

I. **Introduction.** – In today's lesson, we continue the study of some of the leaders of the Reformation.

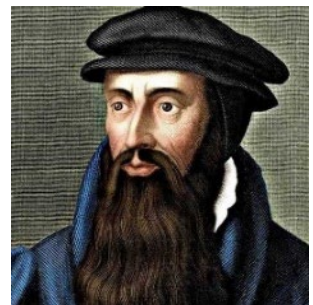
II. **Huldrych (or Ulrich) Zwingli, 1484-1531**



- A. Zwingli was born January 1, 1484 in Wildhaus, Switzerland where his father was a bailiff of the village.
- B. Zwingli received his education in Basel, Bern, and for 2 years was a student at the University of Vienna.
- C. After his graduation, Zwingli was appointed parish priest of Glarus, Switzerland. As parish priest, he studied Greek and became a powerful preacher.
- D. Zwingli opposed the practice of other countries hiring Swiss soldiers to fight in their battles.
  - 1. His opposition to foreign military service and his reputation as a preacher and scholar led to his election as people's priest in Zurich, one of Switzerland's largest cities.
  - 2. While serving in this capacity, he became familiar with the writings of Martin Luther.
  - 3. Zwingli had long been moving in the direction of the Reformation, now he entered into it vigorously.
- E. Zwingli preached vigorously against the excesses and errors of Catholicism. He preached a positive message and declared many truths.
  - 1. He taught that the Bible and not the church was the final authority.
  - 2. He preached salvation by faith without works.
  - 3. He denied the Catholic teaching concerning the Mass, of saintly ancestors, of monastic vows [i.e., solemn promises made by monks and nuns to live a spiritual and disciplined life within a monastic community. The vows are a sign of commitment to the community and to Christ], of purgatory, etc.
  - 4. Zwingli's efforts swayed all of Switzerland to accept his teachings.
  - 5. In addition to being a spiritual leader, Zwingli acquired great political power.
- F. In a battle between the Romans and the men of Zurich in 1531, Zwingli was slain. He is considered a powerful force in the Reformation. [Huldrych Zwingli was a major figure in the Swiss Reformation, advocating for the authority of scripture and the rejection of religious practices not supported by the Bible. His preaching and teachings helped spread Reformation ideas beyond Switzerland and influenced the development of Protestantism throughout Europe.]

III. **John Knox, 1505-1572**

- A. John Knox was born in Haddington, Scotland where he attended grammar school. Later, Knox attended Glasgow University.
- B. He was ordained to the priesthood sometime before 1530.



1. He adhered strictly to the Catholic teaching until Patrick Hamilton began preaching the views of the Reformation.
2. Knox openly professed to the views of the reformation about 1544.

C. After he had been preaching for a few months, he was captured by the French and was condemned to work as a galley slave for nineteen months.

D. In 1559, Knox returned to Scotland and took up his work there.

1. During this time, his health broke and was never fully regained.
2. He was released in 1549 and began preaching in England where he met with great success.
3. He openly defied Mary, Queen of Scots, and was tried for heresy and treason but was acquitted.
4. Mary, Queen of Scots, was supposed to have said she feared John Knox more than all the armies on earth. [On one occasion, Knox stood before Queen Mary of Scots, and he caused her to burst into tears. She was 18 years of age and Knox at that time was in his mid-forties. She was angry with Knox's rumors about her marriage plans, and if the truth were known, she feared Knox. Mary was eventually found guilty of conspiring to assassinate the queen in the Babington plot; her own signature on secret letters securing her own death. Elizabeth had no choice but to execute Mary, as was the law. Queen Elizabeth I was the last monarch of the Tudor dynasty, who ruled England between 1558 and 1603. The daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth became Queen aged twenty-five, at a time of political crisis. **View the motion picture *Elizabeth* which is a 1998 British biographical historical drama film.**]

E. John Knox prayed that well-remembered prayer, "Lord give me Scotland, or I die."

F. In 1573, Knox died a natural death.

#### IV. John Calvin, 1509-1564

A. John Calvin was born in France and attended school in Paris. He was never ordained as a priest.

B. Around 1530, Calvin became interested in the teaching of the Reformers. This resulted in the beginnings of his great works in the Reformation.

C. Because of persecutions, Calvin wandered from place to place throughout France and Italy, and finally came to Geneva, Switzerland in August 1536.

1. In 1538, after a two year stay, Calvin was forced to leave Geneva but returned in 1541.
2. Calvin became almost an absolute ruler in Geneva.

D. Calvin was a great writer and his works were a real force in the Reformation.

E. Calvin died a natural death in 1564.

