

D. Exploration After Columbus

1. The Treaty of Tordesillas (1494)
 - a) Portugal and Spain were eager to avoid fighting over their new discoveries. They believed there was more than enough to go around, so they turned to the Pope to negotiate a treaty dividing up the world between them.
 - b) The Treaty of Tordesillas gave Spain the right to explore and conquer the non-Christian world to the west of a line running down the center of the Atlantic Ocean (between Cape Verde and Columbus's New World). Portugal received the half of the world to the east of that line.
 - c) Since the true size of the Americas and of the world was not yet known, this inadvertently meant that Brazil was in the Portuguese claim (and hence became the only Portuguese-speaking country in South America), and also that the fate of the Philippines would also be determined (it became a Spanish colony, instead of a Portuguese one, due to the errors in the geographical calculations of the time.)
 - d) The other Christian kings of Europe did not agree that the Pope could assign the world to only Spain and Portugal. They began to send their own explorers to make independent claims.
2. John Cabot sails for England.
 - a) In 1497, an Italian sailor named John Cabot sailed across the North Atlantic to America. He too believed he had found part of Asia, or land near it.
 - b) The most important result of this voyage was that a rich fishery was found on the east coast of America. European fishermen now flocked to this area.
 - c) It is believed that Cabot may have sailed as far south as the Bahamas, there encountering Spanish vessels and turning back. This claim has never been substantiated. Still, more and more explorers were helping to chart the Atlantic coast of the Americas.
3. Amerigo Vespucci steals Columbus's fame.
 - a) Another Italian sailor, named Amerigo Vespucci, claimed in a letter to a German geographer named Waldseemuller to have found a "new world" south of Columbus's islands.
 - b) The geographer created a comprehensive atlas of the world in 1507 that named the new continent "America" and displayed a likeness of Amerigo Vespucci at the top.
 - c) Later, Vespucci's claims were found to be suspect, and the name was removed from maps, but enough people had seen the first map that the name stuck.
4. Vasco da Gama reaches India
 - a) The goal that all the explorers had been seeking was finally achieved by Portuguese sailor Vasco da Gama, who rounded Africa, and arrived in India in 1498.

E. The Circumnavigation of the World

1. The Westward Route
 - a) Spain was now more desperate than ever to reach Asia by a westward route. (They were bound to use this route now that they had agreed to the Treaty of Tordesillas.)
 - b) A Portuguese sailor named Pedro Alvares Cabral had landed in Brazil in 1500, helping Europeans better understand the size of South America.
 - c) A Spanish explorer named Vasco Nunez de Balboa had also seen the Pacific Ocean in 1513, indicating that Asia was still much further west.
 - d) The Waldseemuller map had made the hopeful assertion that there might be a gap in between North America and South America, but Spanish expeditions from

Panama to the Gulf of Mexico from 1517 to 1518 showed that this was not the case.

2. Ferdinand Magellan and Sebastian del Cano
 - a) Since there was no way *through* America, in 1519 the King of Spain sent Ferdinand Magellan with five ships and 237 men to get around America to Asia.
 - b) It took Magellan a year to get around South America, and nearly four more months to cross the Pacific Ocean, which was larger than anyone suspected.
 - c) Most of his crew had already died of scurvy and starvation by the time they reached the Philippines, where Magellan was also killed in a tribal war between the natives.
 - d) His lieutenant Sebastian Del Cano continued on with only one ship and returned to Spain in 1522, after more than three years away, with only 18 survivors!
 - e) The shipment of spices they brought home paid for the whole expedition and more! (That was why men were willing to risk this great adventure.)

F. Search for Northern Passages

1. Although England sent John Cabot to America in 1497, English exploration stalled after this effort. England became wrapped up in the Reformation.
2. When the English renewed their efforts they decided to pursue a search for two other possible passages to East Asia: 1) the Northeast Passage (over Asia), and 2) the Northwest Passage (over America).
3. In 1553, the English explorers Willoughby and Chancellor tried to sail over Asia, but they were only able to reach Russia. (They encountered too much ice to be able to sail further).
4. In 1576, Martin Frobisher sailed in search of the Northwest Passage. His way was also blocked by ice.
5. Frobisher found a kind of rock he thought was gold, and English explorers spent years bringing tons of it back to England, but they eventually learned that it was a mineral called pyrite, a.k.a. "fool's gold".

IV. The Break-up of European Christianity

A. The Hapsburg "Sandwich"

1. Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile had married, and their joint kingdom became Spain. There was a successful example of a political marriage between ruling families. It was common for royal families to intermarry to expand their power, but this successful pairing would be unusually important. Soon their offspring would control most of Europe, and be poised to create a single monarchy for all of Europe.
2. Ferdinand and Isabella's first daughter Joanna of Castile was married to Philip of Austria, a member of the great Hapsburg family which was in charge of the Holy Roman Empire. Their son Charles would become king of Spain and ruler of the Hapsburg lands in central Europe, and thus the most powerful ruler in European history up to that point.
3. Ferdinand and Isabella's other daughter Catherine of Aragon was married to Henry VIII, King of England, thus connecting the royal families of Spain and England also.
4. The kingdom of France, so recently independent after the Hundred Years' War was now becoming surrounded by the Hapsburgs.
5. If the Hapsburgs could marry into the French royal family, or, barring that, conquer France, then maybe Europe itself could be unified just as its explorers were going out into the world to enact globalization. Or not...

B. Martin Luther and the Rise of Lutheranism

1. Until 1492, the religious leader of Christianity, recognized by the Christians of all the separate countries, was the pope.
2. There had been many disagreements between Christians over time, including the long-running argument between popes and Holy Roman Emperors over who was the final authority over Christian Europe, but through all these the popes remained the *religious* leaders for all Christians.
3. Then in 1517, a German monk named Martin Luther began an argument with the pope that would lead to the permanent break-up of Christianity.
4. Luther rejected the authority of the pope because he believed he had found ninety-five errors in the pope's public views on Christianity. He wrote the famous "*Ninety-five Theses*" against the pope, and made his disagreement public.
5. The pope wished to silence Luther and called upon the Hapsburg Holy Roman Emperor to use his army to march into Germany and arrest him.
6. Luther, however, had gradually obtained allies among the German lords, who had formed an alliance called the *Schmalkaldic League*.
7. The Holy Roman Emperor was not able to defeat Luther's allies, and a bargain was struck in 1555 at the Peace of Augsburg. Within the Holy Roman Empire, the principle "*cuius regio, eius religio*" — *the ruler chooses the religion* — would be implemented. This meant that the ruler of each area in the empire could choose traditional or "Catholic" Christianity *or* Lutheran Christianity for himself, and his people would have to go along with it.

C. Henry VIII of England and the Rise of Anglicanism

1. The king of England was the next important person to reject the religious authority of the pope, resulting in the expansion of the "*cuius regio*" concept to all of Europe.
2. He had married Catherine of Aragon, but she had not had a son, only a daughter, and therefore he did not have an *heir*.
3. Henry wanted to split from Catherine and remarry, but the pope would not let him, so Henry, upholding his own authority as supreme in England had new laws created for his country called the *Acts of Supremacy* (1534).
4. These announced the formation of the "Church of England" or Anglicanism, as a separate form of Christianity.

D. John Calvin and the Rise of Calvinism

1. There are literally *thousands* of different kinds of Christianity today. During the Age of Discovery, however, there were *three* main alternatives to Catholic Christianity: Lutheranism, Anglicanism, and *Calvinism*.
2. Calvinism was created by a Frenchman who lived in Switzerland named John Calvin.
3. Calvin, like Luther, disagreed with the pope about many things, and at first he supported Lutheranism, but then he decided that Luther was wrong also, and that he should explain his own version of Christianity in a book called the *Institutes of the Christian Religion* of 1536.
4. Calvinism became the religion of Switzerland and Netherlands, and also much of France for a time.

As the Age of Discovery progressed and the Americas became well known to Europeans, the idea of *colonizing* that part of the world became more and more popular. As colonies started to get created, one of the challenges of involved was how to deal with religious differences among colonists. Back in Europe, religious wars *between Christians* raged for quite a long time, and this greatly affected the early history of America, as we shall see in our next segment of the course.