

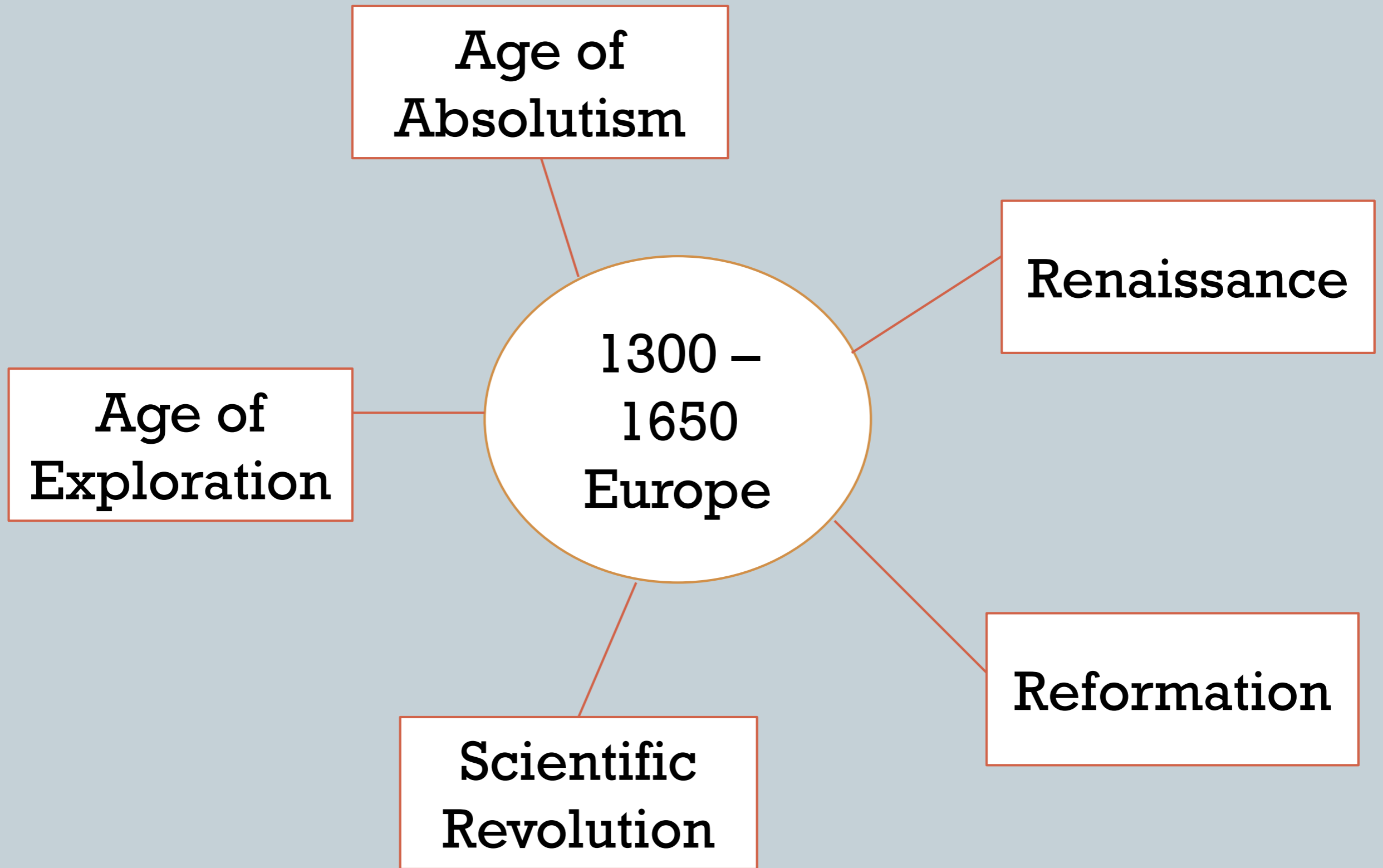
# PROTESTANT REFORMATION

## Agenda:

1. Intro to the Protestant Reformation Notes
2. Protestant Reformations Intro Textbook Worksheet

# TODAY'S GOALS

- Analyze what factors led to the Protestant Reformation
- Analyze the effects of the Reformation had on Europe



# “Religion in America” Report

- 28% of American adults left the faith in which they were raised (when including switches between Protestant churches, the number raises to 44%)
- 16.1% of adults say they are currently unaffiliated with a particular religion, double the number who say they were unaffiliated as children.
- 25% of those 18-29 say they are not currently affiliated with any church

# Question...

- What do you think is a major reason people might leave a religion in today's world?

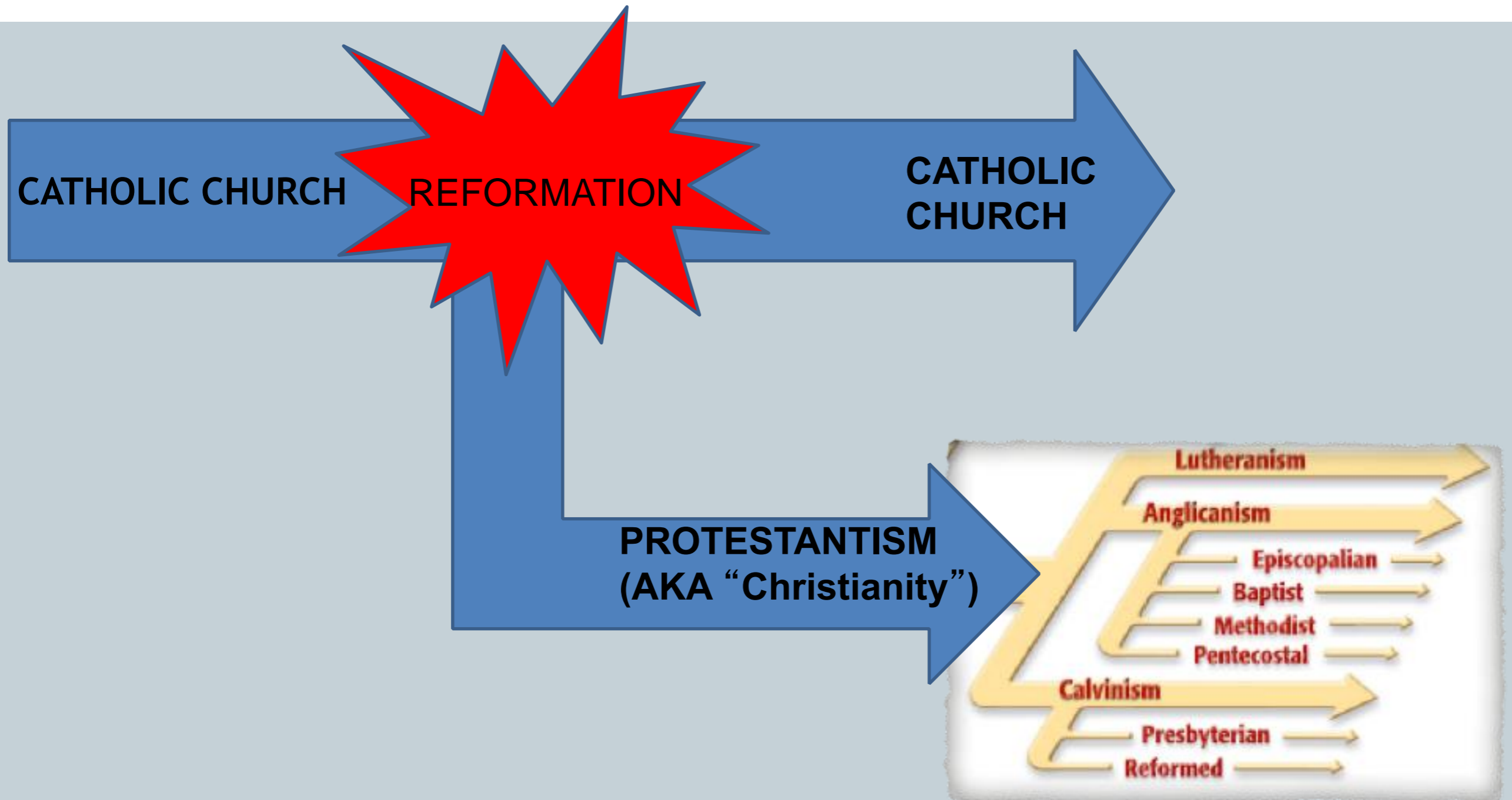
# Why Might People Have Left the Church in the 1500s?

- Renaissance thought focuses on secular world
- People begin to question church authority
- Ideas spread because of increased printing materials
- Problems in the church
  - ★ Corruption, greed, indulgences
  - ★ Indulgences-Selling of forgiveness
    - “As soon the coin in coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs” -Telezer

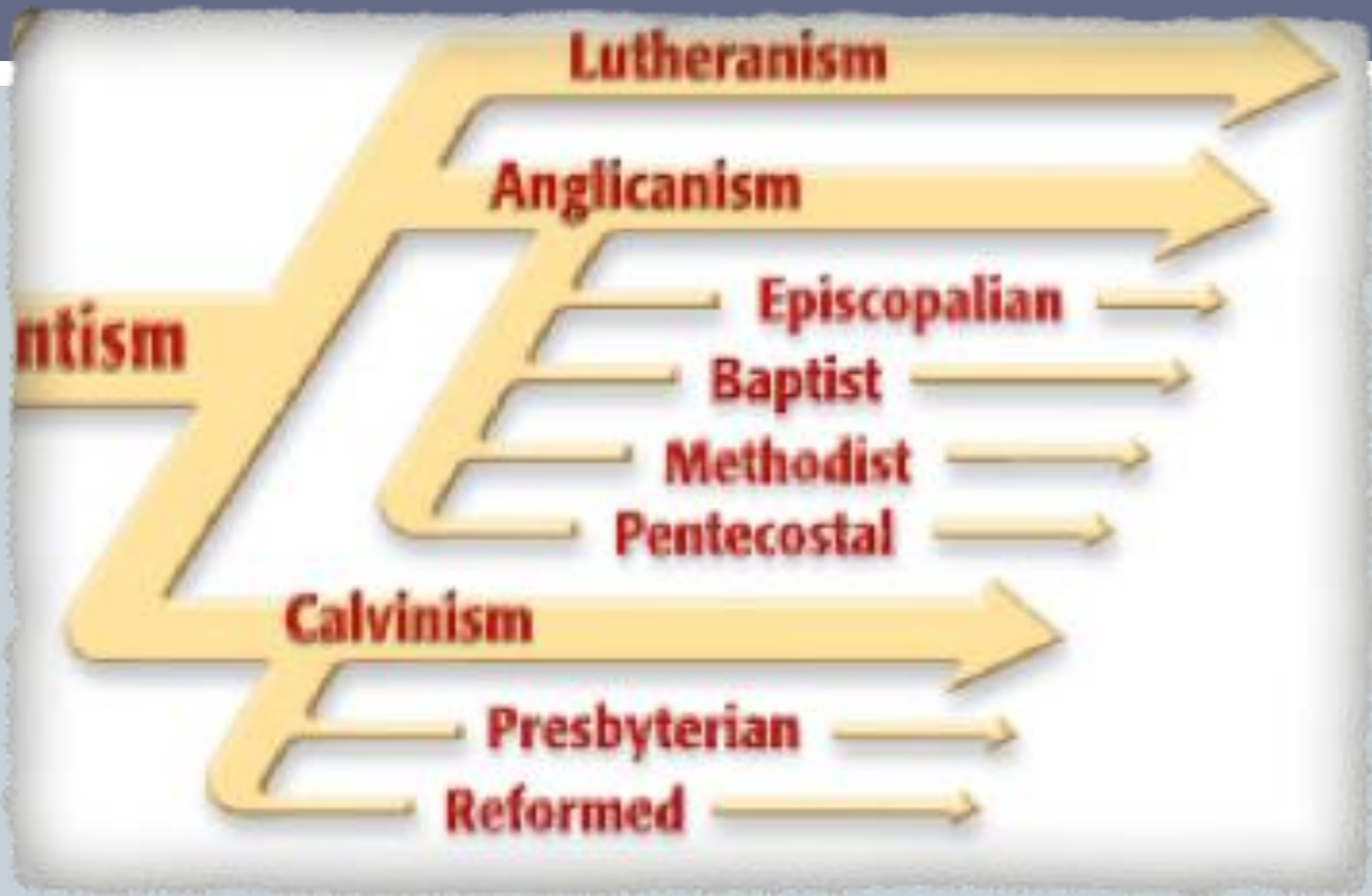
# WHAT WAS THE REFORMATION?

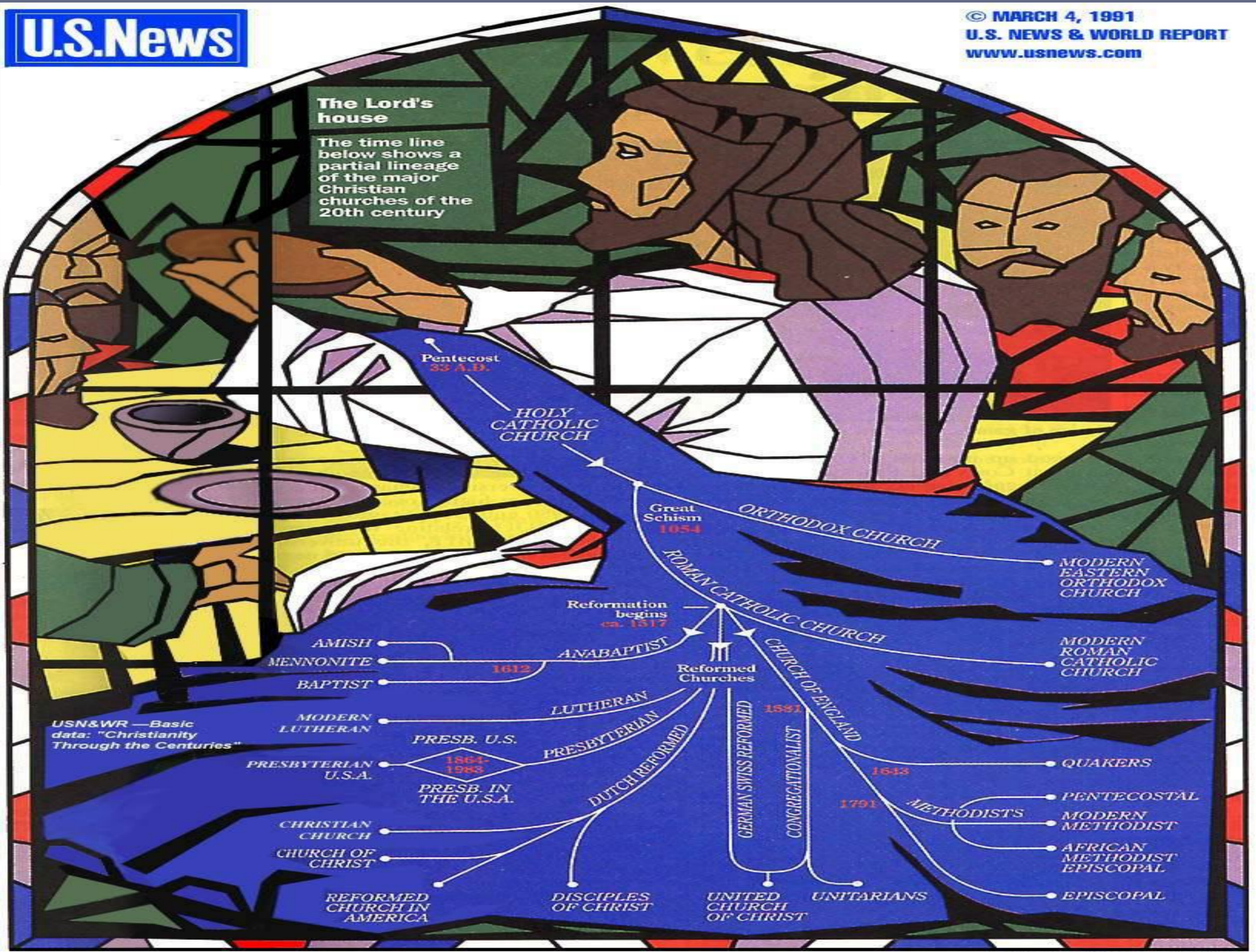
- 1450-1565 (mid 15th - mid 16th centuries)
- Major split in Christianity
- Christian Church breaks into two parts

# THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DIVIDES IN TWO:







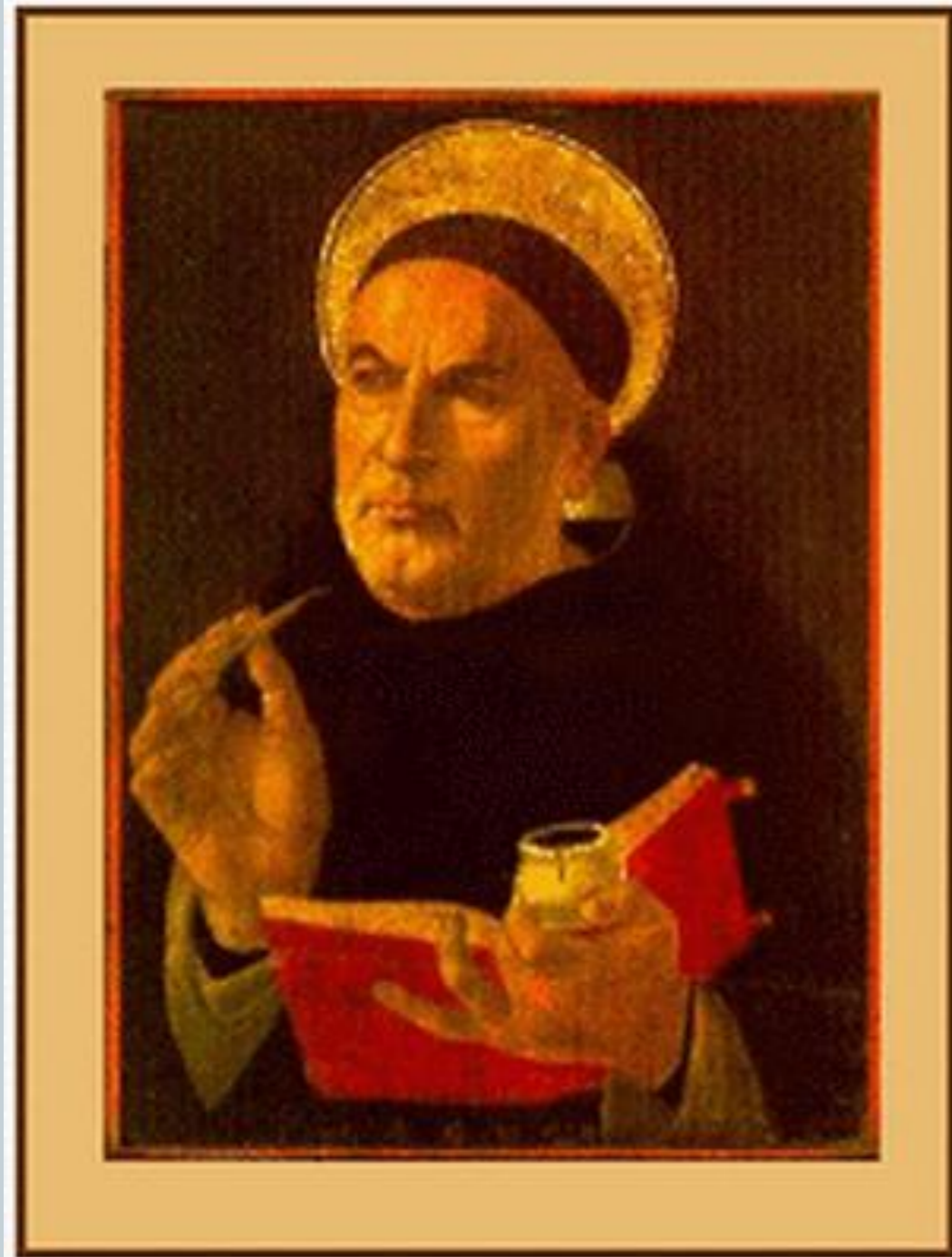


USN&WR — Basic data: "Christianity Through the Centuries"

# PROBLEMS WITH THE CHURCH

1. GREED
2. INDULGENCES
3. CORRUPTION

# 1. GREED



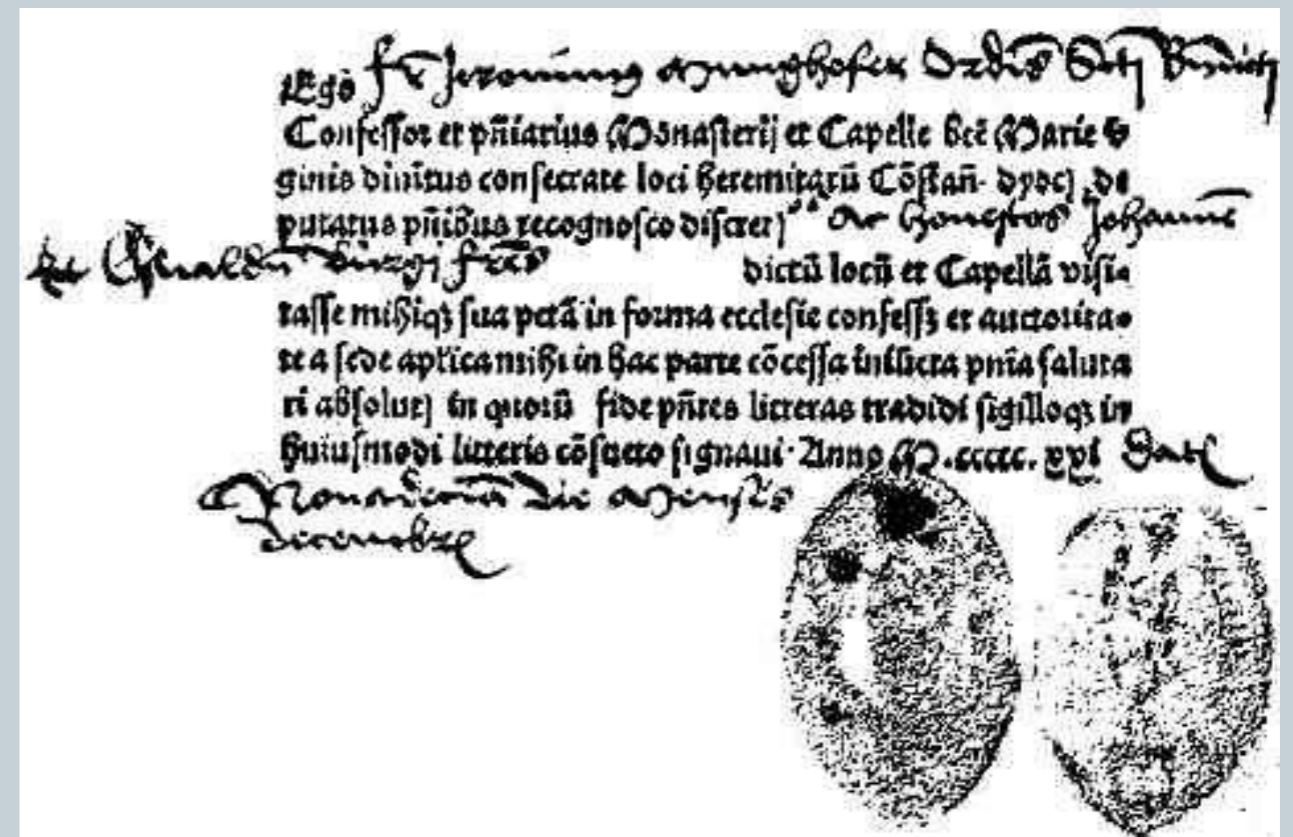
- Church accused of greediness
- Church was making lots of money from tithes (taxes)
- Church was gathering more land from wars
- Acting more like a power-hungry country than a sacred institution

# THINK-PAIR-SHARE

- Should a person be able to buy forgiveness? Why or why not?
- Should the amount of money a person has allow them to get away with more?

## 2. INDULGENCES

- Sale of indulgences
- Indulgences were pardons for sins.
- If people purchased indulgences, then they did not need to repent.
- Gave the impression that people could buy their way into heaven.



### 3. CORRUPTION



- Saw corruption in church officials and the Pope.
- Priests were frequently married, drank too much, and gambled
- Pope Alexander VI admitted that he fathered several children

# **WHY DID THE REFORMATION HAPPEN WHEN IT DID?**

**What was happening in  
Europe during this time  
period?**

- 1. Cultural reasons**
- 2. Technological reasons**
- 3. Spiritual reasons**



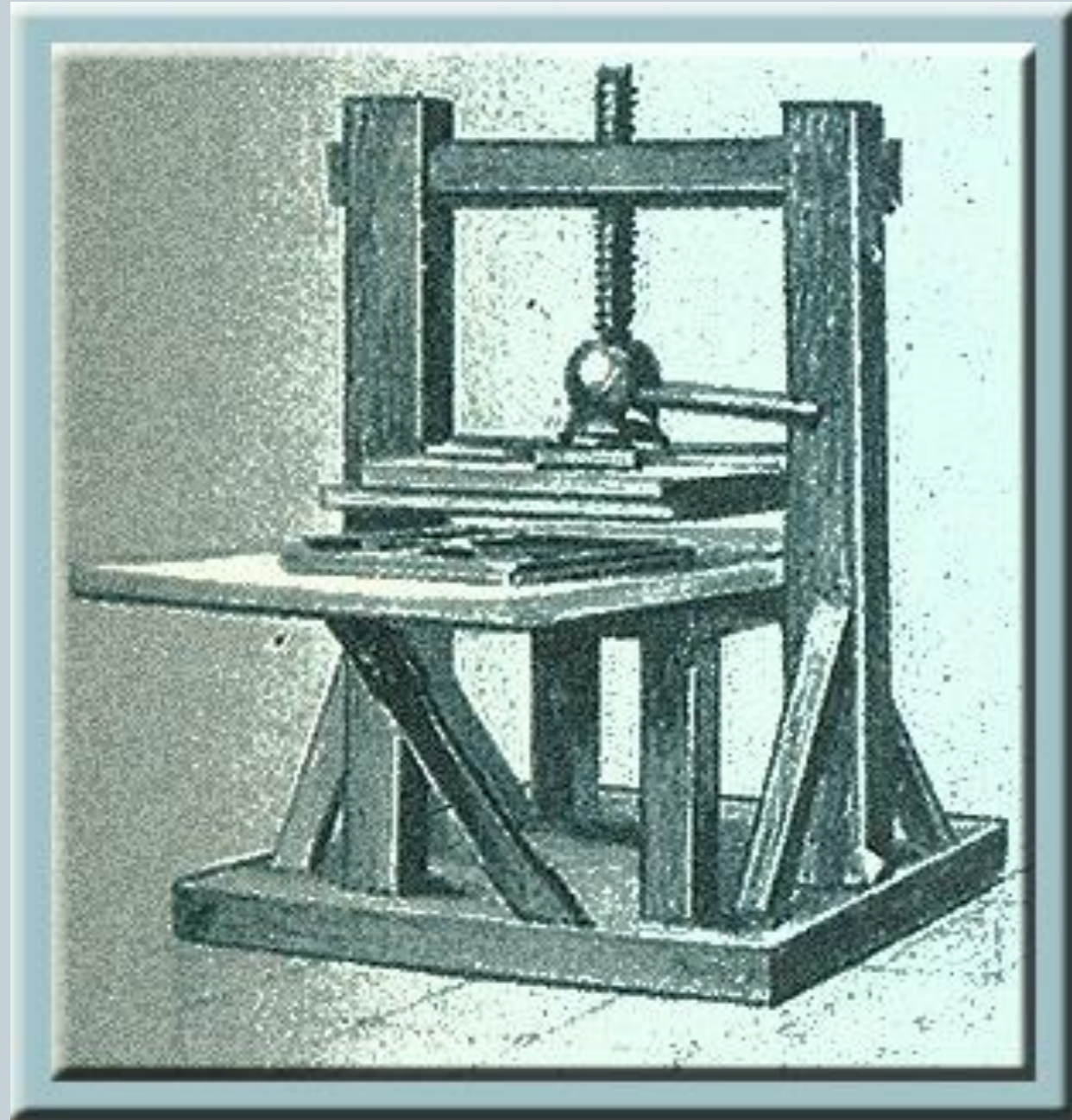
# 1. CULTURAL



- Better educated, urban population
- Kings were growing impatient with the power of the Church

- Society was more **humanistic** and **secular** due to the Renaissance

## 2. TECHNOLOGICAL



- 1450: Gutenberg invents printing press
- Helped spread ideas before Catholics could squash them
- Intensified criticism of the Church

# 3. SPIRITUAL



- Growing interest in mysticism and religious zeal among European masses
- Call for a return to the simplicity of the early Church

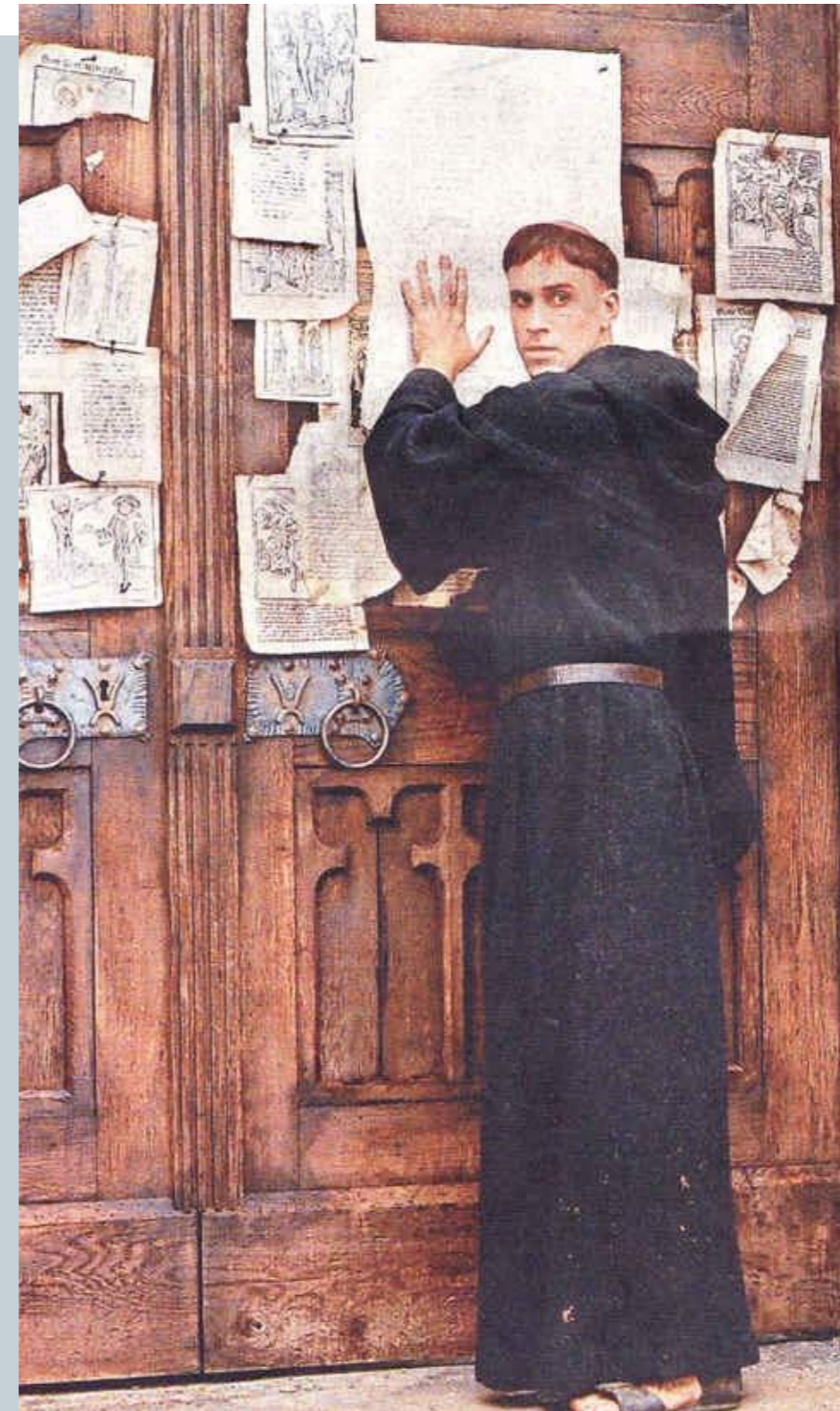
# MARTIN LUTHER



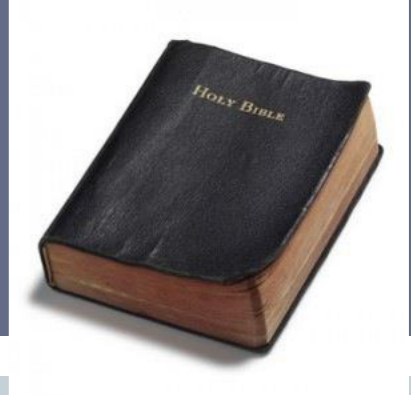
- A German monk
- Became upset with the sale of **indulgences** and other corruptions of the Church

# LUTHER'S 95 THESES

- Luther writes 95 statements about things that were wrong with the Church
- Posts the document on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517
- Statements directly attack the Pope, excommunication, and indulgences.



# LUTHER'S KEY IDEAS



- Pope should not have the **exclusive right** to interpret the Bible
- The Pope could make mistakes and was **not infallible**.
- Everyone should be able to **interpret the Bible** for themselves.
- All people of faith are **equal** (people don't need a priest to interpret the Bible for them)
- People could **win salvation only by faith in God** (not "good works" or with money and indulgences)

# LUTHER'S IDEAS SPREAD



- 95 Theses were copied down and printed
- Ideas spread like wildfire across Germany and parts of Europe

# CATHOLIC CHURCH'S RESPONSE



- Angered Pope Leo X
- Initially not seen as a threat



# POPE THREATENS LUTHER

- Pope issues an **edict** (statement) in 1520 excommunicating Luther unless he **recanted** 41 of his 95 Theses.
- Luther burned the edict publicly
- Luther was excommunicated



# CHURCH ACTIONS

- Church bans the 95 Theses
- Orders Luther to come speak at the **Diet of Worms**



# NO...Diet of Worms?



# DIET OF WORMS

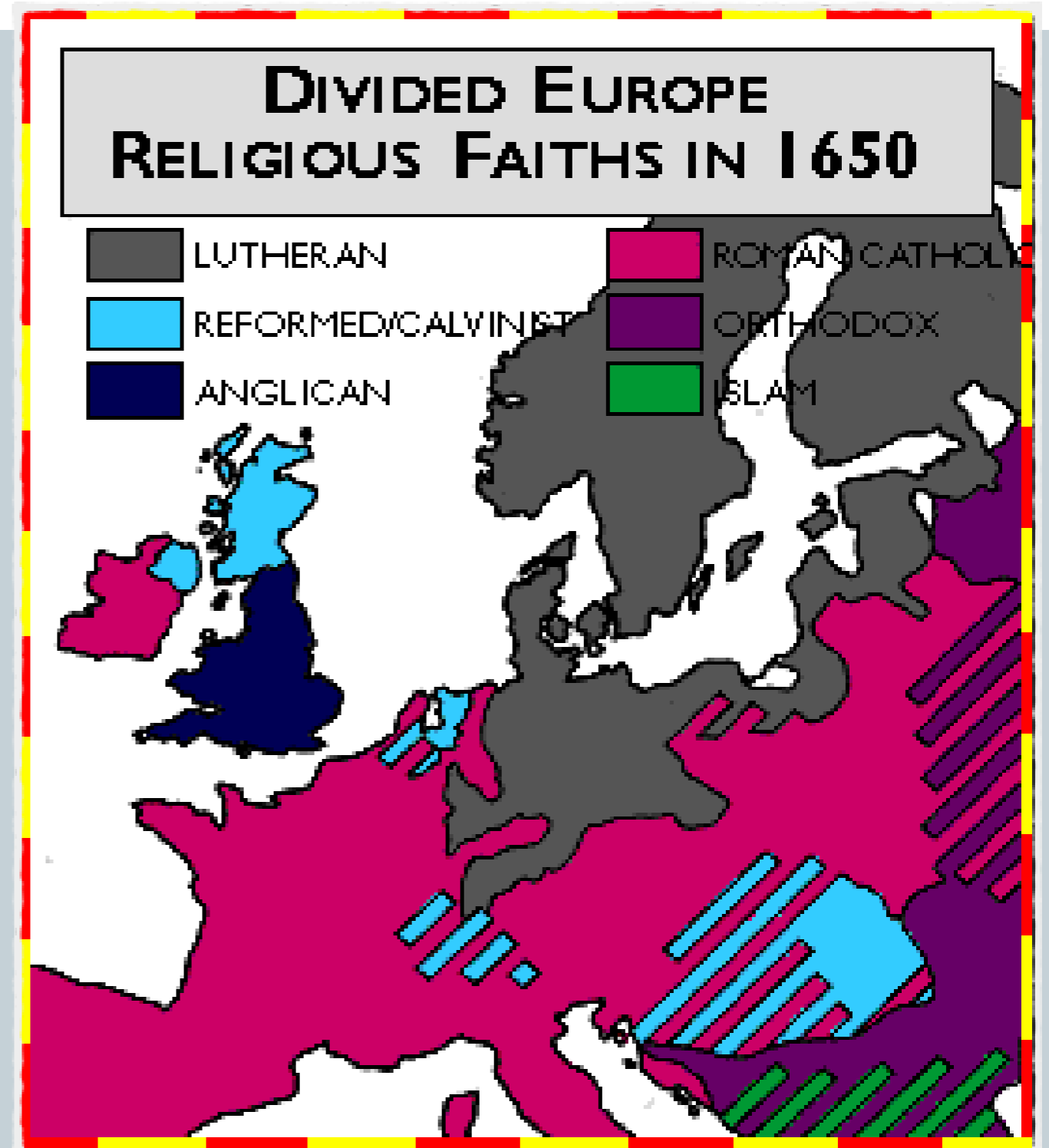
- Martin Luther is forced to come speak about the 95 Theses
- Declare whether the books were his and if he still stood by them
- Luther declared:

*“I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against my conscience. May God help me.”*



# LUTHER AND PROTESTANTISM

- Luther's ideas spread rapidly
- Ideas lead to creation of a new branch of Christianity: Protestantism



# RESULTS & IMPACT

- Growing doubt & religious skepticism
- Religious warfare
- Political stability valued over religious truth
- Witch Craze swept through Europe in the 1600s
  - Between 1561-1670, 3000 people in Germany, 9000 people in Switzerland, and 1000 people in England were executed as witches

