

Children of the Way: A CHURCH 2,000 YEARS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Reformation Crosses the English Channel

Perspective, Kings and Queens, Reformation Groups

Major Britain Events before Reformation



- Christianity brought by Roman troops
 - Angles and Saxons conquer England. Destroy all Christianity.
 - Irish monk, Columba, brings Christianity to Scotland
 - Pope Gregory sends 40 monks to re-Christianize England, 100 years
 - English Bible

1700 AD

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■ Christianity
■ Islamic Rule



Kings and Queens in 16th Century (1 of 2)

Henry VIII	Changed C of E because wanted annulment and remarriage: Act of Supremacy made Henry (not the pope) church head Saw Luther as a heretic, most saw themselves still Catholic Some objected so Henry passed Law of Treason and Heresy Executed many monks, a bishop, and Sir Thomas More Changed church name to Church of England (Anglican) Changed doctrine, worship, and practices; confiscated land
Edward VI	Continued to move reformation forward: All church members could take communion English services; removed images; priests allowed to marry Communion with bread and wine Protestant creed and Book of Common Prayer

Kings and Queens in 16th Century (2 of 2)

Mary I	Strong Catholic Repealed Henry & Edward's laws; restored pope as C of E head Had 300 protestants killed during her 5-year reign
Elizabeth I	Passed Supremacy Act so pope never ruled C of E again Devoted to subjects, reign of peace & prosperity Firmly established reformation, Catholics were minority
James I	King of Scotland & Lord of Ireland so united all 3 countries Raised Church of Scotland; tolerant of Catholics Tried to unite Scotch and English churches Commissioned a new group translation of the Bible

Reformation Groups During or After Elizabeth's Reign

- Puritans
- Congregationists
- Baptists
- Arminianism
- Quakers
- Methodists

Puritans

Came from the Calvinist/Reformed tradition

Left during “Bloody Mary” reign; returned Elizabeth’s reign

Wanted to purify the beliefs and practices of C of E:

- Elimination of clerical dress

- Ministers chosen from members

- Parish elders rule their churches; no bishops

Both America and Great Britain owe a great debt to the Puritans for the foundations they laid that gave us the framework for our freedoms today

Separatists / Congregationalists

- Separatists

- Calvinists who advocated separation from rather than reform of the Church of England
- Preferred simple worship (Anglican worship tended to be ornate)
- Most became Congregationalists

- Congregationalists

- Each congregation independently and autonomously runs its own affairs

- Later became known as pilgrims and established

- Plymouth Colony in America
- Massachusetts Bay Colony in America

Baptists

- John Smyth moved his Congregational Church to Holland
- Influenced by Anabaptists and Mennonites – adopted adult immersion baptism
- Influenced by Arminians – emphasized universal extent of Christ's atonement
- John Bunyan became one of the Baptists' most popular traveling preachers; wrote *Pilgrim's Progress* in prison

Arminianism

- Jacobus Arminius
 - Well-educated and eloquent preacher, Reformed Church of Holland
 - Agreed with Calvin on Trinity, deity of Christ, salvation by faith
 - Believed (in contrast to Calvin) that predestination as God pre-knowing, not pre-determining, who would be saved

Caused great controversy in Europe - teachings disavowed in Holland but very popular in Reformed Church of England and later in America (even today)

Arminianism via Remonstrance	Calvinism via the Synod of Dort
On their own, humans can do nothing good.	Human beings are by nature spiritually dead. No one naturally desires to seek Christ.
Before the foundation of the world, God chose to save everyone who would freely choose to trust Christ.	If someone trust Christ, it is because God chose to regenerate that person. God's choice is unconditional; it isn't based on any human decision.
Jesus died for everyone, but his death only redeems believers.	Christ's death atoned only for those who would trust in him. Jesus laid down his life only for his followers, not for all humanity.
People can choose to reject God's attempts to save them.	When God regenerates someone, that person will neither resist nor reject God's grace.
Scripture doesn't clearly state whether Christians can forfeit their salvation.	Every authentic believer will persevere in faith and in good works until the end.



Quakers

- Founded by George Fox
- Believed couldn't understand Bible without illumination by the Holy Spirit, "Inner Light"
- No church buildings, pulpits, instrumental music
- Wait for Spirit to move them, then share the message received

Pacifists, opposed slavery, believe in the dignity and value that God sees in people, known for relief work in times of war and natural disaster

Methodists

- Founded by brothers John and Charles Wesley
 - Charles wrote thousands of hymns
 - John was a strong teacher and organizer
 - Preached to coal miners in open fields
 - Converts expected to join “societies” and start converting others
 - Trained “lay preachers”
 - Grew so large, had an annual conference

Wesleys were the most influential reformers in England.
Methodist Church was particularly influential in Western Frontier.