

Effects of the Reformation

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. Religious division occurred within Europe and the Americas.
2. Religious wars broke out between Protestants and Catholics.
3. Social changes were a result of the Reformation.

The Big Idea

The Reformation changed religion in Europe and led to political and cultural conflicts.

Key Terms

Huguenots, p. 342

Edict of Nantes, p. 343

Thirty Years' War, p. 344

congregation, p. 345

federalism, p. 345

If YOU were there...

You live in central Europe in the 1600s. As far back as you can remember, the countryside has been at war over religion. There have been riots and bloodshed. People have even been killed in the streets of your town. Now your parents have had enough of fighting. They have decided to move the whole family to one of the American colonies, far across the ocean.

How do you feel about moving to America?

BUILDING BACKGROUND The Protestant and Catholic reformations led to religious changes in Europe. These religious changes had other consequences as well. In some places violence broke out. In other places people shifted their attitudes about life and the world. Such changes drove some people to leave their homes for new lands, like those in America.

Religious Division

At the beginning of the 1500s nearly all of Europe was Catholic. As you can see on the map, however, that situation had changed dramatically 100 years later. By 1600, nearly all of southern Europe was still Catholic. But the majority of people in northern Europe had become Protestant.

Division within Europe

In many European countries, like Spain, nearly everyone shared the same religion. In Spain most people were Catholic. In northern countries such as England, Scotland, Norway, and Sweden, most people were Protestant. In the Holy Roman Empire each prince chose the religion for his territory. As a result, the empire became a patchwork of small kingdoms, some Catholic and some Protestant. Keeping peace between kingdoms with different religions was often a difficult task.



HSS 7.9.3 Explain Protestants' new practices of church self-government and the influence of those practices on the development of democratic practices and ideas of federalism.

7.9.4 Identify and locate the European regions that remained Catholic and those that became Protestant and explain how the division affected the distribution of religions in the New World.

Division in the Americas

When explorers and missionaries set out from Europe for other parts of the world, they took their religions with them. In this way, the distribution of religions in Europe shaped religious patterns around the world. For example, some parts of the Americas were settled by people from Catholic countries such as Spain, France, and Portugal. These areas, including parts of Canada

and most of Mexico, Central America, and South America, became Catholic. In contrast, places settled by Protestants from England and other countries—including the 13 colonies that became the United States—became mostly Protestant.

READING CHECK Finding Main Ideas

Which areas of Europe stayed Catholic after the Reformation?

Religions in Europe, 1600



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Region** In which part of Europe were most people Protestant?
- 2. Place** How were Catholic and Protestant areas arranged in the Holy Roman Empire?

Religious Wars

Disagreements about religion and violence often went hand in hand. During the Reformation, this violence was sometimes tied to political concerns. For example, German peasants rebelled against their rulers in 1534 after reading Luther's Bible. It says that all people are equal, and the peasants wanted equal rights. They began a revolt that was soon defeated.

In most places, though, religious concerns between Catholics and Protestants, not politics, led to conflicts and violence.

France

Although most people in France remained Catholic, some became Protestants. **French Protestants were called Huguenots** (HYOO-guh-nahts). A series of conflicts between

Catholics and Huguenots led to years of bloody war. The conflicts began when the French king, who was Catholic, decided to get rid of all the Protestants in France. To accomplish this he banned all Protestant religions in France and punished or exiled any Protestants he found.

The king's efforts to eliminate Protestants increased tensions, but violence didn't break out until 1562. In that year a Catholic noble attacked and killed a group of Protestants in northwestern France. The attack infuriated Protestants throughout France. Angry Protestants rose up in arms against both the noble and France's Catholic monarchy. After about a year of fighting, both sides agreed to stop fighting. As a gesture of peace the king allowed Protestants to remain in France, but only in certain towns.

Time

Religious Wars in Europe

1517 Martin Luther posts his Ninety-Five Theses. The Reformation begins.



1550

1534 King Henry VIII of England breaks away from the Catholic Church and founds the Anglican Church.



The peace didn't last for long, though. Fighting soon resumed, and the war continued on and off for almost 20 years.

The worst incident of the war was the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre. It took place on August 24, 1572, which Catholics called St. Bartholomew's Day. In one night Catholic rioters killed about 3,000 Protestants in Paris. In the days that followed, riots broke out all over France.

The war between French Catholics and Protestants finally ended in 1598. In that year King Henry IV—who was raised a Protestant—issued the **Edict of Nantes (NAHNT)**, granting religious freedom in most of France. It allowed Protestants to live and worship anywhere except in Paris and a few other cities. Henry's law stopped the war, but resentment between Catholics and Protestants continued.

The Holy Roman Empire

Religious wars caused even more destruction in the Holy Roman Empire than in France. Major violence there broke out in 1618 when unhappy Protestants threw two Catholic officials out of a window in the city of Prague (PRAHG). Their action was a response to a new policy issued by the king of Bohemia—a part of the empire. The king had decided to make everyone in his kingdom become Catholic. To enforce his decision, he closed all Protestant churches in Bohemia.

The king's decision upset many Protestants. In Prague, unhappy Protestants overthrew their Catholic ruler and replaced him with a Protestant one. Their action did not resolve anything, however. Instead, it added to the religious conflict in the Holy Roman Empire.

1572 Catholics attack and kill Protestants in France in the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre.

1600



1618–1648

The Thirty Years' War takes place in Europe, with fierce fighting between Catholics and Protestants.

1650



**ANALYSIS
SKILL**

READING TIME LINES

How much time passed between the beginning of the Reformation and the start of the Thirty Years' War?

Their revolt quickly spread into other parts of the empire. This rebellion began what is known as the **Thirty Years' War**, a long series of wars that involved many of the countries of Europe.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

agreement a decision reached by two or more people or groups

The war quickly became too much for the Holy Roman Emperor to handle. He sought help from other Catholic countries, including Spain. As the fighting grew worse, the Protestants also looked for help. Some of their allies weren't even Protestant. For example, the Catholic king of France agreed to help them because he didn't like the Holy Roman Emperor.

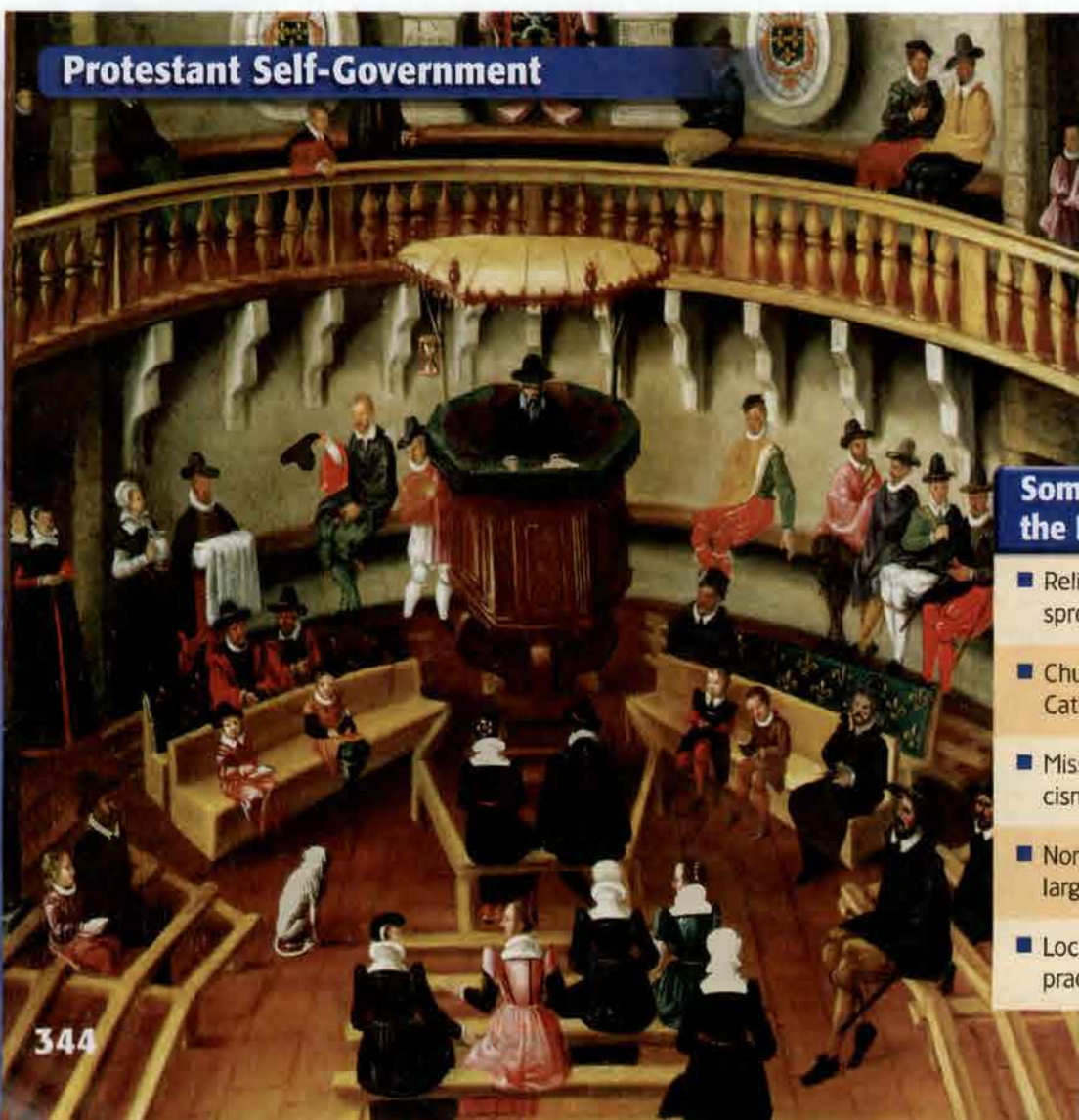
Although it began as a religious conflict, the Thirty Years' War grew beyond religious issues. Countries fought each other over political rivalries, for control of territory, and about trade rights.

After 30 years of fighting, Europe's rulers were ready for the war to end. This was especially true in the German states of the Holy Roman Empire, where most of the fighting had taken place. In 1648 Europe's leaders worked out a peace agreement.

The **agreement** they created, the Treaty of Westphalia, allowed rulers to determine whether their countries would be Catholic or Protestant. The treaty also introduced political changes in Europe. One important change affected the Holy Roman Empire. The states of Germany became independent, with no single ruler over them, and the Holy Roman Empire no longer existed.

READING CHECK **Identifying Cause and Effect** How did Europe change after the Thirty Years' War?

Protestant Self-Government



This painting from the 1600s shows a Protestant church in France. Members of a congregation like this one would elect leaders and make their own rules. The rise of self-government was one result of the Reformation.

Some Results of the Reformation

QUICK FACTS

- Religious conflicts spread across Europe.
- Church leaders reform the Catholic Church.
- Missionaries spread Catholicism around the world.
- Northern Europe becomes largely Protestant.
- Local Protestant churches practice self-government.

Social Changes

The religious changes of the Reformation and the political turmoil that followed set other changes in motion. People began to question the role of government and the role of science in their lives.

Self-Government

Before the Reformation most Europeans had no voice in governing the Catholic Church. They simply followed the teachings of their priests and bishops.

Many Protestant churches didn't have priests, bishops, or other clergy. Instead, each **congregation, or church assembly**, made its own rules and elected leaders to make decisions for them. People began to think that their own ideas, not just the ideas of the clergy, were important.

Once people began to govern their churches they also began to want political power. In some places congregations began to rule their towns, not just their churches. In Scotland, England, and some English colonies in America, congregations met to decide how their towns would be run. These town meetings were an early form of self-government, in which people rule themselves.

As time passed, some congregations gained more power. Their decisions came to affect more aspects of people's lives or to control events in larger areas. The power of these congregations didn't replace national governments, but national rulers began to share some power with local governments. **The sharing of power between local governments and a strong central government is called federalism.**

New Views of the World

Once people began to think that their own ideas were important, they began to raise questions. They wanted to know more about the natural physical world around

them. In addition, more and more people refused to accept information about the world based on someone else's authority. They didn't care if the person was a writer from ancient Greece or a religious leader. The desire to investigate, to figure things out on their own, led people to turn increasingly to science.

READING CHECK Summarizing How did the Reformation change European society?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW The Reformation caused great changes in Europe, and not just in religion. In the next chapter you will learn how the ideas of the Reformation paved the way for the growth of science and the Scientific Revolution.

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Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ7 HP12

Section 3 Assessment

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 7.9.3, 7.9.4

1. **a. Recall** Where did more Protestants live, in northern or southern Europe?
b. Evaluate Why do you think the Catholic Church had more influence in southern Europe?
2. **a. Identify** Where did the **Thirty Years' War** begin?
b. Explain What started the wars of religion in France?
3. **a. Identify** What were two areas of society that changed as a result of the Reformation?
b. Sequence How did the Reformation lead to the growth of **federalism**?

Critical Thinking

4. Identifying Cause and Effect

Draw a series of boxes like the ones shown here. In the first box, identify the cause of religious conflict in Europe. In the last box, list two effects of that conflict.



FOCUS ON WRITING

5. **Choosing Important Details** Once again, write the main idea and supporting details of the section in your notebook. Then look over your notes to choose the most important and intriguing details for the book jacket. Put a check mark next to the details you think you'll include.

Social Studies Skills

Analysis

Critical Thinking

Participation

Study

Understanding Graphs

Understand the Skill

Graphs are drawings that display data in a clear, visual form. There are three main types of graphs. *Line graphs* show changes in something over time. *Bar graphs* compare quantities within a category. Some bar graphs may illustrate changes over time as well. *Circle graphs*, also called *pie graphs*, represent the parts that make up a whole of something. Each piece of the circle, or “pie,” shows what proportion that part is of the whole.

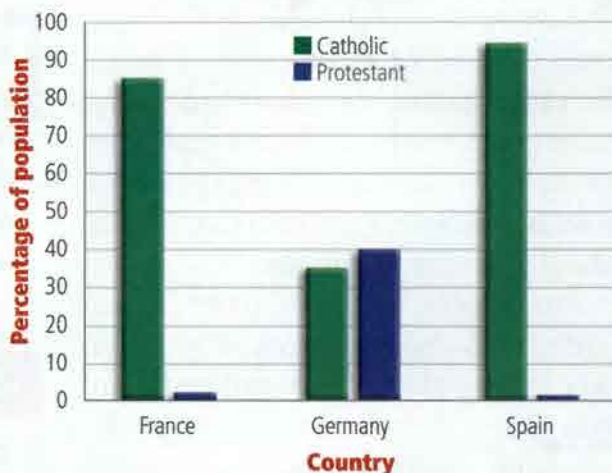
Graphs let you see relationships more quickly and easily than tables or written explanations do. The ability to read and interpret graphs will help you to better understand and use statistical information in history.

Learn the Skill

Use the following guidelines to understand and interpret data presented in a graph.

- 1 Read the graph's title to identify the subject. Note the kind of graph. This will give you clues about its purpose.
- 2 Study the graph's parts and read its labels. Note the subjects or categories that are graphed. Also note the units of measure. If the graph uses different colors, determine what each means.
- 3 Analyze the data. Note any increases or decreases in quantities. Look for trends or changes over time. Determine any other relationships in the data that is graphed.

Percentage of Catholics and Protestants, 2004



Practice and Apply the Skill

The Reformation brought changes to Christianity in Europe. The effects of these changes can still be seen there today. Interpret the graph to answer the following questions.

1. What kind of graph is this?
2. What is the purpose of the graph?
3. What percentage of the population in France is Catholic?
4. In what country are there more Protestants than Catholics?