**Chapter 13 Notes**

**Section 1**

* The Renaissance began in the 1300s and reached its peak around 1500.
* The Renaissance means “rebirth” because people felt their era was a time of rebirth after what they saw as disorder and disunity of the medieval world.
* The Renaissance marked the transition from medieval times to the early modern world.
* What was the Renaissance?
  + The Renaissance was a time of creativity and great change in many areas—political, social, economic and cultural.
  + It marked a slow shift from an agricultural society to an urban society, in which trade assumed a greater importance than in the past.
  + It was also a time when creative thinking and new technology let people understand and describe their world more accurately.
* The people of this time period…
  + Had a reawakened interest in the classical learning of Greece and Rome
  + They had new attitudes toward culture and learning
  + Instead of focusing on religious beliefs and spirituality like the medieval scholars, they focused on the richness and variety of human experience in the here and now.
  + Society placed a new emphasis on individual achievement
* The Renaissance ideal was a person with talents in many fields.
* At the heart of the Italian Renaissance was an intellectual movement known as humanism:
  + Humanists studied the classical culture of Greece and Rome, but used that study to increase their understanding of their own times.
  + They believed education should stimulate the individual’s creative powers
  + They emphasized the **humanities**—subjects such as grammar, *rhetoric* (the study of using language effectively), poetry and history—that had been taught in the Roman and Greek schools.
* Francesco Petrarch was a Florentine who lived in the 1300s. He was an early Renaissance humanist, poet and scholar. WHY was he important? He assembled a library of Greek and Roman manuscripts in monasteries and churches. His efforts enabled the works of greats like Homer and Virgil.
* Why did the Renaissance begin in Italy?
  + Italy’s history and geography:
    - Renaissance thinkers were interested in ancient Rome. Italy had been the center of the Roman Empire and people could study its arts and architecture in Italy.
    - Italy’s location on the Mediterranean Sea encouraged trade with the Muslim world. This brought wealth it Italy that, in turn, fueled Italy’s Renaissance.
    - Trade routes also carried new ideas that were important in shaping the Renaissance. For example, contact through trade gave Italy access to the Muslim world’s wealth of knowledge.
  + Italy’s city-states:
    - Unlike the kingdoms in the rest of Europe, Italy was divided into many small city-states. Each Italian city-state was controlled by a powerful family and dominated by a wealthy and powerful merchant class. These merchant families held both political and economic leadership, and their interest in art and emphasis on personal achievement helped to shape the Italian Renaissance.
    - The Medici family of Florence was one of the richest families in Europe and they gained control of the Florentine government in 1434. Lorenzo Medici, known as “The Magnificent,” represented the Renaissance ideal. He was a clever politician, a generous patron (financial supporter) of the arts.
    - The Medici family’s great wealth and influence transformed Florence. It came to symbolize the energy and brilliance of the Italian Renaissance. It produced a large number of gifted poets, artists, architects, scholars, and scientists in a short period of time.
* The Renaissance attained its most glorious expression through paintings, sculpture and architecture.
* Renaissance Art:
  + Renaissance art reflected the ideas of humanism.
  + Renaissance artists portrayed religious themes and also well-known figures of the day (WHY? Because it reflected the humanist interest in individual achievement.)
    - For example, Donatello created a life-sized statue of a soldier on horseback.
  + Renaissance artists developed new techniques for representing both humans and landscapes:
    - Example: The rules of perspective allowed Renaissance artists to create realistic art. HOW? By making distant objects smaller than those close to the viewer, artists could paint scenes that appeared three-dimensional.
* Renaissance architecture:
  + Renaissance architecture was like a “Social art” meant to blend beauty with utility and improvement of society.
  + Architects rejected the Gothic style as “disorderly.” Instead, they adopted the columns, arches, and domes that had been favored by the Greeks and the Romans.
    - For example, Filippo Brunelleschi (broo nay LAYS kee) created a majestic dome for the cathedral in Florence, which he modeled after the Pantheon in Rome.
* Artist Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) was, like other Renaissance artists, multi-talented. He had an endless curiosity that fed a genius for invention. He dissected corpses to learn about muscles and bones. He made sketches of nature and of models in his studio. As a result, his paintings were very realistic.
  + His most famous include:
    - The *Mona Lisa*, which is a portrait of a woman with a mysterious smile.
    - *The Last Supper* shows Jesus and his apostles on the night before the crucifixion. It is considered both a moving religious painting as well as a masterpiece of perspective.
  + Leonardo thought of himself as an artist, but his talents and accomplishments ranged over many areas including botany, anatomy, optics, music, architecture and engineering.
* Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) was another Renaissance artist with many talents. He was a sculptor, painter, architect, and poet.
  + He has been called a “melancholy genius” WHY? Because his work reflects many life-long spiritual and artistic struggle.
  + His greatest works include:
    - *David* which he sculpted out of a block of marble left over from another sculpture. It was completed in 1504 and was commissioned to express the power and strength of Florence.
    - The *Pieta* captures captures the sorrow of Mary as she cradles her dead son Jesus on her knees.
    - Possibly his greatest project was painting a series of murals on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. The enormous task took 4 years to complete and left Michelangelo partially crippled. It depicts the biblical history of the world from the Creation to the Flood.
    - Michelangelo was also a talented architect. He designed the famous dome of St. Peter’s Cathedral in Rome.
* Raphael (1483-1520) was widely admired both for his artistic talent and his sweet and gracious nature.
  + He developed his own style of painting that blended Christian and classical styles.
  + He is best known for his portrayals of the Madonna, the mother of Jesus.
* Renaissance writing:
  + Italian writers reflected trademark Renaissance curiosity and interest in the humanities.
  + Writers developed a literature of guidebooks to help ambitious men and women who wanted to achieve success in the Renaissance world:
    - The most widely read of these handbooks was *The Book of the Courtier* by Baldassare Castiglione (kahs teel YOH nay). It describes the manners, skills, learning and virtues that a member of the court should have. Castiglione’s ideal courtier was a well-educated, well-mannered aristocrat who mastered many fields.
  + Niccolo Machiavelli wrote a guide for rulers to gain and maintain power.
    - Unlike ancient writers such as Plato, Machiavelli didn’t discuss leadership in terms of high ideals. Instead, his book *The Prince* looked at real rulers in an age of ruthless power politics.
    - Machiavelli stressed that the end justifies the means. He urged rulers to use whatever methods were necessary to achieve their goals.

**Section 2**

* It took longer for the Renaissance to get going in Northern Europe because they were slower recovering from the Black Death.
* A new invention aided the spread of the Renaissance. In about 1455 Johann Gutenberg (German) printed the first complete edition of the Bible using a printing press and movable type. This started a printing revolution that would transform Europe.
  + Before this printing press, there were only a few thousand books in all of Europe. These books had been slowly copied by hand. By 1500, 15-20 million volumes had been produced on printing presses.
* The printing revolution brought great changes:
  + Printed books were cheaper and easier to produce than hand-copied works. With books more readily available, more people learned to read. Readers gained access to a broad range of knowledge.
* The Northern European Renaissance began in Flanders, a region that included parts of present-day northern France, Belgium and the Netherlands. From here, the Renaissance spread to Spain, France, Germany and England.
* Flemish artists:
  + In the 1400s, Jan van Eyck was one of the most important Flemish painters. His portrayals of townspeople as well as religious scenes had rich, realistic details.
  + In the 1500s, Pieter Bruegel (BROY gul) used vibrant colors to portray lively scenes of peasant life, earning him the nickname “Peasant Bruegel.” He also addressed religious and classical themes, but set them against a background of common people.
  + In the 1600s, Peter Paul Rubens blended the realistic tradition of Flemish painters with the classical themes and artistic freedom of the Italian Renaissance. Many of his enormous paintings portray a wide knowledge of mythology, the Bible and classical history.
  + German painter Albrecht Durer (DYOOR ur) was one of the first northern artists to be profoundly affected by the Italian Renaissance. At the same time, his own methods influenced artists in Italy. Because of his wide range of interests he is often called the “Leonardo of the North.”
    - Durer’s important innovation was to apply the painting techniques he had learned in Italy to engraving, which is when an artist etches a design on a metal plate with acid. The artist then uses the plate to make prints.
    - Many of Durer’s engravings portray religious upheaval, one of the northern Renaissance’s most powerful themes.
* Northern Renaissance Humanists and Writers:
  + Humanist scholars stressed education and classical learning. WHY? They hoped to bring about religious and moral reform.
  + Though Humanist scholars wrote mostly in Latin, other writers began to write in the vernacular which appealed to a new, middle class audience who lived in northern towns and cities.
  + The Dutch priest and humanist Desiderius Erasmus, born in 1466, was one of the most important scholars of the age.
    - He wrote texts on a number of subjects and used his knowledge of classical languages to produce a new Greek edition of the Bible.
    - He called for a translation of the Bible into the vernacular.
    - As a priest, he was disturbed by corruption in the Church and called for reform.
  + Erasmus’s friend, Sir Thomas More, pressed for social reform.
    - More wrote *Utopia*, in which he describes an ideal society in which men and women live in peace and harmony. Today, the word utopian has come to describe any ideal society often with the implication that such a society is ultimately impractical.
  + The French humanist Francois Rabelais (rab uh LAY) had a varied career as a monk, physician, Greek scholar and author.
    - He wrote *Gargantua and Pantagruel* in which he chronicles the adventures of 2 gentle giants.
      * On the surface, the novel is a comic tale of travel and war. But Rabelais uses his characters to offer opinions on religion, education and other serious subjects.
      * Rabelais had doubts about the organized church.
  + The most famous figure of Renaissance literature was the English poet and playwright William Shakespeare.
    - Between 1590 and 1613, he wrote 37 plays that are still performed around the world.
    - Shakespeare’s genius was in expressing universal themes in everyday, realistic settings.
    - 3 important things about Shakespeare:
      * His work explores Renaissance ideals such as the complexity of individuals and the importance of the classics.
      * At the same time, his characters speak in a language that common people can understand and appreciate.
      * His love of words also vastly enriched the English language. More than 1,700 words appeared for the first time in his works!

**Section 3-The Protestant Reformation**

* In the 1500s, the Renaissance in northern Europe sparked a religious upheaval that affected Christians at all levels of society.
* During the Renaissance many people used humanist ideas to question a central force in their lives—the Church.
* Beginning in the late Middle Ages, the Church had become increasingly caught up in worldly affairs:
  + Popes competed with Italian princes for political power
  + They plotted against powerful monarchs who tried to seize control of the Church within their lands
  + The Church fought to expand its own interests
* Like other Renaissance rulers, Popes lived lavish lives, supported the arts and hired artists to beautify churches. To finance such projects, the Church increased fees for services such as marriages and baptisms. Some clergy also sold indulgences. What was an indulgence? A lessening of time a soul would have to spend in *purgatory*, a place where souls too impure to enter heaven atoned for sins committed during their lifetime.
* Long before the Protestant Reformation, a few thinkers protested against the Church.
  + John Wycliffe launched a systematic attack against the Church using sermons and writings to call for change.
  + Jan Hus also led a reform in what is now the Czech Republic for which he was executed.
* In 1517, protests against the Church abuses erupted into a full-scale revolt. The man who triggered the revolt was a German monk named Martin Luther.
  + A priest named Johann Tetzel set up a pulpit on the outskirts of Wittenberg, in Germany.
  + He offered indulgences to any Christian who contributed money for the rebuilding of the Cathedral of St. Peter in Rome. Tetzel claimed that the purchase of these indulgences would ensure entry into heaven for the purchaser as well as their dead relatives.
  + For Luther, Tetzel’s actions were the last straw because they meant that poor peasants could not get into heaven.
  + Luther drew up 95 Theses, or arguments, against indulgences.
  + Among other things, he argued that indulgences…
    - Had no basis in the Bible
    - The Pope had no authority to release souls from purgatory
    - Christians could be saved only through faith
  + Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg’s All Saints Church, as was the custom of the time.
* Almost overnight, copies of Luther’s 95 Theses were printed and distributed across Europe, where they stirred furious debate.
  + The Church called Luther to recant, or give up his views.
  + Luther refused and instead he developed even more radical new *doctrines* (practices or teachings).
* Pope Leo X *excommunicated* Luther in 1521. Later that year, the new Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, summoned Luther to the diet at the city of Worms. The word *diet*, an assembly of German princes and it comes from a Middle English word meaning “a day for a meeting.” Here they again asked Luther to recent. He again refused.
* Charles declared Luther an outlaw, which made it illegal for anyone in the empire to give him food or shelter. Still, Luther had many powerful supporters and thousands declared him a hero.

Read Martin Luther’s Biography on Page 425 and discuss.

* Luther’s teachings:
  + He said that all Christians have *equal access to God* through faith and the Bible
  + Luther wanted all people to be able to read and understand the Bible for themselves, so he translated parts of it into German
  + He wanted every town to have a school so that children could learn to read the Bible
  + He banned indulgences, confession, pilgrimages, and prayers to the saints
  + HHHe emphasized the importance of the sermon in church services
  + He permitted the clergy to marry
* The new printing presses spread Luther’s writings throughout Germany and Scandinavia.
* By 1530, the Lutherans were using a new name, Protestant, for those who “protested” Church authority.
* Reasons people accepted Luther’s teachings:
  + Many saw it as an answer to Church corruption.
  + Others, like many German princes, accepting his teachings for selfish reasons.
    - They saw it as a way to throw off the rule of the Church and the Holy Roman Emperor.
    - Others welcomed a chance to seize Church property in their own territories and use it for their own purposes.
  + Others supported Luther because of feelings of national loyalty.
    - They were tired of German money going to support churches and clergy in Italy (Rome).
  + Many peasants took up Luther’s teachings. They hoped to gain his support for social and economic change.
    - In 1524, the Peasants’ Revolt began across Germany. The rebels called for an end to serfdom and demanded other changes in their harsh lives. However, Luther strongly favored social order and respect for political authority. After the revolt turned violent, Luther denounced it. Nobles crushed the revolt, killing tens of thousands of peasants and leaving many homeless.
* After a series of brief wars, Charles V and the German princes reached an agreement. The Peace of Augsburg was signed in 1555 and it allowed each prince to decide which religion—Catholic or Lutheran—would be followed in his lands.
* Switzerland also challenged the Catholic Church:
  + Ulrich Zwingli lived in the Swiss city of Zurich. Like Luther, he stressed the importance of the Bible and rejected elaborate church rituals.
  + John Calvin was born in France and was trained as a priest and a lawyer.
    - In 1536, he published a widely-read book that set forth his religious beliefs and explained how to organize and run a Protestant Church.
    - Calvin shared many of Luther’s beliefs, but he put forth a number of ideas of his own. He preached predestination, the idea that God had long ago determined who would gain salvation.
    - In 1541, Protestants in the Swiss city of Geneva asked Calvin to lead their community. Calvin set up a theocracy, or government run by church leaders.

**Section 4-Reformation Ideas Spread**

* Throughout Europe, Catholic monarchs and the Catholic Church fought back against the Protestant challenge by taking steps to reform the Church and to restore its spiritual leadership of the Christian world. Still, Protestant ideas continued to spread.
* As the Reformation continued, hundreds of new Protestant sects, or religious groups that had broken away from an established church, sprang up. Many of these sects followed the teachings of Luther, Calvin and Zwingli. Some, however, were more radical—such as rejecting infant baptism. They argued that infants were too young to understand what it means to accept the Christian faith. They became known as Anabaptists.
* Along with rejecting infant baptism, some sects of Anabaptists sought social change as well.
  + Some wanted to abolish private property
  + Others sought to speed up the coming of God’s day of judgment by violent means
* Most Anabaptists, however, were peaceful. They called for religious toleration and separation of the church and state.
* Despite harsh persecution, these groups influenced Protestant thinking in many countries. Today, the Baptists, Mennonites, and Amish all trace their religious ancestry back to the Anabaptists.
* In England, the break with the Catholic Church would not be the work of religious leaders, but of King Henry VIII.
  + At first, Henry VIII stood firm against the Protestant revolt. The Pope even gave him the title, “Defender of the Faith.”
  + However, in 1527, after 18 years of marriage, Henry wished to divorce his Spanish wife, Catherine of Aragon.
    - WHY? Henry and Catherine had only one surviving child, Mary Tudor. Henry felt that the stability of England depended on his having a male heir to the throne.
  + Henry had already fallen in love with a young noblewoman named Anne Boleyn.
  + Because Catholic law does not permit divorce, he asked the pope to annul (or cancel) his marriage to Catherine. Pope’s had annulled royal marriages before, but this time the pope refused. WHY? Because he didn’t want to offend the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, Catherine’s nephew.
  + Henry was furious so, under the advisement of his chancellor Thomas Cromwell, he took over the English church. HOW?
    - He had Parliament pass a series of laws that took the church from the pope and placed it under Henry’s control.
    - At the same time, Henry appointed Thomas Cranmer archbishop of the new church.
  + Cramner annulled the king’s marriage and in 1533 Henry married Anne Boleyn. Soon Anne gave birth to a daughter, Elizabeth.
  + In 1534, Parliament passed the Act of Supremacy, making Henry “the only supreme head on Earth of the Church of England.”
  + Many loyal Catholics refused to accept the Act of Supremacy and were executed for treason. Among them was the great English humanist Sir Thomas More, who served in Henry’s government and tried to resign in protest. He was later canonized, or recognized as a saint, by the Catholic Church.
  + By the way…Henry was not a religious radical and he rejected most Protestant doctrines. Aside from breaking away from Rome and allowing use of the English Bible, he kept most Catholic forms of worship. Sheesh! Kings, right?
* When Henry died in 1547, he had only one surviving son—despite having married 6 times:
  + 1. **Catherine of Aragon** (annulled; she was banished from the royal court died while being detained under guard at Kimbolton Castle)
  + 2. **Anne Boleyn** (annulled because she could not produce a mail heir and later Henry had her executed for “adultery, incest and treason”)
  + 3. **Jane Seymour** (died from child birth complications—Edward VI)
  + 4. **Anne of Cleves** (annulled; the marriage was declared never consummated)
  + 5. **Catherine Howard** (annulled and later executed for “treason and adultery”)
  + 6. **Catherine Parr** (widowed)
* Nine-year-old Edward VI took the throne. The young king and his advisors were devout Protestant and took the steps to make England a truly Protestant country. These steps sparked uprisings, which were harshly suppressed.
* When Edward died in his teens, his half-sister Mary Tudor (Mary I) became queen. She was determined to return England to the Catholic faith. She had hundreds of English Protestants, including Archbishop Cranmer, burned at the stake for heresy. This earned her the nickname “Bloody Mary.”
* On Mary’s death in 1558, the throne passed to 25-year-old Elizabeth.
  + Elizabeth had survived court intrigues as well as the religious swings of Edward and Mary.
  + As queen, Elizabeth had to determine the future of the Church of England.
  + Moving cautiously at first, she slowly enforced a series of reforms that over time came to be called the Elizabethan Settlement.
    - The queen’s policies were a compromise, or acceptable middle ground, between Protestant and Catholic practices.
    - The Church of England preserved much Catholic ritual, and it kept the hierarchy of bishops and archbishops.
    - Unlike Henry, the queen did not call herself “supreme head” of the church, but she reaffirmed that the monarch was the “supreme governor” over spiritual matters in England.
    - At the same time, the queen restored an accepted version of moderate Protestant doctrine and allowed English to replace Latin in church services.
    - Her sensible compromises were generally accepted by both Catholics and Protestants and ended decades of religious turmoil.
* As the Protestant Reformation swept across northern Europe, a vigorous reform movement took hold within the Catholic Church.
* Led by Pope Paul III, it is known as the Catholic Revolution or the Counter-Reformation.
  + During the 1530s and 1540s, the pope set out to revive the moral authority of the Church and roll back the Protestant tide.
  + He also appointed reformers to end corruption within the Church.
* To establish the direction of the Catholic Reformation, the called the Council of Trent in 1545. Led by the Italian Cardinal Carlo Borromeo.
  + The Council reaffirmed the traditional Catholic views that Protestants had challenged.
  + It declared that salvation comes through faith and good works.
  + According to the council, the Bible, while a major source of religious truth, is not the only source.
* Pope Paul strengthened the Inquisition to fight Protestantism.
  + Remember the Inquisition? A church court set up during the Middle Ages.
  + The Inquisition used secret testimony, torture, and execution to root out heresy.
  + It also prepared the *Index of Forbidden Books*, which was a list of works considering too immoral or irreligious for Catholics to read. The list included books by Luther and Calvin, as well as earlier works by Petrarch and other humanists.
* In 1540, the pope recognized a new religious order, the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. The order was founded by Ignatius of Loyola, a Spanish knight raised in the crusading tradition.