

◀ Based on an earlier portrait, Charles Wagstaff's nineteenth-century engraving depicts Martin Luther, whose studies and determination drove him to defy the power of the Church and the Holy Roman Empire in order to assert his religious principles.

1517–1600

# The Reformation in Europe

## THE STORY MATTERS ...

The Protestant Reformation is the name given to the religious reform movement that divided western Christianity into Catholic and Protestant groups. Martin Luther's bold attempts to reform the Church led to new forms of Christianity. Although Luther did not see himself as a rebel, the spread of Protestantism ignited decades of bloody religious conflict and ended a thousand years of domination by the Catholic Church.

### LESSON 1

The Protestant Reformation

### LESSON 2

The Spread of Protestantism

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What conditions can encourage the desire for reform?
- How can reform influence society and beliefs?



# Place & Time: Europe 1517–1600

In the sixteenth century, Europe was undergoing rapid change as economies expanded, cities grew, and a recent invention, the printing press, helped spread new ideas. New ideas appeared in the movement known as the Reformation, which began in Germany with Martin Luther's protest against what he saw as abuses within the Catholic Church. The Reformation movement he started soon spread throughout Europe. In Switzerland, John Calvin created a center of Reformation thought in Geneva. King Henry VIII made himself head of the Protestant Church of England.

## Step Into the Place

Read the quotes and look at the information presented on the map.

**DBQ** Analyzing Historical Documents How was the struggle between Protestantism and the Catholic Church a war of ideas?



**PRIMARY SOURCE**

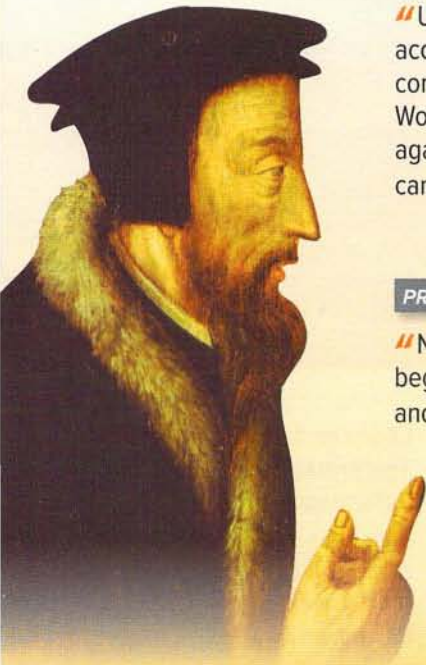
“Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason—I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other—my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.”

—Martin Luther, before the Diet of Worms in 1521

**PRIMARY SOURCE**

“Now, in order that true religion may shine on us, we ought to hold that it must take its beginning from heavenly doctrine and that no one can get even the slightest taste of right and sound doctrine, unless he be a pupil of Scripture.”

—John Calvin, from *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

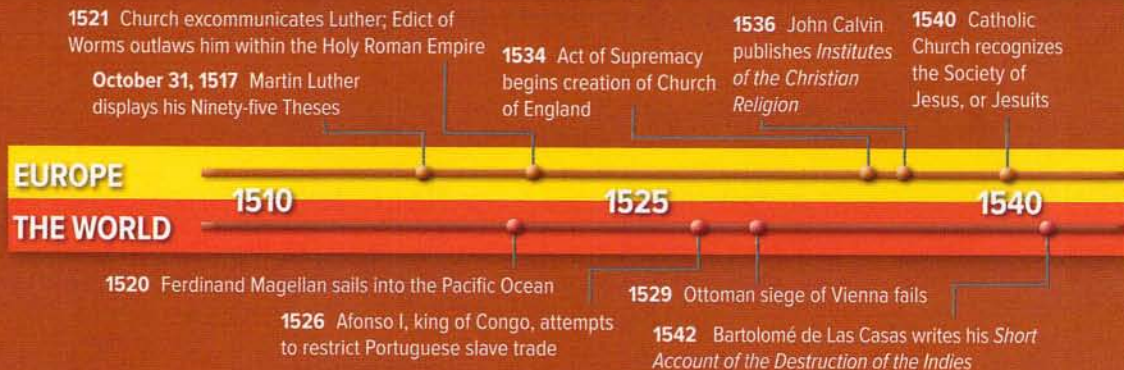


(16) The Art Archive/SuperStock; (17) Image Asset Management/Agf Fotostock America

## Step Into the Time

### DETERMINING CAUSE AND EFFECT

Organize the European events on the time line into two groups: (1) actions by Protestants and (2) reactions by the Catholic Church.







## Christian Europe 1600



1545 Council of Trent begins; concludes in 1563

1554 Catholic ruler Mary I begins persecution of Protestants in England

1555 Peace of Augsburg divides Christianity in Germany

1562 Teresa of Ávila founds reformed Carmelite Convent

1555

1570

1585

1600

1549 Jesuit missionary Francis Xavier arrives in Japan

1566 Ottoman Sultan Süleyman I dies

1570 Mogul emperor Akbar begins new capital at Fatehpur Sikri; abandoned in 1586

1587 "Lost Colony" of Roanoke founded in Virginia

1588 'Abbās becomes Shah of Persian Safavid Dynasty