

Erasmus: In Praise of Folly

THE PRAISE OF FOLLY IS ONE OF THE MOST famous pieces of literature produced in the sixteenth century. Erasmus, who wrote it in a short time during a visit to the home of Thomas More, considered it a "little diversion" from his "serious work." Yet both contemporaries and later generations have appreciated "this laughing parody of every form and rank of human life." In this selection, Erasmus belittles one of his favorite objects of scorn, the monks. They were, however, merely one of the many groups he disparaged.

Erasmus, *The Praise of Folly*

Those who are the closest to these [the theologians] in happiness are generally called "the religious" or "monks," both of which are deceiving names, since for the most part they stay as far away from religion as possible and frequent every sort of place. I [Folly] cannot, however, see how any life could be more gloomy than the life of these monks if I did not assist them in many ways. Though most people detest these men so much that accidentally meeting one is considered to be bad luck, the monks themselves believe that they are magnificent creatures. One of their chief beliefs is that to be illiterate is to be of a high state of sanctity, and so they make sure that they are not able to read. Another is that when braying out their gospels in church they are making themselves very pleasing and satisfying to God, when in fact they are uttering these psalms as a matter of repetition rather than from their hearts. . . .

Moreover, it is amusing to find that they insist that everything be done in fastidious detail, as if employing the orderliness of mathematics, a small mistake in which would be a great crime. Just so many knots must be on each shoe and the shoelace may be of only one specified color; just so much

lace is allowed on each habit; the girdle must be of just the right material and width; the hood of a certain shape and capacity; their hair of just so many fingers' length; and finally they can sleep only the specified number of hours per day. Can they not understand that, because of a variety of bodies and temperaments, all this equality of restrictions is in fact very unequal? Nevertheless, because of all this detail that they employ they think that they are superior to all other people. And what is more, amid all their pretense of Apostolic charity, the members of one order will denounce the members of another order clamorously because of the way in which the habit has been belted or the slightly darker color of it. . . .

Many of them work so hard at protocol and at traditional fastidiousness that they think one heaven hardly a suitable reward for their labors; never recalling, however, that the time will come when Christ will demand a reckoning of that which he had prescribed, namely charity, and that he will hold their deeds of little account. One monk will then exhibit his belly filled with every kind of fish; another will profess a knowledge of over a hundred hymns. Still another will reveal a countless number of fasts that he has made, and will account for his large belly by explaining that his fasts have always been broken by a single large meal. Another will show a list of church ceremonies over which he has officiated so large that it would fill seven ships.



What are Erasmus's main criticisms of monks? What do you think he hoped to achieve by this satirical attack on monastic practices? How do you think the circulation of many printed copies of such attacks would have affected popular attitudes toward the Catholic Church?

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CONTEXTUALIZATION: Why did Erasmus, who was a Catholic, criticize the Catholic monks the way he did?

AP European History - Chapter 13 *The Reformation & Religious Warfare in 16th Century* Class Notes & Critical Thinking

Focus Question: What were Martin Luther's main disagreements with the Roman Catholic Church, and what political, economic and social conditions help explain why the movement he began spread so quickly across Europe?

Luther & Lutheranism

- Luther dissatisfied w/ older church
 - Many inner problems
 - Was worried about the devil, his littleness & suffering
 - The sacrament, prayer, & mass didn't provide him satisfaction that he would be helped
 - Changed his outlook by developing the doctrine of justification by faith alone = "the just shall live by faith"
 - Did not need alms, ornaments, but faith given to God alone
 - A person did not earn grace by doing good, but did good by having grace of God
 - All his ideas helped him live easier
 - Not all thought his ideas were against the church

Luther – Disillusions

- 1517: became disillusioned by church b/c John Tetzel selling indulgences to build St. Peter's in Rome
 - Wrong-couldn't earn grace this way
- **95 Theses**
- Reviewed Church's sacraments of penance law
 - After confession free of burden due to inner grace & faith not by priests
 - Appealed to Pope Leo X to stop sale of indulgences
 - Pope refused Luther suggested council
 - Luther felt people could read Bible & make own interpretation

Luther – Religious Changes

- Found truth in Bible for selves
- End reliance on fasts, saints, & masses
- No purgatory
- From 7 sacraments to 2: Baptism & communion
- Repudiate transubstantiation:
 - Consubstantiation -God was still in bread & wine
- Clergy could marry
- Monasticism should be ended
- To help bring changes, he called on power of princes
- State should have control over religion = new monarchies loved this idea!

Results of Luther's Actions

- Luther threatened w/ excommunication
 - Papal bull burned
 - Charles V tried to capture him
- Summoned to *diet of worms* to make him take back his ideas
 - Wouldn't take them back
 - Placed under bar of Empire
 - Elector of Saxony & N. Germany princes protected him = able to translate Bible into German
- Results of Luther and his ideas?

Critical Thinking:

Was the Reformation primarily driven by religion or politics? Why?

What are the major differences of Lutheranism from the Church?

Luther and the Ninety-Five Theses – Handout Reading

1. What were the major ideas of Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses?

2. Why did they have such a strong appeal in Germany?

For in-class work:

Historical Skills: COMPARISON

What does it mean to compare/contrast historical events/people/concepts? Do you need to contrast in order to compare?

How did the goals of Christian Humanists coincide and differ? Where does Luther fit in comparison to both Erasmus and More?

Subject	Causes	Actions	Results
Desiderius Erasmus			
Martin Luther			
Sir Thomas More			

Spread of Protestantism

Charles V's Reaction

- Seeks to stop Protestantism and preserve hegemony of Catholicism
- Habsburg-Valois Wars: five wars between 1521 and 1555
 - France tried to keep Germany divided (although France was Catholic)
 - Political impact of Lutheranism in Germany: division lasts until late 19th century.

Protestant Defense

- League of Schmalkalden, 1531: formed by newly Protestant (Lutheran) princes to defend themselves against emperor's drive to re-Catholicize Germany.
 - Francis I of France allied with League (despite being Catholic)
- Peasants' War (1524-1525)
 - 1525: peasants demanded end of manorialism (feudalism)
 - Inspired by Luther; Luther opposed to violence and peasant movement
 - Luther called on nobles to suppress the uprising
 - As many as 100,000 peasants killed

Anabaptists

- **Anabaptists:** voluntary association of believers with no connection to any state
 - Believed in Adult baptism
 - Strongly opposed by both Catholics & Lutherans
- Munster: became Anabaptist stronghold
 - Tragedy at Munster—Protestant and Catholic forces captured the city and executed Anabaptist leaders

Critical Thinking:

Were the wars between France and HRE religiously or politically driven? Why?

Why did the Protestants & Catholics ally together against Anabaptists?

AP European History - Chapter 13 *The Reformation & Religious Warfare in 16th Century* Class Notes & Critical Thinking

Focus Question: What were the main tenets of Lutheranism, Zwinglianism, Anabaptism, and Calvinism, and how did they differ from each other and from Catholicism? What impact did political, economic, and social conditions have on the development of these four reform movements?

Results of Luther

- Luther's views on new sects and the peasantry: did not believe in violent protest nor legitimacy of any other faith except mainstream Protestantism
- Denmark, Sweden became Lutheran
- **Ulrich Zwingli** (1484-1531), established leadership in Zurich, Switz
- Zwingli split with Luther over issue of Eucharist-believed in symbolism like Calvin

John Calvin

- Frenchman born 1509
- Priest, lawyer, humanist with knowledge of Latin & Greek, Hebrew
- Joined religious revolutionary movement but differed greatly due to predestination

1536 *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

- To all world not just rulers of Germany (Luther)
 - Did believe in Luther's fundamental ideas:
Justification of faith not just by works
- Differences between Calvin & Luther:
 - Luther: God was present in bread & wine
 - Calvin: pious act of symbolic character

2 Main differences between Calvin & Luther

- **Calvin: idea of predestination**
 - Those with grace were few "elect" or "godly"
 - People knew they were chosen ~ if one persisted in time of troubles would have saintly life
 - Some militant, uncompromising perfectionists = Puritan (England)
 - **Attitude toward Society & State**
 - Refused to recognize the church or state to lay down laws for religion
 - They felt true Christians should make the laws-remake themselves into religious community
 - Church should be governed by Presbyteries-elected bodies of ministers & devout laymen
- * Lay control, not control by priests

Spread of Calvinism

- Far greater impact on future generations than Lutheranism
- Presbyterianism in Scotland, John Knox (1505-1572); presbyters governed church
- **Huguenots** – French Calvinists; brutally suppressed in France
- Dutch Reformed – United Provinces of the Netherlands.
- **Puritans and Pilgrims** (a separatist minority) in England; established colonies in America
- ** Countries where Calvinism did not spread: Ireland, Spain, Italy – heavily Catholic

Critical Thinking:

On what major tenet do Zwingli and Luther differ?

How are Calvin and Zwingli alike?

Why do you think Calvin will become more popular than Luther throughout Europe?

English Reformation

- John Wycliffe (1329-1384): Lollards
- **Henry VIII:** 2nd of Tudor kings—considered a “New Monarch,” initially strong ally of Pope: *Defense of Seven Sacraments*; “Defender of the Faith”
 - Failed to get divorce from Catherine of Aragon
 - Excommunication by Pope Paul III
 - Thomas Cranmer, *42 Articles of Religion*: granted Henry his divorce

Henry VIII

- 1st Wife: Catherine of Aragon – Daughter Mary Tudor (Catholic)
- 2nd Wife: Anne of Boleyn – Daughter Elizabeth I (Prot.)
- 3rd Wife: Jane Seymour – Son Edward (Prot.)
- Had 3 more wives
- Succession: Edward, Mary, Elizabeth

Church of England (Anglican Church)

- **Act of Supremacy** (1534): King is now the head of the English Church
- **Treason Act:**
 - Execution of Thomas More
 - Statute of the Six Articles (1539): Henry attempts to maintain certain Catholic sacraments
 - Thomas Cromwell: Oversaw development of king’s bureaucracy

Edward VI (1547-1553)

- Ascended throne at age of 9 – Archbishop Cranmer regent
- Moved Church of England to become more protestant
 - Clergy marry, liturgy more protestant = resulted in opposition
- **Book of Common Prayer**-streamlined England to Protestantism

Mary Tudor

- Daughter of Catholic Catherine of Aragon
- (r. 1553-1558) tried to re-impose Catholicism
- Persecuted & executed heretics
- “Bloody Mary”
- Protestant sympathizers flee and come back to support Elizabeth I

Elizabeth I

- (r. 1558-1603) – the “Virgin Queen”
- Effectively oversaw the development of Protestantism in England (Anne Boleyn’s daughter)
- *Thirty-Nine Articles* (1563): defined creed of Anglican Church
- Anglican Church under Elizabeth I
- Mary Stuart (Queen of Scots) executed – tried to plan an overthrow of Elizabeth
- **Puritans** and Pilgrims (Separatists) sought to reform the church; Pilgrims left for Holland and then America

Critical Thinking:

Analyzing motives: Why did Henry VIII want the divorce?

Did Henry VIII or Edward VI make England “Protestant”? Why?

AP European History - Chapter 13 *The Reformation & Religious Warfare in 16th Century* Class Notes & Critical Thinking
Focus Question: What impact did the Protestant Reformation have on society in the 16th century?

Family:

Education:

Women:

How did the Reformation change society from the Middle-Ages through the Renaissance?

AP European History - Chapter 13 *The Reformation & Religious Warfare in 16th Century* Class Notes & Critical Thinking
Focus Question: What measures did the Roman Catholic Church take to reform itself and to combat Protestantism in the sixteenth century?

THE CATHOLIC & COUNTER REFORMATION

- Pope Paul III: Most important pope in reforming the Church and challenging Protestantism
 - Sought to “fix” some of the problems of the Church = Catholic Ref.
 - Tried to slow down conversions to Protestantism & bring back those that did = Counter Ref.
 - Major Problem: Too slow & few minor changes
 - People not convinced – continued to leave Church

New Religious Orders

- **Ursuline order of nuns** (1544): Sought to combat heresy through Christian education
- **Jesuits (Society of Jesus)** (1540):
 - 3 goals—reform church through education, preach Gospel to pagan peoples, fight Protestantism
 - **Ignatius Loyala** (1491- 1556): founder; organized in military fashion
 - Spiritual Exercises: contained ideas used to train Jesuits
 - Beginning in 1542, oversaw **Spanish and Roman Inquisitions**
 - Spain: persecution of Moors & Jews
 - Roman/Italian Inquisition: Counter Ref vs. Protestants
 - Succeeded in bringing southern German and eastern Europe back to Catholicism
 - Sacred Congregation of the Holy Order, 1542, in papal states: Roman Inquisition
 - ***Index of Prohibited Books***: catalogue of forbidden reading
 - Ended heresy in Papal States; rest of Italy not affected significantly

Council of Trent: 3 sessions 1545-1563

- Equal validity of Scripture, Church traditions, and writings of Church fathers
- Salvation by both “good works’ and faith
- 7 sacraments valid; transubstantiation reaffirmed
- Monasticism, celibacy of clergy, and purgatory reaffirmed
- Approved *Index of Forbidden Books*
- *Church reforms: abuses in sale of indulgences curtailed, sale of church offices curtailed,*
 - *Bishops given greater control over clergy, seminaries established to train priests*

***** Cemented the division within Christianity**

Critical Thinking:

What is the difference between Catholic and Counter Revolution?

Why did the Council of Trent fail to bring Catholics and Protestants back together?

Peace of Augsburg – 1555

- Princes did not back down to HRE emperor
- Princes in Germany can choose Protestantism or Catholicism
- Resulted in permanent religious division of Germany

How will the **Peace of Augsburg** affect the power of the HRE? Power of the princes?

Results of Reformation

- The unity of Western Christianity was shattered: Northern Europe (Scandinavia, England, much of Germany, parts of France, Switzerland, Scotland) adopted Protestantism.
- Religious enthusiasm was rekindled – similar enthusiasm not seen since far back into the Middle Ages.
- Abuses remedied: simony, pluralism, immoral or badly educated clergy were considerably remedied by the 17th century.
- Religious wars broke out in Europe for well over a century.



Which areas of Europe were solidly Catholic, which were solidly Lutheran, and which were neither?

Where did Calvinism grow?

True or False: The rise of Protestantism within Catholic strongly held territory led to the religious wars. Explain.

Focus Question Answer:

Focus Question: What role did politics, economic and social conditions, and religion play in the European wars of the sixteenth century?

French Wars of Religion

- 40 Yrs civil war (1562-1598)
- “Feudal Rebellion” (nobles, courts, church, towns, provinces, guilds) all vs. king
- Monarchies (similar to H.R.E.) unified France but slow travel & communication = disunity
- Results: strong local influences
- Not attached to Rome - helped Protestants & Turks because hated Habsburgs

Huguenots in France

- Huguenots: French Calvinists = radical
- Francis I & Henry II opposed spread of Calvinism = many Huguenots burned
- Henry II killed = 3 sons under 15 yrs old
- Weakened French monarchy
- Wife **Catherine de Medici** governs for sons
- France starts to fall apart - no strong control
- **Huguenots** vs Catholics for control
- Religious wars in France begins

3 Major Sides of French Wars of Religion

- 1. **Huguenots**
- Leaders: Admiral de Coligny & **Henry of Bourbon (King of Navarre)**
- Wanted local liberties & drive out popery
- 2. Catholics
- Leaders: Guise Family = Duche of Guise & Cardinal of Lorraine
- Wanted to destroy Calvinism & rule France
- 3. French Gov’t
- Leader: Catherine de Medici then sons = Charles IX, Henry III
- Caught in middle – refused the Huguenots, but didn’t want Guise Fam. to rule
- Play Huguenots vs. Catholics doesn’t work

Major Incidents

- **St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre:**
 - Leading Huguenots dragged from bed after wedding in Paris = 1,000’s killed
 - Coligny killed - Henry of Navarre changed religion
- **Stalemate:** Truces attempted but neither side trusted the other, fighting cont.
- **Politiques:** Said room for both churches = stop fighting because no justification
 - Secular view, believed strong monarchy = peace
- **War of Three Henri (1588-1589):** Henry of Guise, Henry III, **Henry Navarre (survived to win & crowned King Henry IV)**

Interactive Notes:

Were the religious wars primarily religiously or politically motivated?
Answer for both religious wars.

Edict of Nantes – Provisions 1598

- A. Protestant nobles worship in homes
- B. Protestantism in towns where main rel.
- C. 1 town in each county had to be Protestant
- D. Protestantism not allowed in Catholic towns or around Paris
- E. Protestants have civil rights, pub. Office, & entrance to Catholic U's
- F. Law chambers both Cath. & Prot.
- G. 100 towns prot. protect themselves

Cardinal Richelieu

- Becomes “real” ruler of France after Henry IV death in 1610
- Rules for Louis XIII (too young to rule)
- Strengthened France
- Repealed Edict of Nantes = Catholic only France

Spanish Wars of Religion

- Phillip II (1556-1598)
- Very strong Catholic & led Counter-Ref.
- Wanted to re-Catholicize Europe
- Protestantism rampant around France
- Phillip II starts Catholic Crusade (1567-1572)
- 1567: Inquisition to Netherlands
- 1569: Put down revolt of Moriscos
- 1569: Rose up against Eliz. I (Led by Duke of Norfolk)
- 1571: Naval battle vs. Turks
- 1572: France Cath. try to stamp out Huguenots in France
- * All not permanent success
- Religious divisions in Netherlands
- Takes over N. Provinces (Calvinists) = revolt
- Council of Troubles Phillips retaliation
 - 1,000's sentenced to death, new heavy taxes, took noble estates = Neth. United
 - Protestants seek help from Prot. England under Elizabeth I

Spanish Netherlands

- Dutch leader William of Orange (the Silent)
- Nat'l leader who hated Spain = attacked ships w/ pirates “sea clogs”
- Neth. torn by anarchy revolution & civil war
- 1576 tried to overcome religious differences to fight Spain

Elizabeth I's Role in the Wars

- **Elizabeth I** secretly aided Neth. because of secret plots by Mary of Scots & Don Juan (1/2 brother of Phillip II)
- Wanted to use Netherlands as base to invade England
- Phillip wanted “heretic” sister-in-law off English throne

Critical Thinking:

Did Protestants gain equal rights in France?

Was Phillip II obsessed with eliminating Protestantism from Europe or a patriot for Spain?

Prince of Parma

- Succeeded Don Juan 1578
- Rallies Catholics (S. Prov.) to fight w/ him
- Union of Utrecht formed 1579 by Protestants in response
- Declared ind. From Spain & called selves United Provinces of the Netherlands
- Result: N. Prot. Vs. S. Catholics
- Elizabeth openly sending aid to Prot. N.

Phillip's Reaction

- Phillip sent Spanish Armada 130 ships, 30,000 men & 2,400 pieces artillery
- Plan: Take straits to England but met by English led by Sir Francis Drake (200 lighter & faster ships; fire ships)

Results

- Phillip died 1598
- England defeated Spain: nat'l unity/ind., Protestantism preserved, Engl. freedom of seas
- Netherlands signed 12Yr Truce w/ Spain 1609
- Netherlands split into Prot. Dutch Neth. & Catholic Spanish Netherlands (Belgium) & as a whole ruined by battles
- Spain weakened & broke - seas open = England became naval power

Critical Thinking:

What factors allowed an underdog England to be the top dog Spain during the Spanish War of Religion?

Queen Elizabeth I: "I Have the Heart of a King" pg 398

Queen Elizabeth I: "I Have the Heart of a King"

QUEEN ELIZABETH I RULED ENGLAND from 1558 to 1603 with a consummate skill that contemporaries considered unusual in a woman. Though shrewd and paternalistic, Elizabeth, like other sixteenth-century monarchs, depended for her power on the favor of her people. When England faced the threat of an invasion by the Spanish armada of Philip II in 1588, Elizabeth sought to rally her troops with a speech at Tilbury, a town on the Thames River. This selection is taken from her speech.

Queen Elizabeth I, Speech at Tilbury

My loving people, we have been persuaded by some, that are careful of our safety, to take heed how we commit ourselves to armed multitudes, for fear of treachery; but I assure you, I do not desire to live to distrust my faithful and loving people. Let tyrants fear; I have always so behaved myself that, under God, I have placed my chiefest strength and safeguard in the loyal hearts and good will of my subjects. And therefore I am come amongst you at this time, not as for my recreation or sport, but being resolved, in the midst and heat of the battle, to live or die amongst you all; to lay down, for my God, and for my kingdom, and for my people, my honor and my

blood, even in the dust. I know I have but the body of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart of a king, and of a king of England, too; and think foul scorn that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe, should dare to invade the borders of my realm: to which, rather than any dishonor should grow by me, I myself will take up arms; I myself will be your general, judge, and rewarder of every one of your virtues in the field. I know already, by your forwardness, that you have deserved rewards and crowns; and we do assure you, on the word of a prince, they shall be duly paid you. In the mean my lieutenant general shall be in my stead, than whom never prince commanded a more noble and worthy subject; not doubting by your obedience to my general, by your concord in the camp and by your valor in the field, we shall shortly have a famous victory over the enemies of my God, of my kingdom, and of my people.



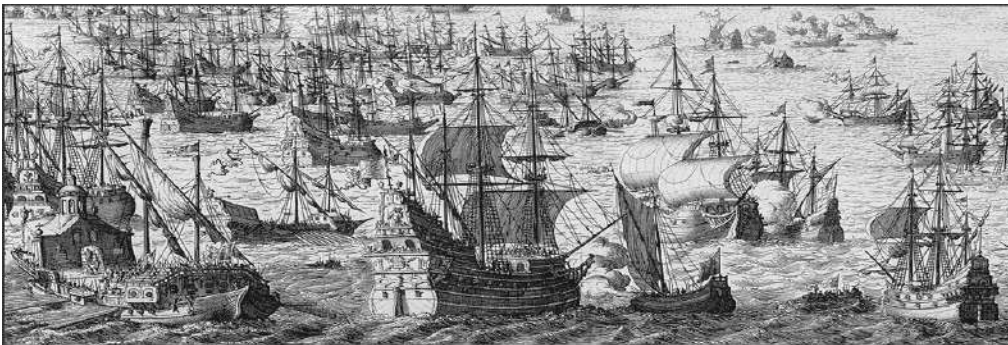
What qualities evident in Elizabeth's speech would have endeared her to her listeners? How was her popularity connected to the events of the late sixteenth century?

Source: From Elizabeth I's Speech at Tilbury in 1588 to the troops.

AP European History - Chapter 13 *The Reformation & Religious Warfare in 16th Century* Class Notes & Critical Thinking

Read Queen Elizabeth's speech and answer the questions:

1. What qualities evident in Elizabeth's speech would have endeared her to her listeners?
2. How was her popularity connected to the events of the late sixteenth century?
3. CONTEXTUALIZATION: Why did Elizabeth give this speech to her soldiers? How did it show her to be brave?



The English Fleet Engages the Spanish Armada

What can be learned about the Spanish Armada attack & defeat by examining this painting?