

Influences that helped the Reformations Take Root

- I. Rise of Cathedral School, then University, Educations
 - a. Cathedral School took the place of monasteries for the education of students
 - b. Universities replaced cathedral school
 - i. Started by guilds of teachers renting rooms and students paying for instruction
 - ii. Generally, undergraduates studied Philosophy
 1. Graduate schools in Theology, Law, and Medicine
- II. Urbanization of Population
 - a. More than ever, people were moving out of rural areas and into towns and cities
 - b. Reformation was about social mobility, theology, and politics!
- III. Unrest in the leadership of the (Western) Church
 - a. First criticism of the papacy
 - b. The Babylonian Captivity of the Church (Papacy in Avignon years) 1304-1377
 - c. The Western Schism 1378-1415
 - i. 3 popes (Rome, Avignon, Pisa) at one time
 - d. Came back together after the council of Constance (1414-17)
- IV. Famine and Plague led to population loss
 - a. Helped fuel urbanization as survivors moved to cities
 - b. Wiped out 30% of the European population
 - c. Renewed focus on death and shortness of life
 - d. Church developed masses for the dead and indulgences
 - i. Benefit of the doubt: they were for pastoral care
- V. Papacy became more corrupt than ever
 - a. Bribery

- b. Poisoning and selling offices
- VI. Rise of pre-reformation movements
 - a. Peter Waldo and the Wadensians
 - i. Embraced poverty and rejected transubstantiation
 - b. John Wyclif and the Lollards
 - i. Embraced English translation of the Bible (Wyclif Bible), against transubstantiation, anti-clericalism
 - c. Jan Hus and Hussites
 - i. Influenced by Wyclif
 - ii. Against the immorality of the papacy
 - iii. Embraced receiving communion in both kinds
 - iv. Jan Hus was burned at the stake in 1415 after being brought the council of Constance (1414)
- VII. Renaissance
 - a. An embrace of classical Greek and Latin languages, texts, art, and politics
 - b. Shepherded by scholars known as Humanists who re-embraced a classical approach to learning
 - c. Foremost Humanist: Erasmus of Rotterdam

Bibliography

- Lindberg, Carter. *The European Reformations*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 1996.
- Dowley, Tim. *Atlas of the European Reformations*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015.