RS Notes: The Spread of Protestantism

**Zwinglian Reformation and Calvinism**

* With the Peace of Augsburg, Christian unity was lost.
* Ulrich Zwingli began a new Christian group in Switzerland
	+ Relics and images were forbidden
	+ New service of scripture reading , prayer, and sermons
* Zwingli died in 1531, so **John Calvin** assumed leadership.
	+ **Predestination**: God had determined in advance who would be saved (the elect) and who would be damned (the reprobate).
	+ Created a church gov’t
		- Consistory- enforced moral discipline
		- Court oversaw moral life- dancing and gambling were crimes
	+ Missionaries were sent throughout Europe.
		- By mid 16th century- Calvinism became most important form of Protestantism.

**Reformation in England**

* King **Henry VIII** wanted a divorce from his wife, Catherine of Aragon
	+ He thought she couldn’t give him a male heir.
* The Pope wouldn’t annul the marriage.
	+ Henry asked the Archbishop of Canterbury to declare it null and void.
* Henry married Anne Boleyn (Elizabeth I’s mom)
* Act of Supremacy of 1534- King is head of new church
	+ Controlled religious doctrines, clerical appointments, and discipline.
* Henry dissolved the monasteries and sold their land to the wealthy.
	+ Gave him more $ and supporters.
* Edward VI (Henry’s son) was very young and sickly
	+ Church officials moved the Church of England into a Protestant direction
		- Clergy could marry
		- New service created
* Mary I (“Bloody Mary”) was a devout Catholic
	+ She turned England back to Catholic
	+ Burned 300 Protestants as heretics
	+ England became more Protestant because of her… and her sister ☺

**The Anabaptists and Role of Women**

* Anabaptists rejected the involvement of state in church affairs
	+ Gov’t has no political authority over real Christians
	+ Would not take office or bear arms
* Any member of the community could be a minister
	+ All Christians were considered to be priests
* Baptized adults
* **Their ideas were considered dangerous and radical**
	+ Protestants and Catholics agreed on the need to persecute them.
* Protestants did little to change women’s roles
	+ Role was to bear children
* Family was placed at the center of human life
	+ No special holiness from celibacy

**The Catholic Reformation**

* **Three things led to reform of Catholicism**
	+ **The Jesuits**
		- Ignatius of Loyola founded the Jesuits (aka Society of Jesus)
		- They used education to spread their message
		- Restored Catholicism to parts of Germany and eastern Europe
	+ **Reform of the Papacy**
		- Pope Paul III appointed a Reform Commission in 1537
		- It blamed corrupt policies of the popes for the church’s ills
	+ **Council of Trent**
		- A group of cardinals, archbishops, abbots, and theologians
		- Final decrees:
			* Both faith and good works were needed for salvation
			* 7 sacraments and clerical celibacy upheld
			* Belief in purgatory and use of indulgences were strengthened
			* Indulgences could no longer be sold.
* After these reforms, Catholicism had a renewed spirit of confidence and unified under the pope.