

1- How powerful was the Catholic Church in Europe in 1500? Why is it so powerful? What is the common person's relationship to the Church in 1500?

The Catholic Church in 1500 was very powerful because many people moved to this holy land in order to fight for their beliefs. Church controlled their lives by falsehood. Church frightened the people by introducing those wrong beliefs. Church was very powerful because of the following reasons:

1. People who developed the crop used to give one tenth of their crop to the church that is known as Tithes. Because of this tradition lots of people need to work hard and also suffered a lot and faced the money shortage.
2. Church also gained the control on the belief of the people by introducing the concept of heaven and hell. Church told to the people that their souls either go to the heaven or the hell where hell is place of sufferings and the pain.
3. Church told to the people that by doing several things they can minimize their period of stay in purgatory these things include visit to the church, buying a special pardon, going to the indulgence by these things church make lot of money because most of the rich people make the money by this way people also used to make the money by Tithes.
4. Church was controlled by the person known as pope not by the king in case of any crime also decision was taken by the pope only. (Mr.Lind)

2- Why does Martin Luther join a monastery? What was his personal journey? Did he always intend to become a priest/monk?

No, Martin Luther was not intended to become the priest/Monk. Martin Luther was born on 10 November 1483 in the town named Saxon. His father was a miner and not very rich person he was very hard worker because of his hard work he owned the six foundries. Martin Luther parents wanted that the Luther should become a lawyer due to this reason he was enrolled into the university of Erfurt and earned the bachelor's degree in 1502 and in 1505 he earned the master's degree. He set his mind full to continue his study in law but one day in 1505 when Luther was going to the Erfurt University from his home he was attacked by the horrible thunderstorm and Luther was scared from the death of lightning therefore he prayed to the patron saint of miners and uttered these words **"Help me, St. Anne, and I will become a monk."** That

was the turning point in the Martin Luther life and after the two weeks of this incident in a party he announced that he would join the monastery and Luther gave away his master caps and all the books of law. He joined the monastery on July 17, 1505, (Weaver)

3- How does Martin Luther's trip to Rome affect his view of the Church? What happens to Luther in Rome?

Martin Luther always considered the church as a holy place where lot of people has belief and Rome is a city of prayers. But when he entered into Rome he found that everyone was doing the business and was playing with the beliefs of the people in the church .Priest were only doing drama of prayer and were making the money. Instead of a city of prayers and alms, of contrite hearts and holy lives, Rome was full of mocking hypocrisy, defiant scepticism, jeering impiety, and shameless revelry. (Gillis, 2016)

4- What is it about the Church that leads him to write the "95 Theses"?

On 31st Oct 1517 Martin Luther posted 95 theses at Wittenberg All Saints Church by the thought of changing the world that was the criticism of the indulgences. Luther was worried after seeing the Rome but he confirmed to write the thesis after John Tetzel empowered by the pope to sell an indulgence for restoration of the buildings. Initially it was believed that people had been forgiven for their sins (The 95 Theses, 2016). Martin Luther theses were written in the Latin that later translated into German and the other languages.

5- What is the reaction of the Church? Does it simply accept the Protestant Reformation as a "Fait accompli"?

The reformation in the church had created the spirit of independence. The first reaction was the Counter Reformation by the Roman Catholics .Counter reformation was very useful in the Europe and Austria recovery and also Southern Germany parts. Counter Reformation achieved the great success because controversial spirit grew among Protestants, Evangelical Enthusiasm among the Protestants lost; Papacy had advantage of thoroughly organized system, Roman church also benefited by this reformation of Protestants because church only made them to attempt the reform. Reformation also led the Catholics to do something for the internal corruptions or the corruption found within the organization. Index that was the list of books banned for the Roman Catholics to read by means of this reformation the Calvin and Luther writings were kept from the Roman Catholic people. Reformation also brought Inquisition success in Italy and Spain. (Arnold) Protestant reformation also divided the Europe into two

parts south remained catholic whereas North became protestants. It increased the intolerance level because everyone was trying to destroy the other's religion. Education became the important part because reformation wanted everyone to read the Bible.

6- To whom does Martin Luther address his writings/appeals? Are his writings intended for the peasantry or the nobility? What is his reaction to the social upheaval that follows?

Martin Luther addressed his writing/appeals to Christian Nobility of the German Nation. His writing intended for the peasantry or the nobility. Romanists have made three walls around them that were First, Temporal power according to this wall they have maintained or affirmed that spiritual power is more important than temporal power and temporal power has no jurisdiction on them. Second, they objected on scriptures that only pope may interpret the scriptures. Third, If Romanists are threatened by the council then they pretend that only pope can call the council no one else can. Martin Luther formulated the ways to overcome from these walls formed by the Romanists he believed that the first wall was overthrown God should have the power or to differentiate between the goods and the bad temporal power has become the part of the Christian body. For the second wall Martin Luther Believed that all are priests all have one faith, one Sacrament, one Gospel then why need to be dependent on one person and why we do not have powers of judgement about right and wrong in the case of faith. For the third wall Luther found that pope has authority to take the decisions if he is the faithful member of the whole body. (Monica Banas, 1996)

7- Did Martin Luther intend to start a “revolution”? Or is it political climate of the times that is more responsible? What other circumstances in Europe at the time, when added to Luther’s writings, produce the Reformation

Martin Luther was the holy person had great belief in the fact that faith in god is the step to the heaven he was not intended to start a revolution. The factors that forced the Martin Luther to start the revolution are as follows (History Revision - Reformation & Counter-Reformation):

- SIMONY: It is the selling of the jobs and the positions within the church.
- NEPOTISM: This is selling of jobs and positions to the church member family member.
- ABSENTEEISM: Bishops never visit their dioceses.
- PLURALISM: Bishops involved in many charges of dioceses at the same time.
- Church had huge wealth

- Catholic Church was not organized properly
- Popes and Bishops in Catholic Church were corrupted and were not paying attention in performing their duties were only busy in spending the church money on their lives and lived the life of king and princess.
- Priests in the Catholic Church were uneducated and were not able to read the Bible
- Europe king desire to extend their power.
- People were ignoring their religions

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