1559-1598: Wars of Religion / Civil Wars

18 October 2007
Week 07 - Lecture 02
• Problem of “inculturation” stretches over centuries:
  - in accommodating your ideas to another culture, WHEN DO YOU FEAR YOU HAVE LOST YOUR “IDENTITY”?
  - Cf. Douglas/Gilman: sense of “self” constructed over/against others; boundaries thick or porous

Calvin must solve two problems left by Luther:

• 1) Overcome Luther’s dualism of inner/outer: A need to reinvest the world of human action with some larger significance than itself [i.e., re-connect that chain of being]

• 2) Keep Luther’s emphasis on God’s potentia absoluta [ABSOLUTE POWER] the complete / arbitrary freedom of God/grace
Predestination

• God’s “election” of some in advance.
• Not original w/ Calvin --- already in Augustine [300s-400s]
  – but Calvin systematizes it.
  – Go back to: Black Plague: unknowability of God’s will; arbitrary; distance
  – KEY FOR CALVIN: IT IS PRECISELY THIS ANXIETY OVER THE ARBITRARY THAT HE WANTS TO DISPEL
    • As late as 1532: Luther suffers bouts of depression and anxiety

• 1) Predestination is God’s fore-ordained will. It is already decided by God. God has no reason for choosing some rather than others.
  – Whatever God wills is just, no matter how unjust it might look to us.
  – SOLVES: the ABSOLUTE AUTONOMY of God
• 2) **GOOD WORK IS A SIGN OF ELECTION**
  – Corollary: ill works are a sign of damnation
  – Fundamental shift from Luther’s inability to know:
    • “The Xtn will do good works, but seeming [appearances] good works can be carried out by a non-believer.”
  – Calvin: “Good works are testimonies of God dwelling in us.”

• 3) **GOOD WORKS A REMEDY FOR ANXIETY!**
  – I know I’m chosen if I do good works
  – Good works strengthen assurance in the believer that s/he is saved
  – No need for “FAITH ALONE”
ABSOLUTELY CRUCIAL!!!!!
Radically new evaluation of “work”!!!
No longer punishment for the sin of Adam and Eve.
GOOD WORKS ARE CERTAIN SIGN
OF “ELECTION”/ SALVATION.

• The Lord fits each one of us to look for our VOCATION [“calling”] – a subjective and individual place in the world
• God appoints duties to every person so that “he may not needlessly wander about in life.”
• All actions are judged in God’s sight by one’s vocation.

Rembrandt: portraits = VOCATIONS
Ignatius Loyola and Jean Calvin:

**BOTH EMPHASIZE INDIVIDUAL VOCATION!!**

Loyola: you make *Spiritual Exercises* [retreat]

to “discern” what you ought to do!

Again: Early Modern Catholicism ↔ Protestantism*: share individual
Luther: Two Sacraments: Baptism and Eucharist

Radical contrast:

Calvinist church

THE WORD
In Calvin, pulpit has replaced altar
[Word has displaced sacrament]

One degree less of “mediation”
Catholicism / Eastern Orthodoxy

Anglicanism [“high” and “low”]
  James I [1604]: “No bishop, no king.”
  [Church of England; Episcopal USA]

Lutheranism [“high”/ “low”]

Methodism

Calvinism ------------------------->
  [Presbyterianism: Scotland/USA]

Baptists
Anabaptists
Puritans/ Quakers
Levellers
Unitarians

STRONG MEDIATION
“High Church”

BISHOPS

Replace Bishop w/ “Office of Moderator”

NO BISHOPS

STRONG INDIVIDUALISM
“Low Church”
Catholicism/ Eastern Orthodoxy

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  “Wars of Religion” are wars over “mediation”

  Priest?  Bishop?
  ......

  Pope?
  King?????

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I. The “Wars of Religion” = Age of “Civil Wars”
A. The Case of German-speaking lands

“Peace of Augsburg” = 1555

Cuius regio, eius religio =

“Whose the region, his the religion”
1555 --- Holy Roman Emperor Charles V makes peace with Lutheran princes at Augsburg.

1556 --- Abdicates and retires to monastery [nervous breakdown]
EMPIRE

“modern” = SPAIN

STATE

“Holy Roman Empire” in 1555
“Peace of Augsburg” = 1555

*Cuius regio, eius religio* =

“Whose the region, his the religion”

**Here I stand??**

B. The Hybrid Case of Anglicanism
Causes/Consequences of “Reformation” in British Isles
Henry VIII
[Tudor]
1491-1547

* Catherine of Aragon - divorced
daughter: Mary I
* Anne Boleyn - beheaded
daughter: Elizabeth I
* Jane Seymour - died
  son: Edward VI
* Anne of Cleaves - divorced
* Catherine Howard - beheaded
* Catherine Parr - survived

Thomas More
d. 1535

1534: Act of Supremacy --
declares self Head of Church of
England

1535: Beheading of Thomas
More

1536: Act of Union: England
and Wales

1547: Henry dies
1547: Edward VI becomes king at age 9; removes his sisters Mary and Elizabeth from line of succession

*Book of Common Prayer* (1549)

Catholic/Calvinist hybrid

Catholic:
“sacraments / rites / ceremonies”

Calvinist:
“Church of England” – i.e., a national church (not allied to Rome)
1553: Edward VI dies of tuberculosis at age 15
crown passes to
Lady Jane Grey for 9 days

NB: 1555 = Peace of Augsburg

Queen Mary I, “Bloody Mary” [1553-1558]
Lord Mayor of London deposes Lady Jane Grey after nine days;
proclaims Mary Queen;
Catholicism becomes official religion
1559: “Bloody Mary” dies of cancer

Elizabeth declared head of Church of England

Elizabeth I: reigns: 1559-1603

Book of Common Prayer (1559)
Third revision
William Byrd: 1540-1623
William Shakespeare: 1564-1616

James VI [Stuart] of Scotland becomes James I of England
Mother: Mary [Stuart], Queen of Scots
Reign: 1603-1625

1603: Death of Elizabeth
“Virgin Queen” = no successor
Catholic/Calvinist hybrid is fragile ---
move towards Calvinism [i.e., Puritans]?

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1604: Against Puritans: “No bishops, no king.”
1606: Union Jack
1611: *King James Bible* [Authorized version]

James I ambivalently favorable toward Catholicism; increasing opposition of Puritans

Flag of the United Kingdom = “Union Jack”
Superposition of flags: St George (England), St Andrew (Scotland) and St Patrick (Ireland).

Catholicism/ Eastern Orthodoxy

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Methodism

Calvinism -------------------------->
[Presbyterianism: Scotland/USA]

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“Wars of Religion” are wars over “mediation”
Priest? Bishop?
……
Pope?
King??????
C. France: Neighbor of Geneva

French Wars of Religion [civil war] begin 1560

1555: Peace of Augsburg ; 1559: Elizabeth I

Hapsburgs to south and north [Spanish / Netherlands]

Calvin’s Geneva to east: cf. Lenin’s Moscow = exports revolution
French “Wars of Religion” [civil war] begin 1560

1555: Peace of Augsburg ; 
1559: Elizabeth I

1533-1592: Michel de Montaigne
Pyrrhonist skeptic --- stick with the State

Catherine de’ Medici
1519-1589
Mother of Margot
Pragmatic: first supports Protestants [Hugenots] to hold onto power; then Catholics
Catherine: arranges marriage of her daughter
Marguerite de Valois [“Queen Margot”] to
Henry of Navarre [Basque country; Protestant]

Marriage would cement alliance with Navarre
[wedge between Spanish Castille and Aragon]

Hapsburgs to south and north [Spanish / Netherlands]
Henry VIII  
[Tudor]  
1491-1547

* Catherine of Aragon - divorced  
  daughter: Mary I
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  daughter: Elizabeth I
* Jane Seymour - died  
  son: Edward VI
* Anne of Cleaves - divorced
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* Catherine Parr - survived

• August 24, 1572: St. Bartholomew’s Day

• Massacre:
  – Ordered? Or strongly suggested? By Catherine di Medici
    • Queen Mother / regent
    • Three neurotic sons
    • Struggle between these three sons mixed up in Reformation
St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre (1572) at Louvre Palace, Paris

- Coligny --- Calvinist advisor to weak king --- tossed out Louvre window
• 1589: Henry of Navarre becomes Henri IV
  – No blood relatives left
  – Civil War continues

• 1593: Henri IV decides that “Paris is worth a Mass.”
  – Abjures Protestantism and becomes Catholic
1598 -- Henri IV: EDICT OF NANTES

- 1) Establishes Catholicism official religion of France

- 2) Protestantism tolerated *in certain areas* (200 cities held by Hugenots, especially La Rochelle)

Henri IV assassinated

1610

by Catholic partisan
Reformation Stage III:
From civil wars to world war
1618-1648

1618-1648: Thirty Years’ War

Dutch Republic = Calvinist
Sweden = Lutheran
Hapsburgs = Catholic [blue]
Imperial Kaiser
Austria
Spain
Sp. Netherlands
France = Catholic

Who gets ports/ trade?
NB: Richelieu secretly funds the Dutch Protestants against Spaniards. Not simple confessional divides
Bloodbath: by end of wars, up to 40% of population killed

Pre-and Post- Thirty Years’ War: Medieval Empire abandoned

“International System” of nation-states:
UNITY / PURITY: One king / one religion / one language / one “people”

1648: PEACE OF WESTPHALIA
Holy Roman Empire ended in all but name
End of multi-cultural “empire” idea / beginning of int’l states idea:
principle of state sovereignty: non-interference

“state” = “monopolization of the means of violence”
1648: PEACE OF WESTPHALIA
principle of state sovereignty: non-interference

June 2002: “We must take the battle to the enemy, disrupt his plans and confront the worst threats before they emerge. And our security will require all Americans to be forward-looking and resolute, to be ready for preemptive action when necessary to defend our liberty and to defend our lives.”

--- President George W. Bush
1648: Modernity
Era of the nation-states

1992: Post-modernity?
End of the nation-states?

Maastricht Treaty 1992
Pre-modernity: empire

Post-modernity: union
THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY:
A QUEST FOR CERTAINTY

• 1618-1648: “Slaughterhouse of Europe”
  – Context: chaos and devastation
  – leads to 17th-c. search for certainty / clarity
  – This “search for stability” is the “hidden agenda of modernity”
  – End of old fluidities

Shift from 1500s→1600s

1348-1648: Renaissance fluidity
  Post-1648: Rationalism / Absolutism

SKEPTICISM → CERTAINTY
VARIETY → UNIFORMITY
LOCAL/PARTICULAR → UNIVERSAL
TIME-BOUND → TIMELESS

MIXTURE → PURITY

Mary Douglas: “There is energy in margins and unstructured areas… purity is the enemy of change, of ambiguity of compromise… Holiness requires that things shall not be confused. Mixture = perversion.”