



CALVIN & THE REFORMED CHURCH (PART I)

CALVIN & THE REFORMED CHURCH: PART I

- CALVIN'S BEGINNINGS, CONVERSION, INSTITUTES OF CHRISTIAN RELIGION, FIRST STAND AT GENEVA, & PERIOD IN STRASSBURG:
- JOHN CAUVIN (CALVIN) (1509-1564)
 - BORN JULY 10, 1509 IN NOYON, FRANCE
 - FATHER, GERARD, APOSTOLIC SECRETARY TO THE BISHOP OF NOYON
 - EARLY EDUCATION WITH NOBLE DE MOMMOR FAMILY (ARISTOCRATIC INFLUENCE)
 - BEGINS UNIVERSITY OF PARIS AT AGE 14
 - TRANSFERS TO COLLEGE DE MANTAIGU:
 - MASTER OF ARTS BY AGE 18
 - FATHER DESIRES A LAW PROFESSION
 - ENROLLS IN LAW SCHOOL AT ORLEANS (1528)

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□ CALVIN'S EARLY YEARS (CONT)

- AFTER FATHER'S DEATH (1531), CALVIN TURNS AWAY FROM DIRECTION OF LAW
 - COMPLETES DOCTRATE OF LAW (1532)
 - TURNS TO CLASSIC HUMANITIES (LANGUAGES, LITERATURE)
- COMPOSES FIRST BOOK AT AGE 22
 - COMMENTARY ON SENECA'S TWO BOOKS ON CLEMENCY

□ CALVIN'S CONVERSION:

- WHILE A DEEPLY SERIOUS & RELIGIOUS YOUTH, CALVIN DEMONSTRATED NO COMPULSION TO DEPART FROM CATHOLIC CHURCH

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- **CALVIN'S CONVERSION (CONT):**
 - CALVIN EXPOSED TO MANY PROTESTANTS DURING UNIVERSITY YEARS:
 - BOARDED WITH DE LA FORGE, DEVOUT FOLLOWER OF LUTHER
 - “BY A SUDDEN CONVERSION”, “GOD HIMSELF PRODUCED THE CHANGE” (1532)
 - “HE INSTANTLY SUBDUED MY HEART TO OBEDIENCE”
 - CALVIN RETICENT ABOUT ANY HUMAN INFLUENCE IN CONVERSION
- **PERSECUTION IN FRANCE:**
 - UNLIKE GERMANY & SWITZERLAND, FRANCE WAS A TIGHTLY CONTROLLED MONARCHY

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- **PERSECUTION IN FRANCE (CONT):**
 - **KING FRANCIS I OPPOSES PROTESTANTISM:**
 - **ACADEMICALLY SUPPORTED BY THE SORBONNE**
 - **FRANCIS' SISTER MARGUERITE (QUEEN OF NAVARRE) PROTECTS PROTESTANTS**
 - **COP ATTACKS THE SORBONNE (1533)**
 - **GHOST-WRITTEN OR GREATLY INFLUENCED BY CALVIN**
 - **“YEAR OF THE PLACARDS” (1534)**
 - **TWENTY-FOUR PROTESTANTS BURNED (NOV, 1534-MAY, 1535)**
 - **MANY FINED, IMPRISONED, & TORTURED**
 - **CALVIN FLEES TO STRASSBURG & BASEL**

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- **INSTITUTES OF CHRISTIAN RELIGION:**
 - **FIRST PUBLICATION IN BASEL, 1536**
 - **SIX CHAPTERS (LAW, CREED, LORD'S PRAYER, SACRAMENTS, CHRISTIAN LIBERTY)**
 - **SINCERE HOPE OF INFLUENCING FRANCIS I**
 - **HUGE DEMAND**
 - **CATHOLICS--"KORAN & TALMUD OF HERESY"**
 - **BURNED BY ORDER OF THE SORBONNE**
 - **SECOND PUBLICATION, 1538**
 - **EXPANDED TO 17 CHAPTERS**
 - **FINAL PUBLICATION, 1559**
 - **FIVE TIMES LARGER THAN ORIGINAL**
 - **DIVIDED INTO FOUR BOOKS:**
 - **GENERALLY FOLLOWS TOPICAL ORDER OF APOSTLE'S CREED**

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□ CALVIN AT GENEVA:

- CALVIN TRAVELS FROM BASEL TO FERRARA, ITALY:
 - MEETS WITH FRENCH PRINCESS RENEE, DUCHESS OF FERRARA
- RETURNS TO PARIS & NOYON, BASED ON KING'S TEMPORARY AMNESTY:
 - TRAVELLING FROM PARIS TO STRASSBURG, DETOURS THRU GENEVA DUE TO WAR
 - INTENDS TO STAY ONE EVENING IN GENEVA
 - DESIRES QUIET LIFE OF WRITER IN STRASSBURG OR BASEL
- “GOD THRUST ME IN THE GAME” (1536)
 - CONVINCED BY FAREL TO ASSIST IN GENEVA REFORM
 - “IF YOU REFUSE...GOD WILL CONDEMN YOU”

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□ CALVIN AT GENEVA (CONT):

- GENEVA MAGISTRACY & CITIZENS ADOPT PROTESTANTISM, 1536
- “ARTICLES CONCERNING ORGANIZATION & WORSHIP” (1537)
 - EMPHASIS ON FREQUENT COMMUNION, ENFORCEMENT OF DISCIPLINE & EXCOMMUNICATION, & PSALMODY IN THE CHURCH
- “CONFESSION OF FAITH” (1536)
 - 21 PARAGRAPHS:
 - FIRST, WE PROTEST THAT FOR THE RULE OF OUR FAITH & RELIGION, WE ARE RESOLVED TO FOLLOW SCRIPTURE ALONE
 - JULY, 1537 - CITY COUNCIL REQUIRES ALL CITIZENS TO ASSENT TO THE CONFESSION

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□ CALVIN AT GENEVA (CONT):

- DISPUTE BREAKS OUT (1538):
 - COUNCIL REFUSES MINISTERS RIGHT OF EXCOMMUNICATION
 - PROTEST AGAINST STRICT MEASURES OF FAREL:
 - REJECTION OF BAPTISMAL FONTS, ALL HOLIDAYS EXCEPT SUNDAY, & UNLEAVENED BREAD IN COMMUNION
 - INFLUENCE OF BERN TO ADOPT HER STANDARDS
- MINISTERS REFUSE TO SERVE COMMUNION
 - NO POWER TO “FENCE THE TABLE”
- MINISTERS EXPELLED FROM GENEVA (APRIL, 1538)

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□ CALVIN AT STRASSBURG:

- BUCER ENTICES CALVIN TO STRASSBURG:
 - “GOD WILL KNOW HOW TO FIND THE REBELLIOUS SERVANT AS HE FOUND JONAH”
- LECTURER IN HOLY SCRIPTURE AT STRASSBURG ACADEMY:
 - “MOST REKNOWNED RENAISSANCE SCHOOL”
- ALSO, MINISTER TO FRENCH REFUGEES (1538)
- STRASSBURG WRITINGS:
 - COMMENTARY ON ROMANS (1539)
 - FORM OF PRAYERS (1540)
 - LITTLE TREATISE ON THE HOLY SUPPER
 - COMMENDED BY LUTHER (1545)

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□ WORSHIP AT STRASSBURG:

- PERSONAL EXAMINATION BEFORE ADMISSION TO COMMUNION
- CALVIN DESIRED WEEKLY COMMUNION--ONLY PERMITTED MONTHLY
- ORDER OF WORSHIP:
 - PSALM 124:8
 - PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION
 - SINGING OF THE FIRST TABLE OF THE DECALOGUE
 - PRAYER
 - SINGING OF THE SECOND TABLE OF THE DECALOGUE
 - SERMON

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□ WORSHIP AT STRASSBURG (CONT):

• ORDER OF WORSHIP (CONT):

- COLLECTION OF ALMS
- PARAPHRASE OF THE LORD'S PRAYER
- FENCING OF THE TABLES
- PEOPLE COME TO THE TABLE
- PSALM 138 DURING DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS
- BENEDICTION (NUM 6:24-26)

□ CALVIN RETURNS TO GENEVA (1541)

• RETURNS WITH TREPIDATION:

- “THERE IS NO PLACE UNDER HEAVEN I AM MORE AFRAID OF”