MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

The End of Roman Catholic Europe
MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

- Called "Magisterial" the Reformation had backing of civil authorities.
- With help of magistracy the Roman church’s hold over religious unity ended.
- Resulted in many denomination: Lutherans, Reformed churches (Calvinist, Zwinglians, Presbyterians, Puritans, Congregationalists, Dutch Reformed) and later Anglicans, Methodist.
MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

Oct 31, 1517 Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk who sought Reformation in Roman Church, nailed ninety-five theses to door of the church in Wittenberg.

- Had no intention of forming a new church.
MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

- Reacted to teaching of indulgences, which implied one could earn salvation through works.

- Roman Church teaches that it dispenses the infinite merits (grace) of Christ and the unused or leftover merits of the Saints (collectively called “The Treasury of Merits”) to believers in the form of indulgences.

- indulgences do away with temporal punishment due to sin, and lessens time in purgatory after death.

- How do you earn them?
  - Good works
MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

- Based on erroneous belief that image of God in man was **obliterated** when Adam sinned.

- Implies, man is **incapable of doing good**; can only sin. Therefore Man cannot contribute to his salvation, it is all God’s work.

- Cannot benefit from good works to gain indulgences.

- Grace becomes a **juridical** release from guilt which Luther called “**justification by faith/grace alone.**”
MARTIN LUTHER

- Church had become corrupt.
- Pope Leo X dished out bishoprics to his favorite relatives and tapped Vatican treasury to support his extravagant lifestyle and rebuild Saint Peter Cathedral.
- When money ran out, made use of new fundraising scheme—selling indulgences.
- For a fee, bereaved relatives could get a deceased loved one out of Purgatory. At the right price, they could also save up for their own future sins.
FIVE SOLAS

- Luther’s Reformation characterized by five main points
- In some ways OC agrees with them but also differs in important ways.
SOLA GRATIA

- Human will plays no part in salvation. It’s through Grace alone.

- Calvinism is most extreme version. He says God saves you whether want it or not. He also dams you no mater what you want.
SOLA GRATIA

- OC teaches as Scriptures say that salvation is by grace through faith, not works (Eph 2.8-9) like indulgences.

- Have free will to accept or reject His Grace or to believe or not believe.

- Through participation in His Church we develop humility and purify our heart of passions so we can cooperate with Grace.

- Synergy is key O doctrine, our will freely aligned with His will through grace, the Holy Spirit.
SOLA FIDE

- Justification (made righteous in eyes of God) comes from faith alone.

- Faithful are declared righteous by God, receiving "imputed" righteousness.

- Upon repentance and belief in Christ, Christ's righteousness 'imputed' (transferred) to believer.

- Seen by God as righteous because He has "put on" or clothed the believer with Christ's righteousness.

- Change in legal status but not personal holiness.
Justification for OC is actually being made righteous through **Grace with our cooperation**, synergy, not something declared or imputed by declaration of faith.

- **Orthodox way of life.**
  Sacraments, daily prayer, study of Scripture, church fathers and lives of saints, fasting, fellowship in community.

- Path to salvation **begins** with faith.
SOLA FIDE

For Luther faith alone contrasted with good works to counter C teaching about system of merits, satisfaction, purgatory and indulgences.

- He claimed good works had nothing to do with salvation. True faith always led to justification and good works.

- Protestants think C believe they earn their salvation with works of righteousness, because of idea of Merits and indulgences.

- Monasticism also viewed this way.

- What are spiritual dangers for doctrine of faith alone?
Christ alone is means of salvation

Reaction to C clergy’s view that only through them can one approach God.

Highest form is C doctrine that Pope is vicar of Christ.

OC never emphasized clergy as mediators.

Generally Orthodox Christians accept this but allow for intercession by Saints or role of clergy in sacraments.
SOLUS CHISTUS

- Based on this doctrine Protestants reject intercession of saints
- What is Orthodox view of saints?
  - They are in heaven close to God and like any other believer can be asked to pray for us.
- If we isolate Christ alone and don't pay attention to how He saves us through and with other members of His body then we are discarding nature of church as His Body and the Holy Trinity.
SOLA DEO GLORIA

- To God alone is due glory.
- Is a rejection of veneration of saints and other holy objects.
- Fails to distinguish veneration from worship.
- OC agrees that only God is worthy of our worship.
- We veneration saints because of work of Christ in them.
SOLA SCRIPTURA

- Scripture is the sole **infallible** rule of faith and practice.

- Who has authoritative interpretation of Scripture? Everyone argues from Scripture?

  Luther put his own interpretation **above** all others.

- They found signs of corruption in Vulgate Bible like replacing repent with do penance.

- Searched early Christian sources relying on few Western sources.

- What they could not find in Scripture was **rejected**.
Most Protestants believe doctrine can be derived from Scripture based on "plain sense" of the Text.

What does this mean?

Anyone regardless of spiritual maturity can interpret correctly.

Most Sola Scriptura believers see own interpretation as right and others wrong.
What is OC view of Scripture?

- Hold in high regard but view it as books written as part of life in Church, produced by the Church.

- Requires light of Holy Tradition given to Apostles by Christ via oral teaching and preserved in Church Tradition.

- OC never broke from continuity with Tradition of early church in understanding of Scripture.
Fails its own test. It’s **not found in the Bible**. Bible describes the Church as "*pillar and ground of the Truth.*" (1Tim 3:15)

St. Paul tells faithful in Thessaloniki to not just read Scripture but "*to stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught whether by word [of mouth] or our epistle.*" (2Thess 3:15)

Protestant Bibles **mistranslate** the word παράδοσις as "teachings" when it is used in good way and as "Tradition" when used negatively.
- Bible contains **no catechism** or instructions on **how to** perform worship services - no manual for Christian life passed on by Apostles.

- How can you defend against heresy if everyone is their own Pope? Don't we make ourselves infallible?
20 - 40 years before books of NT written. Last book written in late 1st century.

Books read in church were not all same and often read with other books not in NT.

Wasn't until 367 that exact list of 27 books that make up NT was recorded when St Athanasios wrote letter to churches of Alexandria instructing them about proper books to used.

Probably another 100 years before list common in all churches.
SOLA SCRIPTURA

- When could we answer question, “what is the Bible?”

- Reformers were known to edit this canon removing books from OT e.g. Maccabees, Tobit...

- Luther even tried to eliminate the book of James

- Have you ever been asked, “where is that in Scripture?”

- What are dangers of this innovative doctrine?

- Church is foundation Christ established through the Apostles, His body on earth.
Questions?

Next denominations
LUTHERANISM

- Major difference is understanding nature of man and salvation.
- Lutheran theology - God made world, including humanity, perfect, holy and sinless.
- Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, trusting in their own strength, knowledge, and wisdom.
- Consequently, people saddled with original sin, born sinful and unable to avoid committing sinful acts.
LUTHERANISM

- Sinners, while capable of doing works that are outwardly "good", are **not capable** of doing works that **satisfy** God's **justice**.

- Every human thought and deed is **infected with sin** and sinful motives.

- Because of this, all humanity **deserves** eternal damnation in hell.

- Salvation is possible only because of grace of God.
LUTHERANISM

- By God's grace, a person is forgiven, adopted as a child and heir of God, and given eternal salvation.

- Christ "is a **perfect satisfaction** and reconciliation of the human race"

- Gift of salvation received through **faith alone**.

- Saving faith is the **knowledge** of, acceptance of, and trust in the promise of the Gospel.

- Justification comes as a **pure gift**, not something we merit by changed behavior or in which we cooperate, no synergia.
LUTHERANISM

- Holy Communion: Luther believed that Christ's Body and Blood were "in and under" the bread and wine - consubstantiation - most Lutherans prefer "impanation" (Christ becomes incarnate as bread).

- OC have always avoided trying to explain this mystery, Bread and wine simply become actual Body and Blood of Christ.

- Luther's view can be understood like OC.

- Some divisions do not view H Communion as anything real.

- Only two sacraments, baptism and Holy Communion
LUTHERAN DENOMINATIONS

- Scripture interpretation now **varies** within Lutherism
- Evangelical Lutheran Church of America ELCA
  - Largest and most liberal - Holy Trinity is this denomination.
- Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod LCMS
- Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS
  - These two more conservative,
- Evangelical Free Church
Calvinism

John Calvin, influential French theologian & pastor, was a principal figure in the development of the system called Calvinism,

Distinct based on teaching imputed righteousness within covenant framework.

A covenant framework is typical example how God has acted - Adam, Noah, Abraham or Moses.
These were formed conditionally: God issues covenantal blessings, but receiving them is conditional based on terms of the covenant.

E.g. Adam told not to eat from the tree. Adam failed to keep his covenant and is exiled.
CALVINISM

- The condition on Mankind in New Covenant is **faith**.
- Like Abram’s and not like Moses’ that was based on works.
- With this framework he teaches **imputed righteousness**, Conditions that are **fulfilled by Christ**
CALVINISM

- Christ obeys the Father. He was passively obedient in His suffering on the Cross, justice for sins of mankind. Keeping the Law of Moses.

- Both are imputed to the elect, those chosen by God.

- Faith is given by Holy Spirit if you are one of elect, one predestined by God.

- Predestination in Calvinism is a highly rationalistic relationship between god's foreknowledge and man's free will.
CALVINISM

- Led to five points:
  - 1. **Total depravity:** The Fall obliterated any goodness in man therefor he is incapable of choosing God.
  - 2. **Unconditional election:** God's choice not based on anything one has done as choice made before creation
  - 3. **Limited atonement:** Christ's substitutionary sacrifice on Cross is salvific only for those who were chosen. Only their sin is imputed to Christ.
CALVINISM

4. Irresistible grace: when God chooses one he has no choice

5. Perseverance of the saints: once God chooses someone he will never fall away.

In essence, before all time God wrote two lists, those who are saved and those who are damned and there is nothing a person can do to change this.
OC rejects all five of these points primarily on man’s free will.

God gave man free will made in His image.

OC say man's will is clouded by Fall but his ability to choose God has not been destroyed only impaired.

How can there be a loving God who condemns some people but is also a capricious vengeful "God"?

Also Christ did not die on the Cross to punish but rather destroy the power of death itself.
CALVINISM

- Calvin also held the Eucharist as central.
- He taught that believers are transported into heaven and feed spiritually on Christ, only by faith and not with the mouth.
- Later Calvinists teach that Christ is not objectively present in the bread and wine.
- Most reformed denominations no longer hold totally to historic Calvinist doctrine, some still do.
- Presbyterian Church USA, United Church of Christ, Reformed Church in America embrace a highly liberal approach.
Church of England - Anglicanism

The Church in England remained united with Rome until the English Parliament, through the Act of Supremacy (1534), declared King Henry VIII to be the Supreme Head of the Church of England.

Not because of Doctrine but Pope’s refusal to grant King Henry VIII a divorce.
ANGLICANISM

- English Church initially continued to maintain the Roman Catholic theology on many things, such as the sacraments.

- Under King Edward VI, however, the Church in England underwent what is known as the **English Reformation**.

- Drifted toward more Reformed views while retaining the liturgical form creating a distinct Anglican identity.
ANGLICANISM

- **Episcopal Church** organized after the American Revolution, when it became separate from the Church of England, is a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

- Today extreme liberalism makes it impossible to contrast the with OC. Today impossible to find common ground.

- Their numbers are shrinking. The number of Anglicans in the world is over 85 million as of 2011.
Based on strong influence of Calvinism in England, there was the rise of the Puritans, Presbyterians, Separatist, and Congregationalists.

They were persecuted and fled to America.
PURITANS

- Maintained that the Church of England was only partially reformed.
- Were blocked from changing the established church from within and severely restricted in England by laws controlling practice of religion.
- They adopted a **Reformed theology** and were like **Calvinists**
- Left for New England, particularly in the years after 1630, supporting the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and other settlements among the northern colonies
CONGREGATIONALISM

- In England, early Congregationalists were called Separatists or Independents whose churches embrace a polity based on the governance of elders.

- formed on a theory of union published by the theologian and English separatist Robert Browne in 1582.

- He was first seceder from the Church of England and the first to found a church of his own on Congregational idea of *priesthood of believers*.

- Means "Every believer is a priest and ... every seeking child of God is given *directly* wisdom, guidance, power."
PURITANS

- Members of a local church have the right to decide their church's forms of worship, confessional statements, choose their own officers, and administer their own affairs without any outside interference.

- In New England idea grew because of frontier nature of communities.
Presbyterian Church began with John Knox, former Roman Catholic Priest from Scotland who studied with Calvin in Geneva, took Calvin's teachings back to Scotland and led the Scottish Reformation of 1560.

The Ulster Scots brought their Presbyterian faith with them to Ireland, where they laid the foundation of what would become the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.
Immigrants brought Presbyterianism to America as early as 1640, immigration was a large source of growth in colonial era.

After US independence from Great Britain, Presbyterian leaders formed the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA). John Knox ex.

Their chief distinctive features are Presbyterian church government, Calvinistic theology, and absence of prescribed forms of worship.

The denomination had 1,482,767 active members and 9,451 congregations at the end of 2016. In decline.
METHODIST

18th Century movement in Anglican Church led by brothers John and Charles Wesley that eventually broke off.

Influenced by pietist who taught a method of Christian life including ascetics elements.

- Called "Methodist" because used "rule" and "method" to practice their religious affairs.

- Meet weekly, live a holy life, receive Communion every week, fast regularly, abstain from most forms of amusement and luxury and frequently visit the sick and the poor, as well as prisoners.
Wesleys read the Orthodox Father's and taught a doctrine similar to Theosis.

Most modern branches have moved away from Wesley's emphasis on personal salvation toward emphasis on **social justice**.
Methodism today teaches **salvation** is **entirely a work of God** alone with no work by which it can be earned, and that one cannot either turn to God nor believe unless God has first drawn a person and implanted the desire in their heart.

- They baptize infants but not seen as a sacrament. Eucharist is only symbolic.

- Initially, the Methodists merely sought reform within the Church of England, but the movement gradually departed from that Church.
Today there is no single Methodist Church with universal juridical authority;

Most are part of international World Methodist Council, an association of 80 Methodist, Wesleyan and related united and uniting churches, representing over 80 million people.

Largest denomination in US is United Methodist which was founded on acceptance of doctrinal plurality.
SUMMARY

- Out of magisterial Reformation emerged Two main streams. Lutheran and Calvinist

- Anglican trying to walk between Catholicism and Reformed.

- Colonies settled with reformers from Anglican Church.

- Protestant Puritans, Presbyterian Congregationalists and Methodist
MAGISTERIAL REFORMATION

- Tradition abandoned
- Changing Doctrine - Five Solas
- Have new ideas about salvation - imputed righteousness
- Reality of Sacraments Challenged - symbolic
- Doctrine plurality today