The Religious Wars

The Hapsburgs

- Dynasty
  - Hereditary title
  - Gained power by marriage
    - Grew holdings

- Charles V
  - 1519 - 1556
  - Austrian Emperor
    - Holy Roman Emperor
    - Spanish Ruler
      - A.K.A. Charles II in Spain
  - Largest dominion of all Hapsburgs
    - Austria, Bohemia, Hungary, Holy Roman Empire, Spain, Netherlands, parts of Italy, Spanish overseas holdings
  - Catholic
  - Problems
    - Turks
      - Constantly attempting to expand borders
    - Protestants
      - War of the League of Schmalkald
        - Charles V vs. Protestant States
          - Protestants trying to replace authority of HRE
          - 1547 – 1555
        - Peace of Augsburg
          - 1555
          - Cuius regio eius religio
            - “Whose realm, his religion”
          - Ecclesiastical Reservations
            - Cannot take church property
    - France
      - Surrounded by Hapsburgs
        - Intermittent warfare and rivalry from 1516-1756
          - Italian Wars
            - Spain vs. France for control of Italy
              - Francis I captured and ransomed in 1526
              - Treaty of Madrid
                - Embarrassing loss for French
                - Territories refused Hapsburg control
                - Charles sacked Italy and captured Clement VII
                  - France lost due to Internal struggles and size of Hapsburg kingdom
  - Retirement
    - Split empire
      - Eastern half (HRE) went to his Brother
      - Western Half (Spain & Empire) went to his son
        - Philip II
Wars of Religion in France
- 16th Century
  - Growingly divided
  - Rise of Huguenots
    - French Calvinists
  - Civil War
    - Partially political
    - Religious based
      - Breakdown in royal authority
      - Atrocities on both sides
    - Lasted on and off for 40 years
- Valois Kings
  - Francis I
    - 1515 – 1547
    - Rival of Henry VIII and Charles V
      - Fought with them and spent like them
    - Concordat of Bologna
      - Gave king power to appoint clergy
  - Henry II
    - 1547-1559
      - Wanted to lessen influence of Calvinists
        - Who now stood against the King
      - Treaty of Cateau-Cambrésis
        - 1559
        - France relinquishes all claims to Italy in favor of Hapsburg Spain
  - Francis II
    - 1559 - 1560
      - Began rule when only 15 years old
        - Mother Catherine de Medici serves as regent
          - Wife of Henry II
          - Very unpopular
        - Nobles vie for power
          - Guise
          - Bourbon
            - Protestants led by Henry of Navarre
              - Montmorency
        - Died from complications of numerous disease
          - Or possibly protestant/Hapsburg poison
  - Charles IX
    - 1560 – 1574
      - Began rule when only 10 years old
        - Regent is Mother Catherine de Medici
          - Arranges marriage of daughter Margaret to Henry of Navarre
            - St Bartholomew’s Day Massacre
              - Suppose to be reconciliation between Catholics and Protestants
            - 10k protestants murdered
            - Catherine de Medici blamed
        - Problems
          - Needed money for wars
          - Loss of Scotland
            - Treaty of Edinburgh - 1560
  - Henry III
    - King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania
- Bourbon Kings
  o Henry of Navarre
    ▪ Inter-related to Valois
    ▪ 1589 - 1610
    ▪ Very popular
    ▪ Politique
      ▪ Unity is more important than religion
      ▪ Converted to Catholicism
        o “Paris is worth the mass”
  ▪ Edict of Nantes
    ▪ 1598
    ▪ Catholicism is official religion
    ▪ Freedom of worship
      o Protestants could once again build churches and fortify towns
  ▪ Absolutist
    ▪ Reestablish monarchical control
      o Only called estates general once
      o Imposed royal authority
    ▪ Mercantilist
      o Governments job to build up economy
        ▪ Build infrastructure and encourage trade
    ▪ Maximilien de Bethune
      o Duke of Sully (aka Marquis De Rosny)
      o Economic Advisor
        ▪ Build up first colony
          • Quebec
        ▪ Helped pay off debt
          • Raise taxes
        ▪ Lessened spending and corruption
  ▪ Foreign Policy
    o Alliances with protestant states vs. Hapsburgs
      ▪ Built up army
  o Louis XIII
    ▪ 1610 – 1643
      ▪ Son of Henry IV
      ▪ Took throne at 10 yrs old
Mother Marie de Medici served as regent
• Weak and ineffective ruler

Cardinal Richelieu
• Took over as de facto ruler in 1624
  o Amended Edict of Nantes
    ▪ Removed Huguenots ability to fortify towns
    ▪ Got France involved in Thirty-Years War
• Worked to increase power of Monarch
  o Weakened nobles
  o Destroyed fortified castles/towns
  o Sold titles of nobility
• Mercantilist
  o Built up overseas trading companies
• Died 1642

The Thirty-Years War
- Perspectives of the war
  o Civil War
    ▪ German Catholics vs. German Protestants
  o International War
    ▪ Power Struggle
      • Catholics
        o Austria
        o Spain
        o Catholic German States
      • Protestants
        o Denmark
        o Sweden
        o France
        o Protestant German States
  o All fighting in HRE Lands
    ▪ Mostly done by Mercenaries
- Foreign Aims
  o United Provinces (Netherlands)
    ▪ Get Independence from Spain
  o Spain
    ▪ Recover lost lands
    ▪ To help fellow Hapsburgs
    ▪ To Control Scheldt River
  o France
    ▪ Weaken the Hapsburgs
    ▪ Gain territories in Rhineland
  o Austria
    ▪ Keep the HRE together
  o Denmark
    ▪ To get more land

- 4 Phases
  o Bohemian Phase
    ▪ Begins in Prague
      • Defenestration of Prague
        o 1618
Hapsburg regents thrown out of a window
  Signals beginning of Bohemian uprising against Ferdinand II
  - Battle of White Mountain
    - 1620
    - Bohemian Loss
    - End of Bohemian Phase

- Danish Phase
  - Albert of Wallenstein
    - Mercenary
    - Sent by Ferdinand II to defeat the Danes in 1626
  - Treaty of Lubeck
    - 1629
    - Danes lost N. German lands

- Swedish Phase
  - Gustavus Adolphus
    - Very good army
    - 1631-1633
      - Defeats imperialist army at Breitenfeld, Lech, and Lutzen
        - Adolphus killed at Lutzen
        - Wallenstein murdered by Imperialists
  - Peace of Prague
    - 1635
    - Germany ruined
    - General peace declared with Hapsburgs still in control

- French Phase
  - War now spilling into low countries, Italy, France, Iberian peninsula, and Denmark
    - Sweden trying to maintain hold in north
  - French enter war
    - 1635
    - Under direction of Cardinal Richelieu
      - War just dragging on and on with both sides gaining victories
        - Everyone mostly gives up
          - Got tired of fighting by 1645
          - Germany utterly destroyed
            - Resented other nations for getting involved in their civil war

- Peace of Westphalia
  - 1648
  - Ends the Thirty-Years War
  - Administrative Provisions
    - Peace of Augsburg reinstated
      - Amended to include Calvinism
    - Protestants who lost were given back their territories
    - New Constitution for HRE
      - Each of 500 states sovereign
  - Territorial Changes
    - Sweden gets Pomerania
    - France gets Alsace
    - United Provinces get Independence
    - Switzerland gets Independence
  - Significance
    - End of religious wars
    - HRE Ruined
• Politically
  o Can’t unify
• Physically
  o Towns and farms destroyed
• Population
  o Lots of Germans dead
    ▪ 25%-40% of entire country
    ▪ Some Germanic states as high as 75%

  ▪ International system of law
  • Rulers came together to solve problems for once
    o England avoided
  • Independence of separate states recognized