



Chapter 14

Protestant Reformation



Northern Renaissance

Northern Renaissance is the renaissance of Germany, France, Netherlands, & England

The Italian Renaissance was different in character

- It started about 50 years earlier
- More focused on literature & art and a return to classical Greece
- Began because of a desire to get the products discovered in the east during the Crusades
- Centered in the cities

Northern Renaissance focused on

- Religion
- Education from religious standpoint
- Centered more in rural areas

Both renaissance movements ushered in a new age of stress on the individual instead of on "the group" as in manor age

Grievances against clergy

- Forced to tithe to church yet had to pay extra for every service (marriage, baptism, confession)
- Popes were immoral - not married yet fathered children, murdered, schemed

Erasmus of Rotterdam (Netherlands)

- Desiderius Erasmus - Discovered an original Greek Manuscript saved from Constantinople
- He published the original Greek text for people to read directly and had his own Latin translation in a column next to the Greek
- "Erasmus laid the egg which Luther hatched."

Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther in Germany

- After three close calls with death, Luther decides to become an Augustinian monk
- He becomes a Professor at University of Wittenberg, invited by Duke Frederick the Wise
- He has a spiritual crisis as he reads a Bible for the first time and understands "justification by faith".
- Confronting Tetzel who is shamelessly selling Indulgences
- 95 Theses
- Debate at Leipzig with Johann Eck
- Friendship with Philipp Melanchthon
- Papal Bull of new Holy Roman Emperor Charles V
- Diet of Worms
- Hiding in the Wartburg Castle & the German Bible
- Peasant's War
- Augsburg Confession



More Reformers

Ulrich Zwingli in Zurich, Switzerland

John Calvin in Geneva, Switzerland

John Knox in Scotland

Anabaptists & Menno Simons