest	Ordained Minister	Pastor Church Leaders	Pastor Church Leaders
Participants	Bread to church members. Cup is withheld from the laity	Believers only	Believers only	Believers only (Some groups practice closed communion, where participant must be a member of denomination. Others practice closed communion, where one must be member of local church assembly).
Interpretation of "This is my Body"	Literal Interpretation	Literal Interpretation	Nonliteral Interpretation	Nonliteral Interpretation
Points of Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord's Supper was established by Jesus himself (Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20). 2. Jesus commanded the repetition of the Lord's Supper (Matt. 26:29). 3. The Lord's Supper proclaims the death of Jesus Christ (I Cor. 11:26). 4. The Lord's Supper imparts some type of spiritual benefit to the participant. 			



Next Time

The Enlightenment
The Rise of Evangelism
The Oxford Response to Evangelism