



PROTESTANT REFORM IN THE NETHERLANDS

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- **PROTESTANT REFORM IN THE NETHERLANDS; THE BELGIC CONFESSION; ARMINIANISM & THE SYNOD OF DORT**
- **NETHERLANDS CONSISTED OF 17 PROVINCES:**
 - **AREAS OF PRESENT NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG & SOME OF FRANCE**
 - **UNDER HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE:**
 - **CHARLES V (RULED 1506-1555)**
 - **PHILLIP II FOLLOWED**

PROTESTANT REFORM IN THE NETHERLANDS

□ BEGINNINGS OF REFORM:

- EARLY LUTHERAN INFLUENCE (1520):
- CHARLES V SPONSORS INQUISITION:
 - HENRY VOES & JOHN ESCH MARTYRED (1523)
 - REFORM CONTINUES DESPITE PERSECUTION:
 - EDICTS OF 1529, 1535, 1550
 - LAST EDICT REQUIRES ALL HERETICS BURNED OR DECAPITATED:
 - INCLUDED THOSE HANDLING DISPUTED RELIGIOUS BOOKS OR SCRIPTURES IN NATIVE TONGUE
- CALVINIST INROADS BEGINNING IN 1540s
 - FRENCH SPEAKING NETHERLANDERS LEARNED FROM CALVIN IN STRASSBURG & GENEVA

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▣ THE BELGIC CONFESSION:

- AUTHORED BY GUIDO DE BRES (1561)
 - AIDED BY SARAVIA, MODETUS
 - REVISED BY FRANCIS JUNIUS:
 - STUDENT OF CALVIN
 - SENT TO GENEVA FOR APPROVAL
 - ADOPTED BY VARIOUS SYNODS (1566-1581) & GREAT SYNOD OF DORT (1619)
 - REVISED AT DORT
- CONTAINS 37 ARTICLES:
 - “BEST SYMBOLICAL STATEMENT OF CALVINISTIC DOCTRINE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WESTMINSTER CONFESSION”
 - ADOPTED (ALONG WITH HEIDELBERG CATECHISM) BY DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH

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- **PHILLIP II ASSUMES POWER (1555):**
 - **MORE ZEALOUS & HARSH THAN CHARLES V:**
 - **CONSPIRES WITH SPANISH KING TO EXTIRPATE ALL HERESY IN RESPECTIVE REGIONS**
 - **MOB DESECRATES ANTWERP CHURCHES (1566):**
 - **ICONOCLASTIC OUTBURST**
 - **NOT SPONSORED BY PROTESTANT CLERGY**
 - **PHILLIP “UNSHEATHES THE SWORD”**
 - **DUKE OF ALVA SENT TO HEAD THE ARMY**
 - **“COUNCIL OF BLOOD” FORMED**
 - **1800 PERSONS EXECUTED OVER FEW MONTH SPAN**
 - **WILLIAM, PRINCE OF ORANGE SEEKS TO LIBERATE THE NETHERLANDS (1566)**

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□ BATTLE FOR LIBERATION UNDER WILLIAM:

- ONGOING WAR (1566-78):
 - ALVA RECALLED TO SPAIN (1573):
 - BOASTS EXECUTION OF 18,000 OVER SIX YEARS
 - SEVEN NORTHERN PROVINCES UNITE UNDER WILLIAM (1575):
 - FORM UNION OF UTRECHT (1579)
 - HOLLAND & ZEALAND ARE LARGEST
 - NETHERLANDS DECLARE INDEPENDENCE (1581)
 - PROVINCES RENOUNCE PHILLIP
 - WILLIAM ASSASSINATED (1584)
 - SUCCEEDED BY SON, MAURICE
- MAURICE NEGOTIATES TRUCE W/SPAIN (1609):
 - EFFECTIVELY SECURES INDEPENDENCE

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□ THE ARMINIAN CONTROVERSY:

- JAMES ARMINIUS (1560-1609):
 - PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AT UNIVERSITY OF LEYDEN:
 - STUDENT UNDER BEZA (CALVIN'S GENEVA SUCCESSOR)
 - CHALLENGED BY COORNHERT ON SUPRALAPSARIANISM:
 - FINDS HE CANNOT DEFEND THE DOCTRINE
 - ADOPTS ANTI-SUPRALAPSARIAN & INFRALAPSARIAN VIEW:
 - EMPHASIZES COOPERATION OF THE HUMAN WILL IN SALVATION (FREEDOM OF WILL)
 - EMPHASIZES UNIVERSAL GRACE (ATONEMENT)
- EPISCOPIUS & UYTENBOGAERT SYSTEMIZE DOCTRINES AFTER ARMINIUS' DEATH
 - FIVE ARTICLES OF REMONSTRANTS (1610)

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□ THE ARMINIAN CONTROVERSY (CONT):

- FIVE REMONSTRANCE ARTICLES OR FIVE POINTS OF ARMINIANISM:

- ETERNAL DECREE OF SALVATION REFERS TO THOSE WHO SHALL BELIEVE & PERSEVERE IN THE FAITH
- CHRIST DIED FOR ALL MEN ALTHOUGH BELIEVERS ARE ONLY BENEFITED
- MAN CAN DO NOTHING TRULY GOOD UNTIL BORN AGAIN THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT
- GRACE IS NOT IRRESISTABLE
- FAITHFUL ARE ASSISTED BY GRACE IN TEMPTATION & KEPT FROM FALLING IF THEY DESIRE CHRIST'S HELP & ARE NOT INACTIVE

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- **THE ARMINIAN CONTROVERSY (CONT):**
 - CALVINISTS ISSUE COUNTER-REMONSTRANCE
 - CONFERENCES IN 1611, 1613, & 1614 YIELD NO CONCESSIONS:
 - SYNOD OF DORT CONVENED (NOV, 1618)
- **SYNOD OF DORT (1618-1619)**
 - CONVENED BY THE STATES-GENERAL
 - 84 MEMBERS; 18 SECULAR COMMISSIONERS
 - 58 DUTCHMEN, REMAINDER FOREIGNERS
 - EACH FOREIGN CHURCH INVITED TO SEND 3-4 DIVINES WITH VOTING RIGHTS
 - ONLY 3 REMONSTRANTS
 - 154 FORMAL SESSIONS:
 - FIVE CALVINISTIC CANONS, BELGIC CONFESSION, & HEIDELBERG CATECHISM ADOPTED

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□ SYNOD OF DORT (CONT)

- ARMINIANS DEPOSED UNDER MAURICE:
 - 200 CLERGYMEN & REMONSTRANT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP
- ARMINIANS ALLOWED TO RETURN & TEACH FREELY UNDER FREDERICK HENRY (1625)
 - ARMINIAN OR QUASI-ARMINIAN POSITIONS FIRST ADOPTED BY EPISCOPALIANS & METHODISTS
 - EVENTUALLY ADOPTED BY MOST PROTESTANT CHURCHES

□ FIVE CANONS OF DORT:

- ELECTION IS FOUNDED ON GOD'S PURPOSE "BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD"
- EFFICACY OF CHRIST'S ATONEMENT EXTENDS TO ELECT ONLY

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- **FIVE CANONS OF DORT (CONT):**
 - **FALL HAS LEFT MAN IN A STATE OF CORRUPTION & HELPLESSNESS; NO CAPABILITY TO POSITIVELY EFFECT SALVATION**
 - **REGENERATION IS INWARD RENEWAL OF THE SOUL & WILL; WHOLLY A WORK OF GOD**
 - **GOD PRESERVES THE ELECT, EVER RENEWING REPENTANCE AND GOOD WORKS, THAT DESPITE THEIR SINS, THEY DO NOT FINALLY FALL AWAY FROM GRACE**