

## REFORMATION AND COUNTER-REFORMATION

### Causes of the Reformation

- The Renaissance and Humanism led people to question Church authority.
- Strong monarchs were emerging. Sometimes they increased their power by going against the wishes of the Church.
- Ordinary people began to question the worldliness of the Church. Many felt that Church leaders acted more like kings and politicians than men of God. Others objected to increased fees for marriages and baptisms, and the selling of indulgences (pardons for sins).

### Protestant Reformers

<b>Martin Luther</b>	<b>John Calvin</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• He was a German monk</li><li>• Posted 95 Theses or arguments against the Church in 1517 in Wittenberg, Germany</li><li>• Did not believe in the sale of indulgences</li><li>• Believed Christians reached heaven only through faith in God, not by faith and good deeds</li><li>• Did not believe priests had special powers</li><li>• Believed that the Pope could not grant pardon for sins</li><li>• Believed the Bible was the only source of truth</li><li>• He was excommunicated</li><li>• Had ideas that spread to northern Germany and Scandinavia</li><li>• His followers called themselves Protestants and eventually Lutherans</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Born in France</li><li>• Believed that Christians could reach heaven by faith alone</li><li>• Believed people are born sinners</li><li>• Believed in predestination (God determined before the beginning of time who would gain salvation)</li><li>• Believed in living a strict, frugal, and disciplined life</li><li>• Had ideas that spread to Germany, France, Holland, England, and Scotland</li><li>• Led a community in Switzerland called Calvinists.</li></ul>

**Martin Luther**

**John Calvin**



