I. The Great Transformation

A. From feudal society to modern society

B. 1500s-1920s

C. Importance

1. Western society transformed

a. social institutions

b. world view

2. “New world” : modernity

3. emergence of sociology

a. product of transformation

b. response to

c. social theory: explain

4. classical social theory and theorists

II. Feudal society

1. World view

1. Sacred Canopy (divinely ordered world)

a. life experience: “religious drama”

i. written by God

ii. Holy Bible

iii. subtitle: “from sin to salvation”

Original Sin

Salvation in Heaven

b. place and role: Great Chain of Being

c. social institutions: ordained by God

d. values, beliefs, rituals, norms: religiously sanctioned

e. knowledge: revealed

f. intelligence

i. subordinate

ii. demonstrate truth of revelation

iii. inquiry: impious

2. Catholic Church

a. God on earth: “the body of Christ”

i. interpreted the “drama”

ii. guardian of revelatory truth

iii. mediated between God and person: Sacraments

b. most powerful institution

i. legitimated political authority

ii. legitimated economic arrangements

c. Inquisitions

i. identify: heresies, witches, scientists

ii. investigate

iii. try

iv. punish

B. Feudal Institutions

1. political

a. decentralized estates

b. nobles rule

c. authority: divine right

d. constraints: few

i. noblesse oblige

ii. Great Writ

e. no concept of

i. autonomous self-directing individual

ii. individual rights

iii. freedom

iv. equality

f. resistance to political authority

i. religious crime

ii. sacrilege

2. economy

a. agricultural

b. division of labor

i. nobility (ownership, hereditary)

ii. serfs (majority, poor, uneducated)

iii. absence of middle class

iv. skilled labor: guilds

c. technology: human and animal power

d. natural world

i. commons

ii. enspirited: “filled with restless dread”

iii. degraded

e. no concept of:

i. upward mobility

ii. private ownership of property

iii. pursuit of profit

3. demographics

a. villages

b. rural

c. marriages: arranged

4. Time

II. Transformation: Social forces

A. Protestant Reformation (16th Century)

1. Martin Luther

a. justification by faith vs good works

b. direct relationship: person and God

3. Challenges

a. function of church/role of priest

b. political arrangements: divine right

B. Natural science

1. physical world follows laws

a. cause and effect

b. universal

2. physical laws could be discovered

a. empiricism

i. observation

ii. explanation

b. cause and effect

c. expressed as formulas

3. goal: predict and control natural world

4. Newton (Late Seventeenth Century)

a. gravity

b. laws of motion: creation is a machine

c. Laws of Nature

5. challenges

a. church authority of knowledge

b. knowledge from observation, not revelation

5. Trial of Galileo: 1633

a. invented telescope

i. empirical observation

ii. Copernicus is right

b. evidence to Roman Inquisition 1613

c. 1616 Cardinal Bellarmine: “dangerous”

d. 1632 Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems

e. guilty: taught, defended, believed in Copernican theory

C. Enlightenment (Eighteenth century)

1. Philosophes: Diderot, Rousseau, Condillac

1. Natural Law

i. humans part of natural world

ii. order to human world

iii. structured according to laws: cause and effect

iv. human nature: universal

b. Unique: Reason

i. essence of human nature

ii. capacity of each individual

iii. allows individual to be autonomous

iv. self-direct

v. pursue interests

vi. make judgments about ends and determine means

to achieve ends

b. Scientific method: Reason as cultural practice

c. Scientific method needs to be applied to human social life

i. society and its institutions

ii. history

iii. comparative studies

d. Goal

i. reveal natural laws of society

ii. discover human nature

iii. learn how to shape social institutions

2. Discover

a. human nature

i. man is not fallen (original sin)

ii. endowed with reason

b. salvation: good life on earth

c. reason can lead to good life

d. freedom from ignorance and oppression

e. natural rights: freedom and equality of individuals

f. institutions need to be organized to reflect a thru e

3. Challenges

a. Church doctrine: Original Sin/fallen

b. Political institutions: monarchy

c. Knowledge as Revelation

D. political revolutions

1. French 1789

a. challenged monarchy

b. challenged Church

c. new ideas: Declaration of the Rights of Man

2. American

E. technology

1. printing press

2. machine power: steam, electricity.

3. “the clock”

F. capitalism

1. Adam Smith: “Wealth of Nations” (mid Eighteenth century)

2. new forms of production

3. new division of labor

4. new class relations

G. nation-states

1. large

2. centralized

3. national interests: resources, markets, cheap labor

H. colonialism

1. “discovering” other cultures

2. new values, beliefs, ideas, practices

IV. Reactionary forces

1. Catholic Church: “Witch Hunts
   1. manifest goal: protect people from witches
   2. latent goal

a. create fear

b. re-empower Church

* 1. Means

a. create mass hysteria

b. propaganda: “Witches Hammer”

c. trials

d. trials/punishment

B. The Terror

C. Counter-Enlightenment (de Maistre, Bonald)

1. Man is fallen: by nature evil and self-destructive

2. Society

a. main problem: social order

b. solution: authoritarian elite

c. Church, hereditary monarchies, and aristocracies

3. Rule: violence

a. force: “awe-inspiring/ no appeal

b. tradition: superstition and myths and hallowed institutions

c. little education and few freedoms

d. elite: can’t waver (Louis XVI)

e. reason: socially disintegrating

i. repression

ii. censorship

f. racial purity

g. social order: father, mother, children and God

4. The enemy: scientists, journalists, democrats, Jews, atheists

5. The “Terror” was a good thing

a. God’s punishment

b. Robespierre: preserved France

D. Luddites (early 19th Century)

V. Summary

A. Breakdown

1. Sacred Canopy

2. Great Chain of Being

3. Feudal economic, political and social arrangements

B. Emergence

1. new world view: secular

2. new political arrangements

a. mass democracy

b. citizen

c. new ideas, beliefs

3. new economic arrangements

a. new forms of ownership: bourgeoisie

b. new forms of production: industrial

c. new division of labor

d. national and global markets

4. urbanization

5. other non-Euro culture/other people

C. emergence of social theory

1. changing world needs to be:

a. explained

b. legitimated

2. can be explained: Reason/science

3. instrumental value in explaining it

a. solve the problems

b. shape society

4. need to apply scientific method

a. society

b. history

c. other cultures

5. social theory=knowledge=freedom