

CHAPTER 17: 16TH, 17TH, AND 18TH CENTURY EUROPE



Major Changes

CHANGE #1: RENAISSANCE

Renaissance (c. 1300 - 1700)

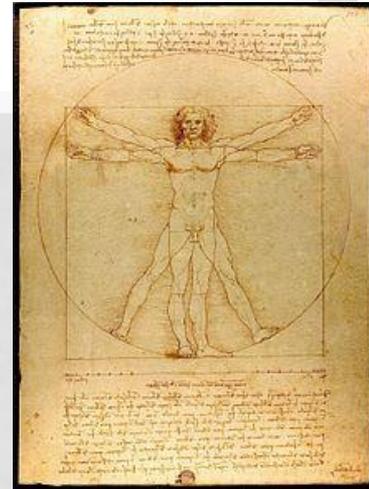
Italian Renaissance

- Funded by bankers and merchants
- Focus on humanism (life here and now, the individual) over spiritual Christianity.

Northern Renaissance (France, Germany)

- Intense religious devotion
- Focus on nature

Renaissance art, for the most part, was an upper-class movement



QUESTION

1. How did power and money help lead to the Renaissance?

CHANGE #2: PROTESTANT REFORMATION

- 1517: Martin Luther posted “95 Theses” on church door in Wittenberg, Germany
- Protested Catholic Church’s use of indulgences, Latin Bible, celibacy for priests, idea of Pope
 - Luther is excommunicated
- Luther believed salvation was obtained only through faith in Christ, NOT on following Church practices
 - Viewed Christian participation in commerce favorably
 - Luther's ideas spread rapidly via prints



RESULTS OF PROTESTANT REFORMATION

1. Spread of belief that salvation can be achieved through faith alone
2. Creation of new Protestant churches throughout Northern Europe and America
3. Supported culture of questioning of political/religious leadership
4. Papal power decreases → monarchs' power increases
5. Desire to read Bible → Increase in literacy
6. Increase in status of women → promotion of love between husband and wife
7. Growing literacy and the spread of the printing press → spread of new religious ideas

PROTESTANT DEVELOPMENTS

- Second Protestant Reformation (English Reformation): Henry VIII
 - Pope refused to annul first marriage to Catherine of Aragon as she had not produced a male heir.
- Jean (John) Calvin: Calvinism
 - Pre-destination (God predetermined the people who will be saved)



THE CATHOLIC REFORMATION

- Also called Counter Reformation
- Catholicism is threatened by sudden and extreme interest in Protestantism
 - Council of Trent, church assembly: abandon sale of indulgences
- Goal: incite Catholic fervor into Europeans, assert personal relationship with Christ through Church
- New missionary efforts
 - Jesuits: Americas and Asia
 - Spread Catholicism



QUESTIONS/ACTIVITIES

2. Please finish this analogy: After the Protestant Reformation Christianity in Europe was like... because...
3. Which result of the Protestant Reformation was the most significant?

RELIGIOUS DIVISIONS: 30 YEARS WAR

- Protestantism changes politics in 16th c. Europe
- 1618-1648: Thirty Years War
 - Religious (Protestants vs. Catholics) and political (Holy Roman Empire, German principalities, Sweden, France, Spain, Holland, and a bunch more).
 - Result: Treaty of Westphalia
 - Both Protestantism and Catholicism in Europe.
 - Emergence of nation-states and a sense of loyalty based upon one's nationality, not alliances between kingdoms.

RELIGIOUS DIVISIONS



QUESTIONS:

4. How does the 30-Year War illustrate state rivalries in Europe?

CHANGE #3: RISE OF NATION-STATE AND ABSOLUTE MONARCHY

Nation-state = Identification of a political entity (state) based upon common cultural characteristics.

- Common language
- Common religion
- Common cultural practices

As opposed to an empire where a political entity governs and unifies many different cultures.

ABSOLUTE MONARCHY

- Characteristics
 - **Divine Right**
 - Strong, professionalized army
 - High taxes to support wars
 - Utilize bureaucracies
 - State run manufacturing
 - Take advantage of new, educated middle class merchants.
 - Limit power of aristocracy (wealthy landowners, high status based on birth.
- King Louis XIV (reigned 1638-1715)
 - “I am the state”
 - Absolute monarchies set up in Prussia, Spain, Austria-Hungary



KING LOUIS XIV: PALACE AT VERSAILLES

- King Louis XIV (reigned 1638-1715)
 - Monumental architecture
 - Used to legitimize the rule of King Louis XIVDisplay political power.



PARLIAMENTARY MONARCHY

- Britain used a parliamentary monarchy
 - King shared power with representatives selected by the nobility and upper urban classes
- 1642-1649: English Civil War
 - Assertion of Parliament's power over the British monarch
- Glorious Revolution of 1689
 - Overthrow of English King James II
- Significance of Parliamentary Monarchy
 - Right of revolution
 - Monarchs should be restrained by institutions that protect public
 - Power of parliament over king
 - Political groups can compete for influence

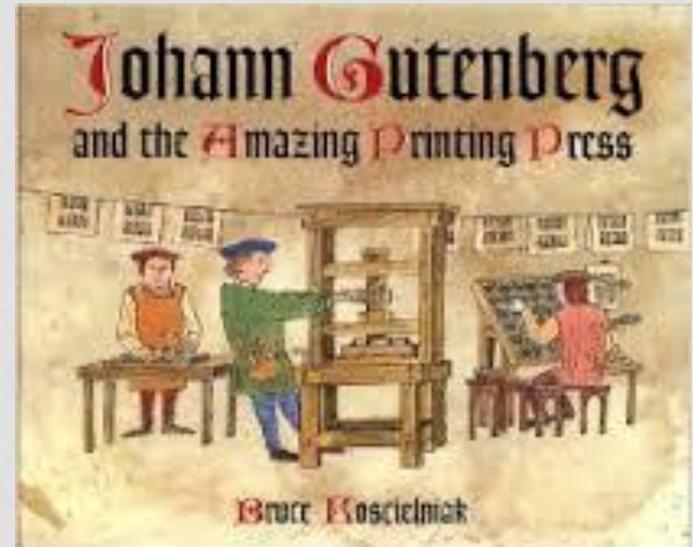


QUESTIONS:

5. How do absolute monarchs that emerge in Europe in the Early Modern Period use both God and architecture to legitimize their rule?

CHANGE #4: MASS LITERACY (PRINTING PRESS)

- Johannes Gutenberg perfected the printing press c. 1450.
 - Technology gained from China via Mongols.
- Powerful tool within Protestant Reformation
 - Enhanced literacy (not just for aristocracy).



MASS LITERACY

- Literacy expanded and was accompanied by the proliferation of popular authors, literary forms, and works of literature.
 - William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist.
 - Miguel de Cervantes: His major work, *Don Quixote*, considered to be the first modern European novel, is regarded amongst the best works of fiction ever written. His influence on the Spanish language has been so great that the language is often called *la lengua de Cervantes* ("the language of Cervantes")



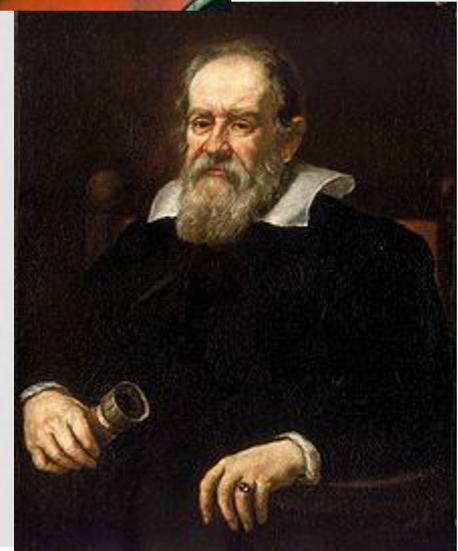
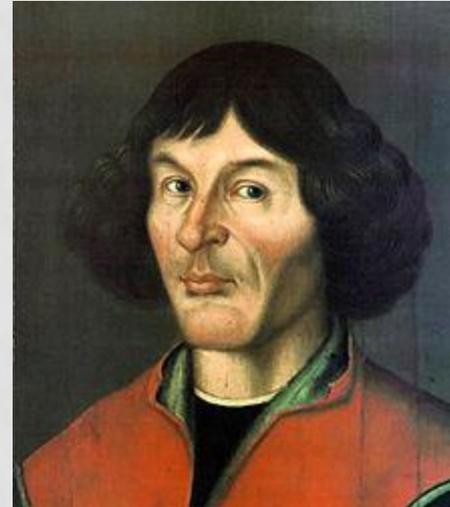
QUESTION:

6. What happened to literacy in Europe during the Early Modern Period?

7. Was the popularity of Shakespeare and Cervantes more of a cause or more of an effect of the rise in literacy during the Early Modern Period? Explain.

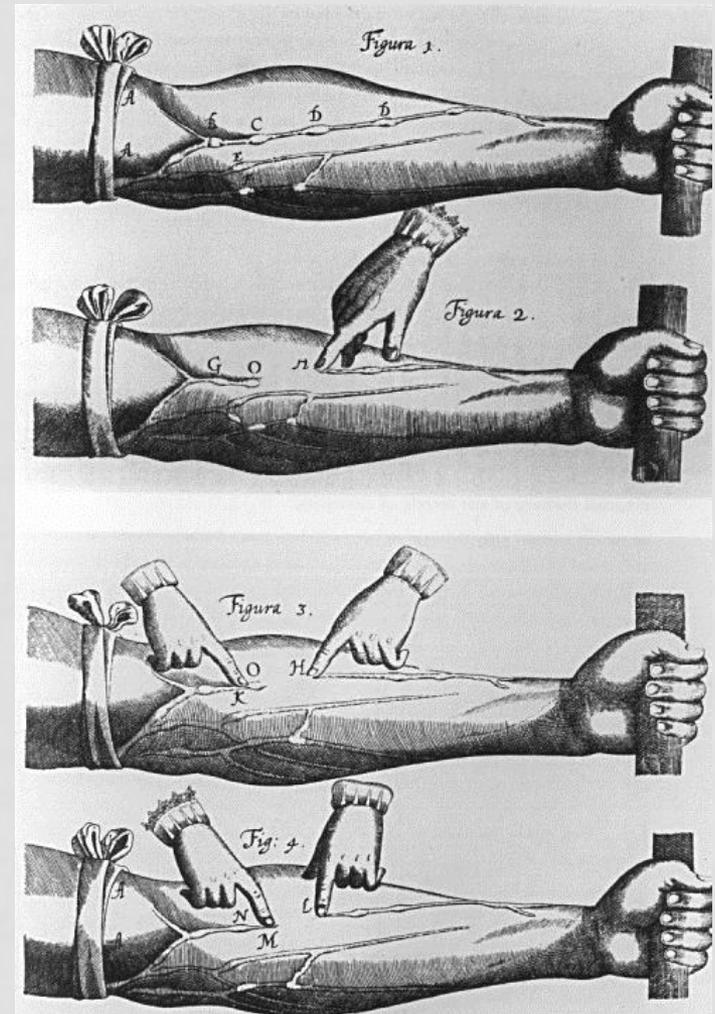
CHANGE #5: SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

- 17th and 18th centuries: New ideas in science that laid foundations for modern scientific thought
- Create laws for nature based off of Greek and Islamic science
- Copernicus (Polish) Galileo (Italian)
 - Heliocentric theory (earth revolves around sun).
 - Evidence used as proof.



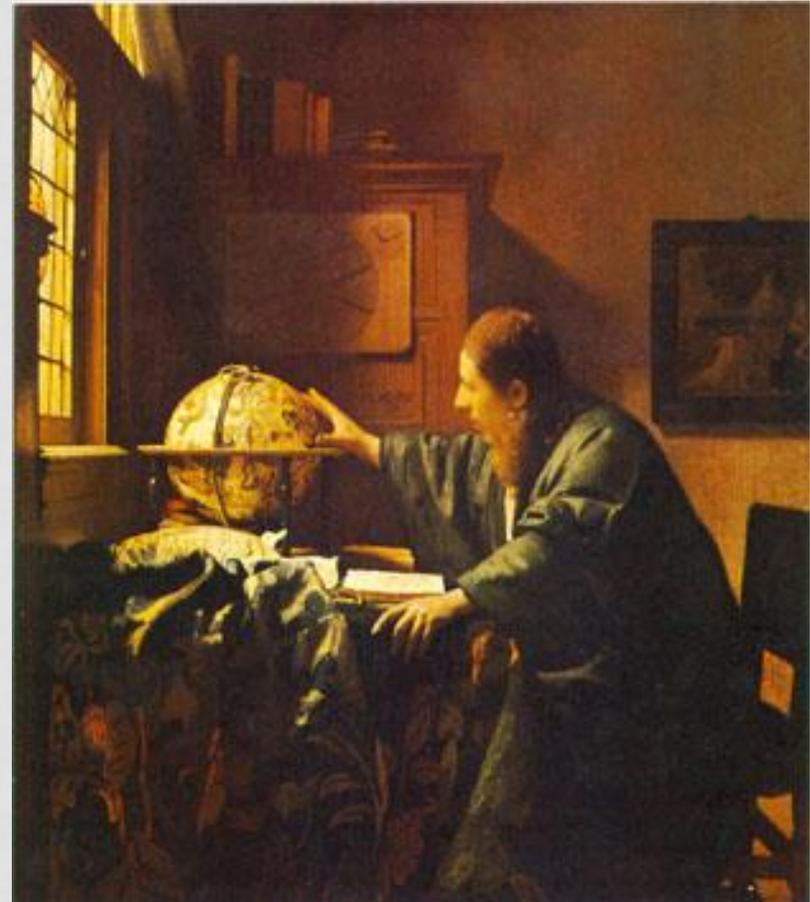
SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION, CONT.

- William Harvey (English)
 - Circulatory system powered by heart
- René Descartes (French)
 - “Father of Modern Philosophy”
 - Skeptical of accepted learning
 - “I think, therefore I am”
- Isaac Newton (English)
 - Defined forces of gravity
 - Basic principles of motion
- Francis Bacon (English)
 - Scientific Method: Observation, research, data



SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION, CONT.

- Scientific institutes established to advance research
- Growing belief that people could control and calculate environment
 - Insurance companies
 - Doctors attack healers, quacks
- Deism: a god created the Earth, but its only role was to set natural laws in motion
 - Reconciles religion with science
- The West becomes a leading center for science research



THE ENLIGHTENMENT

- Scientific Revolution led to the Enlightenment
 - Change in attitudes about politics, society, economics
 - Continued scientific advances
- Basic Beliefs:
 - Human beings are good but can be educated to be better
 - Reason is the key to truth
 - Religions that rely blindly on faith and do not tolerate diversity are wrong



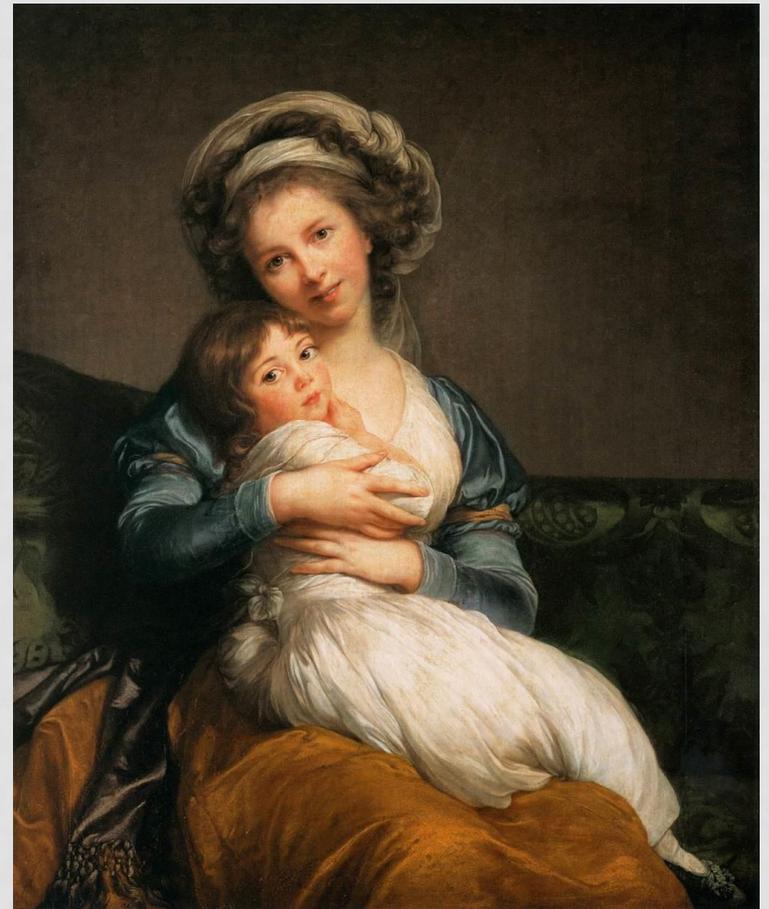
QUESTIONS:

8. What earlier events in Europe may have helped cause the Scientific Revolution? How?
9. How was the Enlightenment an extension of the Scientific Revolution?

CHANGE #6: FAMILY CHANGES

1450-1750

- Religious change promoted greater concentrations on family life with Protestantism
- Enlightenment encourages marriages based on love
 - Raises status of women
 - Later marriage ages
- Change in attitude towards children
 - Emphasis on nuclear families
 - Limit family birth rates
 - Swaddling declined
 - Educational toys and books



QUESTION:

10. How was gender and family restructured in Europe during the Early-Modern Period?

CHANGE #7: COMMERCIAL REVOLUTION

- Protestantism viewed involvement in commerce more favorably than Catholicism
- Inflation in western Europe caused by gold and silver imports
 - Production could not keep pace with wealth
- Trading companies were backed by governments but unregulated
- Specialty areas
 - Wine, cheese, wool, shoemaking, metalwork
- Prosperity increased for ordinary people



ONGOING CHANGE IN COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURING

- Economic change
 - Commerce continued to spread
 - Europeans began to buy processed goods
 - Sugar, coffee, tea
 - Paid professional performers; shows excess money
- Agricultural change
 - Draining swamps for more land
 - Seed-drills, use of scythes
- Capitalism spread
 - Investments in hopes for larger profits
 - Domestic manufacturing

QUESTION

11. The power of existing political and economic elites (European nobles who were born into the nobility and owned large tracts of land) fluctuated. Who/what would challenge the power of these nobles?