

Reformation to Revival 500 Years of God's Glory Chapter 4 & 5 Reformation in England & Scotland

Chapter 4: Bible Translation "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profit able for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in **righteousness**" (2Tim 3:16).

About 1445: Johann Gutenberg invented the printing press; the first book to be printed was a Latin language Bible. In 1476: William Caxton brought the printing press to Westminster, London, England. 1525-26: William Tyndale, a spiritual leader of the Reformers, was the first person to print the New Testament in English. The New Testaments were burned as soon as the Bishop could confiscate them because contradictions between what God's Word said, and what the priests taught, would open the public's eyes and the truth would set them free from the grip of fear that the Roman Catholic Church held. Salvation is by God's grace through faith, not works or donations! The need for priests would vanish through the priesthood of all believers. The veneration of church-canonized Saints including the virgin Mary would be questioned. 6 Oct 1536: Tyndale was strangled & burned at the stake. His last words, "Lord! Open the King of England's eyes." In 1530's: Martin Luther completed the German translation of the Bible.

Reformation in England 1533: 1509-1547 Reign of Henry VIII: he, whose only heir was Princess Mary wanted a divorce to marry Anne Boleyn. He obtained that divorce through the authority of the state and 1529 Reformation Parliament and married Anne. That Parliament was effectively destroying the medieval church in England in a process of the dissolution of the monasteries and taking the wealth of the Roman Catholic Church for the needs of the Crown; such as building a navy. The medieval Roman Catholic Church was out of touch with the vast changes taking place in economics, politics & society. Lollards were preaching against the Catholic bishops across England. Martin Luther in Germany preached against the corruption of the Church of Rome and practice of indulgences. 1534: The Act of Supremacy declared King Henry VIII the Supreme Head of the Church of England. The Pope was designated merely as the Bishop of Rome. Thomas Cromwell, who carried out policies of Henry was considered to be the architect of the English Reformation. 1538: He issued injunctions stating that every parish church should have an English Bible (answer to William Tyndale's dying prayer). Jan 1547: Death of King Henry VIII.

1547-1553 King Edward reigns. 1553-1558: Reign of Queen Mary Tudor (Bloody Mary): took throne with the plan to restore England to Catholicism. The nation rejoiced at her death. 1558-1693 The daughter of King Henry VIII by Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth became queen. She held the support of the common people to cut ties with Rome.

Chapter 5: Reformation in Scotland 1555: In April 1536: John Knox was ordained a Catholic priest.

28 March 1543, Knox wrote a document '...witnessed in faith through Christ to whom be glory' indicating Knox probably was converted to salvation by the grace of God through faith in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and had become a Protestant. Protestants fought and preached against the Papal system of pardons, pilgrimages, fasts and indulgences as a means of salvation according to Scripture. The Catholics believed that the church was supreme and the ultimate authority on all matters, and the church traditions were just as important and equal to the Scriptures. Protestants insisted on the Word of God alone as the exclusive foundation of doctrine & tradition.

October 1555: John Knox returned to Edinburgh in Scotland from refuge in Geneva and married Majority (Elizabeth) Bowles, and had 2 sons. He was invited back to Geneva. Before he left, he drew up a manifesto for Scot Protestants to follow. May 1559: John Knox returned to Scotland as the spokesperson of the Reformation.

In 1560 or 1561 his wife Majority died and his two young children were raised by his mother-in-law in Edinburgh.

15 Aug 1560: Scotland officially became a Protestant state with the Mass outlawed and Pope's jurisdiction denied.

20 Dec 1560: The General Assembly of the new church met in Edinburgh. Mary, 18-year old daughter of Mary of Guise, arrived from France, and was crowned Queen Mary of Scots. She passed a law stating that religion was to continue the same without fear of death. 1564: John Knox married Margaret Stewart and they had three daughters.

29 July 1565: Queen Mary married Catholic Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley who assumed the role of King. She gave birth to a son, Prince James, who was baptized Catholic. In 1567: King Henry was assassinated. Queen Mary was kidnapped by the married Earl Bothwell who divorced and married her in a Protestant ceremony.

In 1567: Scottish Parliament endorsed all that had been done in 1561. All future kings were to give an oath at their coronation, to govern by the written Word of God. All officers of state were to be Protestants. John Knox died in 1572 after suffering a stroke. When Queen Elizabeth died, James VI from the house of Stuart in Scotland who had issued the 1611 King James Bible, was declared King of both England and Scotland (1603-1625), under the new Union Flag bearing the cross of St. Andrew and St. George with the eventual signing of the treaty in 1707.

By the grace of God the Reformation brought the Word of God back to the people that they might be saved and live in right relationship with Him as instructed in His Word. God can speak & bring reformation in our dark times. "But judgment shall return unto **righteousness**: and all the upright in heart shall follow it" (Psalm 94:15).