



THE REFORMATION

Outcome: Martin Luther and the
Reformation

Constructive Response

Question

4. What drove Martin Luther to write the 95 Theses and what was the outcome of that action?



What Will We Learn About?

1. Causes of the Reformation
(Social, Political, Economic,
Religious causes)
2. Martin Luther
3. The 95 Theses
4. Response to Luther

The Reformation

1. Setting the stage:

- a. By the tenth century, the Roman Catholic Church dominated religious life in Northern and Western Europe.
- b. Many people began to criticize the Church's practices
- c. People felt that Church leaders were too interested in worldly pursuits, such as gaining wealth and political power



The Reformation

- Reformation: A movement of religious reform.

The Reformation

CORRUPTION IN THE CHURCH AND PAPACY
PREVIOUS FAILURES
THE PRINTING PRESS
THE NEW WORLDS
HUMANISTS AND GOD'S WORD
THE RISE OF CAPITALISM
GERMAN PROSPERITY AND TRADE
NATIONALISM AND MONARCHIES
REMNANTS OF THE FAITHFUL
A HOST OF FAITHFUL MEN ...

The Right Time for Revival



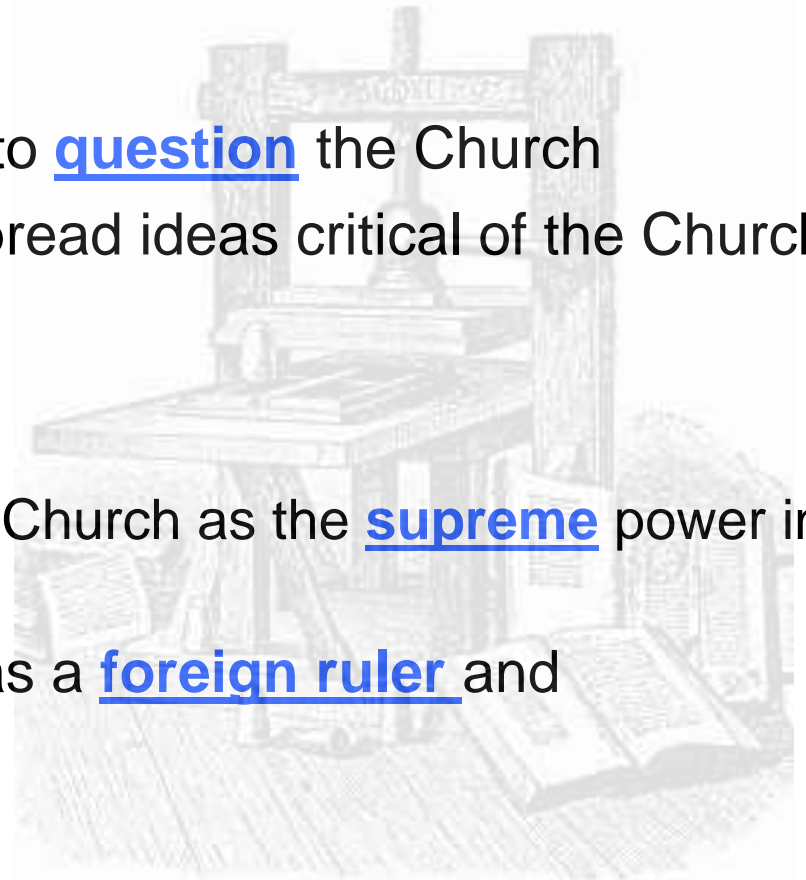
2. Causes of The Reformation

a. Social

- i. Renaissance values led people to question the Church
- ii. The printing press helped to spread ideas critical of the Church

a. Political

- i. Monarchs (kings) challenged the Church as the supreme power in Europe
- ii. Many leaders viewed the pope as a foreign ruler and challenged his authority



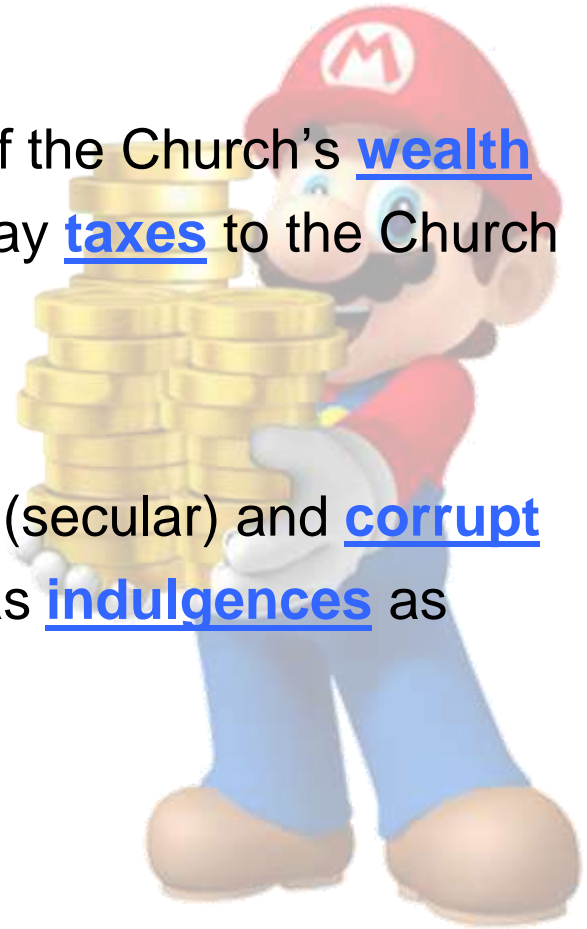
2. Causes of The Reformation

c. Economic

- i. European princes and kings were jealous of the Church's wealth
- ii. Merchants and others resented having to pay taxes to the Church

c. Religious

- i. Some Church leaders had become worldly (secular) and corrupt
- ii. Many people found Church practices such as indulgences as unacceptable



2. Causes of The Reformation

a. Other examples:

- i. Pope Alexander VI admitted that he had fathered several children
- ii. Many priests and monks were poorly educated and couldn't teach people
- iii. Other clergy married, drank, or gambled
- iv. Simony, Lay investiture, and the age old division of Church vs. State



Martin Luther



Martin Luther and the Reformation

3. Luther Challenges the Church

a. Martin Luther

- i. Parents wanted him to be a lawyer, became a monk and teacher instead
- ii. Taught scripture at University of Wittenberg in German state of Saxony
- iii. His 95 Theses began the Reformation
- iv. Martin Luther believed it was ok for clergy to marry and he did so



Saxony 1512

- Lower Saxon Empire County
- Upper Saxon Empire County
- Cities belonging to those counties
- HESSE
- Recent states and German federal states
- International boundaries and internal divisions
- Other Cities

200 Miles - 320 Kilometers



Thomas Rüffer

Martin Luther and the Reformation

- b. The 95 Theses
 - i. Luther took a stand against Johann Tetzel who was selling indulgences to pay for the rebuilding of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome
 - ii. Indulgences: A pardon which released a sinner from performing the penalty a priest imposed for sins.
 - iii. Indulgences were not supposed to affect God's right to judge
 - iv. Tetzel gave people impression that they were buying their way into heaven
 - v. On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg
 - vi. The 95 Theses were formal statements attacking "pardon-merchants"
 - vii. Martin Luther's actions began the Reformation

Caricature of Pope Alexander VI by Martín Luther, 1545



Martin Luther and the Reformation

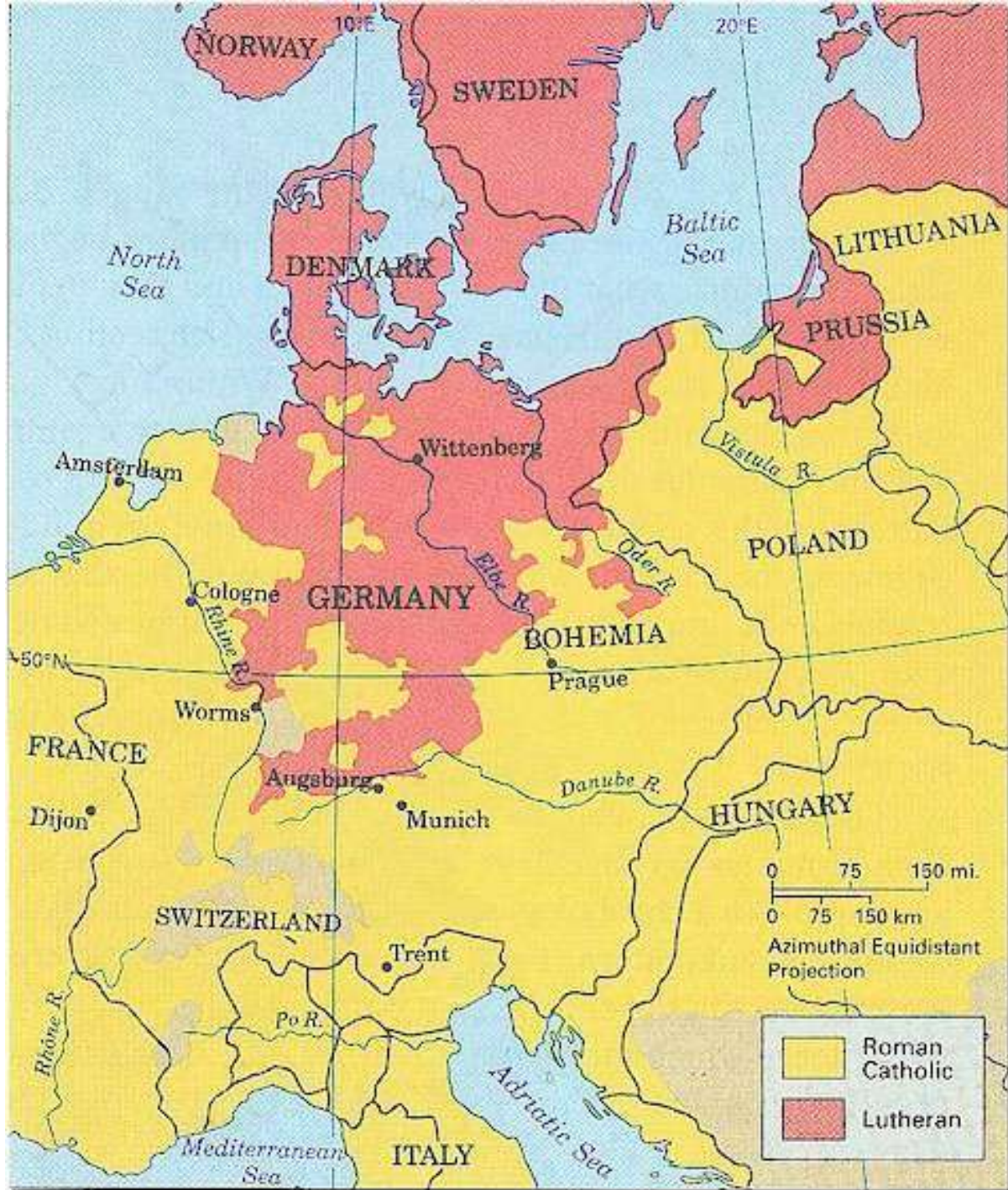
- c. Luther's Teachings
 - i. Good works not needed for salvation, a person could win salvation based on faith
 - ii. Church teachings should be based on Bible not pope or Church traditions which could be corrupt or false
 - iii. Priests not needed to interpret the Bible because all people with faith were equals

Protestant Churches in France (Late 16th)



Martin Luther and the Reformation

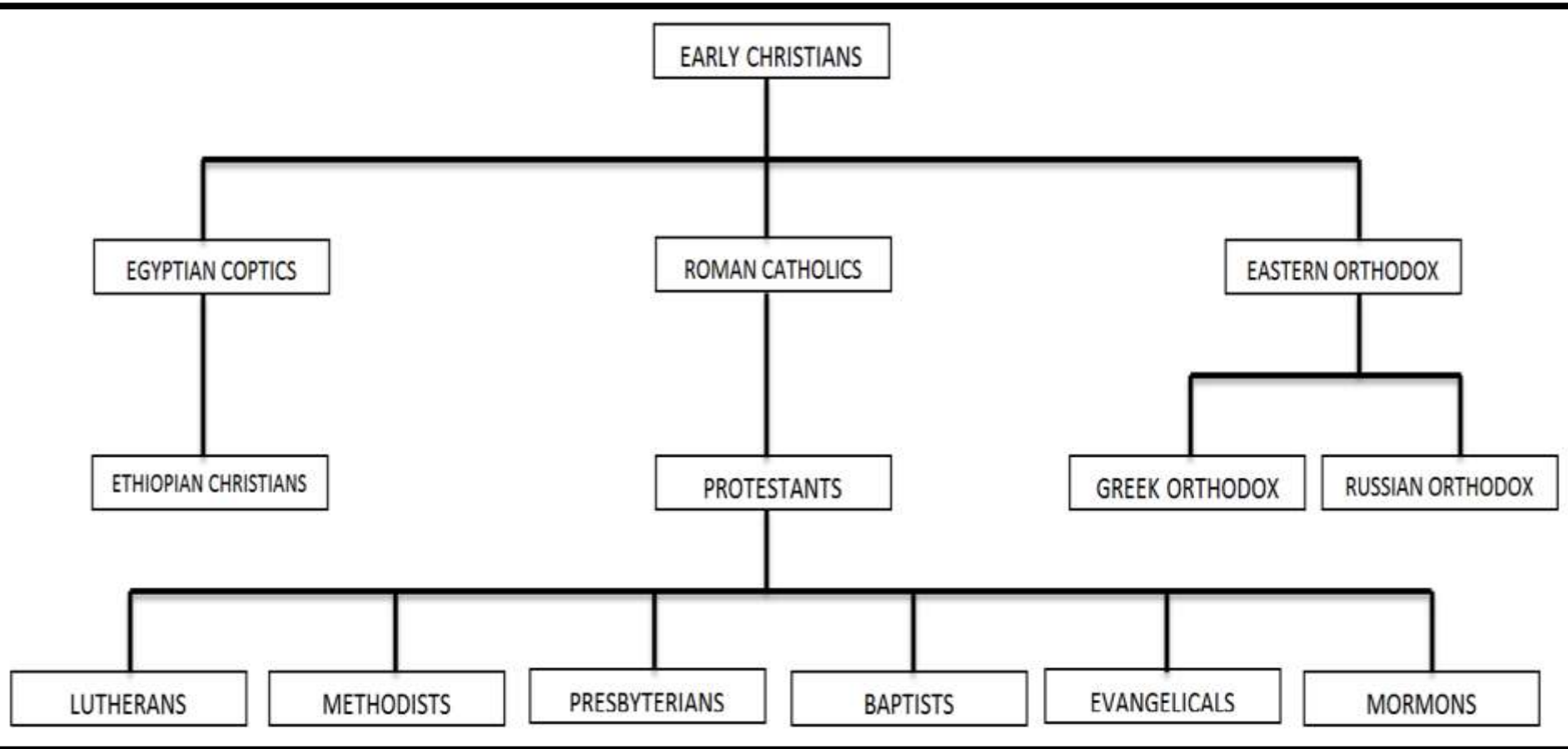
- d. Response to Luther
 - i. Pope Leo X threatened Luther with excommunication if he didn't take back his statements
 - ii. Instead of taking statements back, Luther burned the pope's decree
 - iii. Leo then excommunicated Luther
 - iv. Holy Roman Emperor Charles V (Catholic) summoned Luther to Worms in 1521 to recant (take back) his statements
 - v. Charles issues Edict of Worms ---> declared Luther an outlaw and heretic and no one was to give him food or shelter
 - vi. Frederick the Wise of Saxony sheltered Luther ---> While there Luther translated the New Testament into German
 - vii. In 1522 Luther returned to Wittenberg and his followers became known as Lutherans
 - viii. The princes in Germany that supported Luther banded together to protest against those who were against Luther's ideas, became known as Protestants



Reformation Europe (Late 16th)



Result: Because of Martin Luther's actions, Christianity has two main branches in the Western world: Catholicism and Protestantism.



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