

D. Exploration After Columbus

1. Spain and Portugal wanted to avoid fighting over their new discoveries so they agreed to the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494), which gave Spain the western half of the non Christian world, and Portugal the east.
2. The other Christian rulers of Europe did not accept that only Spain and Portugal should rule the world. For his part, the English king sent John Cabot to North America, who found a rich fishing ground on the east coast of America.
3. Meanwhile an Italian sailor, Amerigo Vespucci, had convinced map makers that he had found a “new world” and the continents that should have been named after Columbus were instead called “America.”
4. 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. In 1519, the King of Spain sent Ferdinand Magellan with five ships and 237 men to get around America to Asia.
2. 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.
3. Most of his crew had already died of scurvy and starvation when Magellan was also killed in a struggle with natives on the Philippines.
4. 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!

F. Search for Northern Passages

1. Although England sent John Cabot to America in 1497, English exploration soon slowed down. England was busy with the religious changes of the Reformation.
2. When the English decided to try again they began to 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. The only result of his voyage was that he thought he had found gold. He had not. It was pyrite, or “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.
2. Then Ferdinand and Isabella’s first daughter Joanna of Castile was married to Philip of Austria, joining Spain to the leaders of the Holy Roman Empire, the Hapsburgs.
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. This meant that France was surrounded by the Hapsburgs.

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. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Luther, however, had gradually obtained allies among the German lords, who had formed an alliance called the *Schmalkaldic League*.
6. The Holy Roman Emperor was not able to defeat Luther's allies, and a bargain was struck in 1555 at the Peace of Augsburg: "*cuius regio, eius religio*" — *the ruler chooses the religion*. 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.
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 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. Calvinism was created by a Frenchman who lived in Switzerland named John Calvin.
2. Calvin, like Luther, disagreed with the pope, but he also disagreed with Luther!
3. He explained 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 story of American begins, one of the challenges of involved was how people coming to America would deal with religious differences among them. 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.