The Reformation

Early Reformers

- Erasmus of Rotterdam
  - Dutch Scholar
  - Humanist
    - Writer
    - Critical of Roman Catholic Church
  - Never sided with Reformists
    - Critiqued Martin Luther
    - Did not want to create trouble with church

- Waldensians
  - Late 1170s
  - Lyon, France
  - Christian Cult
    - Own interpretation of Church doctrine
  - Led by Waldo
  - Expressed religious beliefs in lifestyle
    - Living in poverty
  - Persecuted by Roman Catholic Church

- Nominalists and William of Occam
  - Philosophical Group
    - Created by William of Occam
      - Englishman
  - Own religious interpretations
    - Life of poverty
    - Humans imagined own existence
  - Declared a heretic for writings and philosophies by church

- John Wycliff
  - English theologian
    - Studied religion
      - Similar beliefs to later reformists
  - Wanted reform in the church
    - Prior to actual Protestant Reformation
    - 1300s

- Jan Hus
  - Bohemian
  - Mid-1300s
  - Religious philosopher
    - Believer in teachings of Wycliff
  - Criticized Church
    - Formed reformist group
  - Excommunicated and burned at the stake
Luther and Calvin/Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther (1483-1546)
- German Monk
  - Member of Church
- Critical of Church corruption and superstition
  - Ninety-five Theses, 1517
    - List of Complaints
    - Complaint to Tetzel
      - Main monk in charge of selling of indulgencies
    - Nailed to Church
      - Initially did not want to break with Church
      - Wanted to have a debate
      - Became more and more critical
  - Diet of Worms
    - His Trial
    - Fled to Saxony
      - Protected by Frederick of Saxony
- Beliefs
  - Priesthood of all believers
    - Individual does not need a priest
  - Bible in the Main Authority
    - Through it people could have PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
      - Undermined role of Church
  - Salvation by Faith Alone
    - Only thing needed to be saved is a deep faith
    - No need of church, prayer, or sacrament
      - All you need is deep love of God
    - Good faith brings good things
  - Transubstantiation
    - Priests turn bread and wine into the blood and flesh of God
      - Didn’t say that it was just symbolic
      - God present in it because God is everywhere
  - Reduced 7 sacraments to 2
    - Baptism and communion
    - Against
      - Pilgrimages
      - Fasts
      - Masses
      - Saints
      - Monasticism; Monks
      - Celibacy for clergy
  - Appealed to
    - Princes
      - German particularism/liberties
        - Now allowed to take all of church property
    - Masses
      - Got a sense of standing up to authority
        - Peasant’s Revolt 1524-1525
          - Luther horrified
**War of the League of Schmalkald 1546-1555**

- League of Schmalkald = Protestant
  - Protestants vs Catholics
- Peace of Augsburg 1555
  - Religion of Ruler=Religion of State
    - Ecclesiastical Reservation
    - Princes had to give back property

![Effects of Reformation c. 1560](image-url)