

**Unit 2: Age of Reformation**  
*Practice Multiple Choice—Answers*

**Questions 1-2 refer to the following excerpt:**

There should be no serfs, because Christ has freed us all! What is that we hear? That is to make Christian freedom wholly bodily. Did not Abraham and the other patriarchs and prophets have serfs? Read what St. Paul says of servants, who in all times have been serfs. So this article is straight against the gospel, and moreover it is robbery, since each man would take his person from his lord to whom it belongs. A serf can be a good Christian and enjoy Christian liberty, just as a prisoner or a sick man may be a Christian although he is not free. This article would make all men equal and convert the spiritual kingdom of Christ into an external worldly one; but that is impossible, for a worldly realm cannot stand where there is no inequality; some must be free, others bond; some rulers, others subjects. . . .

*Luther's Reactions to Peasant Rebellions (1525)*

**1. Which of the following best explains Luther's reaction to the peasant's rebellions as stated in this passage?**

- A. His support for the peasants was a reflection of his belief that all people are equal in the eyes of God.
- B. His condemnation of the peasants was a reflection of the fact that his life was being protected the German Princes
- C. His indifference to the peasants was a reflection of his focus on religion rather than social structure
- D. Because he believed in predestination, he did not feel as though the peasant rebellion was necessary as God had already determined each person's fate.

**Correct Answer:**

B. After Luther's 95 Theses led to his excommunication, the Pope put a bounty on his head. The German Princes, who saw Luther's religious philosophy as a means to get out from under the control of the Pope, hid Luther and protected him. Since Luther's life was literally being protected by the Princes, it would not have benefited him to support the peasants' attempts to end feudalism.

**Incorrect Answers:**

- A. Luther's belief that all people are equal in the eyes of God is what inspired the peasants to rebel against feudalism, however, when responding to the peasants demands, Luther stated that people are equal in the eyes of God in terms of salvation only.
- C. Luther was not indifferent to the peasants, and many of his complaints about the Catholic Church were a reflection of his belief that members of the clergy were taking advantage of the peasants.
- D. Luther did not believe in predestination, he believed that salvation came from faith alone.

**2. Based on the passage, what were the Peasants asking for?**

- A. An end to Feudalism
- B. Salvation
- C. An end to the corruption in the church
- D. The end of the Papacy

**Correct Answer:**

A. Luther's belief that all people are equal in the eyes of God inspired the peasants to rebel against feudalism.

**Incorrect Answers:**

B. According to Luther Salvation comes from faith alone, and is available to all people regardless of social class, so that would not have been something that the peasants would have needed to fight for.

C. Luther's 95 Theses was an attempt to rid the Catholic Church of corruption, however, the peasants wanted to expand on that and fight for social change as well. The Peasant Revolt was a reflection of that desire and was an attempt to end feudalism.

D. Luther never intended to end the Papacy, his goal was to reform the religion, the concern of the peasants was about ending the power the Princes had over them not the power the Pope had over them.

**Questions 3-4 refer to the following excerpt:**

II. The first foundation of discipline consists in the use of private admonitions; that is to say, that if any one be guilty of a voluntary omission of duty, or conduct himself in an insolent manner, or discover a want of virtue in his life, or commit any act deserving of reprehension, he should suffer himself to be admonished; and that everyone should study to admonish his brother, whenever occasion shall require; but that pastors and presbyters, beyond all others, should be vigilant in the discharge of this duty, being called by their office, not only to preach to the congregation, but also to admonish and exhort in private houses, if in any instances their public instructions may not have been sufficiently efficacious; as Paul inculcates, when he says, that he "taught publicly and from house to house," and protests himself to be "pure from the blood of all men," having "ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears."

John Calvin "The Discipline of the Church; Its Principal Use of Censures and Excommunication." *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 1536 <http://www.thenagain.info/Classes/Sources/Calvin.html>

**3. This passage reflects Calvin's belief in**

- A. Transubstantiation
- B. Salvation through Faith Alone
- C. Predestination
- D. The Separation of Church and State

**Correct Answer:**

C. Because predestination means that your fate is determined before a person is even born, Calvin instituted the Geneva Catechism which was a very strict moral code of laws that would determine who would be worthy to live within the city. This particular passage shows the strictness of the enforcement of the code, and the ultimate excommunication and exile that would result from not following the code.

**Incorrect Answers:**

- A. Transubstantiation is the belief that during communion the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. This was a belief of the Catholic Church, not the Calvinist faith.
- B. Salvation through faith alone is Luther's understanding of how a person achieves entrance into heaven, Calvin believed in predestination.
- D. Calvin created a Theocracy in Geneva, and this passage reflects the strict enforcement of the Calvinist laws. A theocracy is the direct opposite of Separation of Church and State, which was only supported by the anabaptist religion.

**4. Which of the following aligns with Calvin's beliefs as expressed in this passage?**

- A. Martin Luther's 95 Theses
- B. Thomas More's Utopia
- C. Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy
- D. The Edict of Nantes

**Correct Answer:**

C. Like Calvin, whose Theocracy and strict laws are apparent in this passage, Henry created a Theocracy in England with the passing of the Act of Supremacy.

**Incorrect Answers:**

- A. Martin Luther's 95 Theses were complaints about the corruption of the Catholic Church and not about the enforcement of religious law, this passage is a reflection of the strict religious laws in Calvin's Geneva.
- B. Thomas More's Utopia was a critique of Henry VIII's government and was more of a description of a perfect society where there is no need for such strict enforcements as this passage proposes, because the people willingly contribute to society and there is no need for such strict punishments.
- D. The Edict of Nantes, passed by Henry IV of France, was designed to allow the Huguenots to practice their religion in France, this is the opposite of this passage which implies that someone who does not follow the religion of the city will be exiled from the city.

**Questions 5-6 refer to the following excerpt:**

And in this great concurrence of such great and perilous affairs, which could not all be settled at one and the same time, it has been necessary for us to follow this order: first, to undertake those things which could only be settled by force, and rather to suspend and put aside for a time all other things which could and should be dealt with by reason and justice: such as the general differences among our good subjects, and the particular ills of the more healthy parts of the state, which we believed could be much more easily cured after their principal cause had been removed, namely, the continuance of civil war. In which having (by the grace of God) well and happily succeeded, and armed conflict and hostilities having ceased throughout the interior of the kingdom, we hope for equal success in what remains to be settled, and that by this means we shall attain to the establishment of a good peace and tranquil repose for which we have always hoped and prayed, and which is the reward that we desire for the many pains and travails through which we have passed in the course of our life.

Henry IV (of Navarre) *The Edict of Nantes*, 14 May 1610.

<http://www.huguenot-museum-germany.com/huguenots/edicts/01-edict-nantes-1598-english.pdf>

**5. Which of the following conflicts was Henry IV referring to in this passage?**

- A. The 30 Years War
- B. The conflict between the Huguenots and Catholics in France
- C. The War of the Three Henrys
- D. The French War with the Dutch

**The Correct Answer:**

B. The Edict of Nantes was passed by Henry IV when he became the King of France. His goal was to try and get the country to set aside religious issues and focus on establishing a strong and unified state. The “civil war” he refers to in this passage is the conflict between the protestant Huguenots and the Catholics that had been plaguing France since the Reformation had spread to France.

**Incorrect Answers:**

A. The 30 Years War was from 1618-1648 and the French were only involved in the later half of that war. Even though the War had started as a conflict between Protestants and Catholics, when France joined they sided with the Protestant countries.

C. The War of the Three Henrys which involved Henry IV (of Navarre), as well as Henry of Guise and King Henry III, was in part over religion and it might very well have been part of the decision to pass the Edict of Nantes. However, the passage refers to civil war, which would imply more than just the one instance, but an ongoing divide within the country.

D. The French War with the Dutch occurred under Louis XIV, almost a century after the passing of the Edict of Nantes.

**6. Which of the following actions aligns the most with what Henry IV was saying in this passage?**

- A. Charles V's Peace of Augsburg

- B. Ferdinand and Isabella's decision to expel the Jews in 1492
- C. Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy
- D. The Pope's excommunication of Martin Luther

**Correct Answer:**

A. Henry IV was saying that he wanted to focus on strengthening France and to do that he needed to set aside the issues that were causing internal strife, and thus he was allowing both Huguenots and Catholics to practice in France. This was similar to Charles V's Peace of Augsburg, which allowed the German Princes to practice either Lutheran or Catholic in an attempt to set aside the religious disputes and keep the German States together under the Holy Roman Emperor.

**Incorrect Answers:**

B. Ferdinand and Isabella's decision to expel the Jews was in fact to unite the Spanish, however, their method was opposite that of Henry's since rather than allow the Jews to practice, they were exiled from the country completely.

C. Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy that made him the head of the Anglican Church in England, was soon followed by the use of violence and fear to force the population to convert. There was no religious tolerance in this act, as was seen in Henry IV's Edict of Nantes.

D. Martin Luther was excommunicated by the Pope after writing the 95 Theses, and even though Luther did not intend to start a new religion but rather to reform the existing Catholic Religion, the pope refused to listen. This is the opposite of Henry's Edict of Nantes that allowed for divergent ideas to co-exist.

**Questions 7-8 refer to the following excerpt:**

TEN RULES CONCERNING PROHIBITED BOOKS DRAWN UP BY THE FATHERS CHOSEN BY THE COUNCIL OF TRENT AND APPROVED BY POPE PIUS [1]

Since it is clear from experience that if the Sacred Books are permitted everywhere and without discrimination in the vernacular, there will by reason of the boldness of men arise therefrom more harm than good, the matter is in this respect left to the judgment of the bishop or inquisitor, who may with the advice of the pastor or confessor permit the reading of the Sacred Books translated into the vernacular by Catholic authors to those who they know will derive from such reading no harm but rather an increase of faith and piety, which permission they must have in writing. Those, however, who presume to read or possess them without such permission may not receive absolution from their sins till they have handed them over to the ordinary. Bookdealers who sell or in any other way supply Bibles written in the vernacular to anyone who has not this permission, shall lose the price of the books, which is to be applied by the bishop to pious purposes, and in keeping with the nature of the crime they shall be subject to other penalties which are left to the judgment of the same bishop. Regulars who have not the permission of their superiors may not read or purchase them.

*The Council of Trent: Rules on Prohibited Books*  
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/trent-booksrules.asp>

**7. What aspect of the “Rules on Prohibited Books” reflects a reform that the Catholic Church made in response to Luther’s complaints?**

- A. Banning booksellers from selling certain Bibles without permission
- B. Allowing people to read religious works translated into the vernacular
- C. Keeping the hierarchy of the church clergy
- D. Limiting access to writings by Catholic authors

**Correct Answer:**

B. Luther believed that all people were equal in the eyes of God, and he believed in the individual interpretation of the Bible as it was the word of God and not the Priests or Bishops. Therefore, Luther understood the need to translate the Bible and other Religious works into the vernacular so that people can read the Bible for themselves. Although in this passage it does say that it must be approved, the Church is recognizing the fact that in order to spread their faith they need to allow people to read them.

**Incorrect Answers:**

A. Luther believed that all people were equal in the eyes of God, and he believed in the individual interpretation of the Bible as it was the word of God and not the Priests or Bishops. Therefore, Luther understood the need to translate the Bible and other Religious works into the vernacular so that people can read the Bible for themselves. Therefore banning the Booksellers from making these books available and limiting access to them goes against what Luther was saying.

B. Luther was adamant about ending the corruption that was in the Catholic Church, and he believed that the clergy should not be above anyone else, as everyone is equal in the eyes of God. Keeping the clergy, and giving them the control that this passage indicates goes against Luther’s belief.

C. By requiring clerical approval of works even by Catholic Authors, the church is controlling the followers interpretations of the Bible and understanding of religion. This is contrary to Luther who believed in individual interpretation of the Bible as well as the fact that the clergy should not be considered above anyone else as everyone is equal in the eyes of God.

**8. Which of the following best explains the motivation behind The Council of Trent’s *Rules on Prohibited Books*?**

- A. To stop the spread of Protestant beliefs
- B. To bring those who had left Catholicism back
- C. To spread Catholicism through Missionaries
- D. To eliminate the corruption in the Catholic Church

**Correct Answer:**

- A. *The Rules on Prohibited Books* existed before the Reformation, however after the Reformation it was expanded to include more restrictions. This was one of the responses of the Catholic Church to the Reformation with the hope that it would stop the exodus of people from the religion and encourage others to join.

**Incorrect Answers:**

- B. In bringing people who left Catholicism back occurred because of the increased restrictions, that would have been more than welcome, but the primary focus was to stop the exodus by limiting the ideas and information that people had access to.
- C. The motivation behind the Rules on Prohibited Books was the same as the motivation behind the use of Missionaries to spread Catholicism, specifically the establishment of such orders as the Jesuits. They were both policies that responded to the Reformation; they were not the motivations for each other.
- D. The motivation behind the Rules on Prohibited Books was the same as the motivation behind the elimination of corruption in the Catholic Church, in both cases the hope was that these decisions would stop the exodus of people from the religion and encourage others to join.

**Questions 9-10 refer to the following excerpt:**

That those of the Confession of Augsburg, and particularly the Inhabitants of Oppenheim, shall be put in possession again of their Churches, and Ecclesiastical Estates, as they were in the Year 1624. as also that all others of the said Confession of Augsburg, who shall demand it, shall have the free Exercise of their Religion, as well in publick Churches at the appointed Hours, as in private in their own Houses, or in others chosen for this purpose by their Ministers, or by those of their Neighbours, preaching the Word of God.

*The Treaty of Westphalia, 1648*

[https://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th\\_century/westphal.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th_century/westphal.asp)

**9. Which of the following religions was not allowed to practice in the German States based on this passage from the *Treaty of Westphalia*?**

- A. Calvinism
- B. Catholicism
- C. Lutheran
- D. Anglican

**Correct Answer:**

D. Although the Treaty of Westphalia expanded the Peace of Augsburg, it only expanded it to include the “publick Churches” or the Calvinists, and not any Protestant religion, such as the Anglican Church.

**Incorrect Answers:**

A. Calvinism, or the “publick Churches” was added to the Peace of Augsburg with the passing of the Treaty of Westphalia.

B. Catholicism had always been allowed among the German states, that was never something that was in question, as it was part of the Holy Roman Empire.

C. In 1555 Charles V passed the Peace of Augsburg which allowed the German Princes to choose between Lutheran and Catholic, the Treaty of Westphalia added Calvinist to that agreement.

**10 .Which of the following policies had similar motives to this section of the Treaty of Westphalia?**

- A. The Act of Supremacy
- B. The Elizabethan Settlement
- C. The 95 Theses
- D. Thomas More's *Utopia*

**The Correct Answer:**

B. By allowing Calvinism to exist in the German States along with Catholicism and Lutheranism, the hope was that religious unrest would end and another war like the 30 Years War would be avoided. This was similar to Elizabeth I's decision to allow Catholics to practice in England under her Anglican Monarchy.

**Incorrect Answers:**

A. The Act of Supremacy passed by Henry VIII made himself the head of the Anglican Church and did not allow for any other religion in England. This is counter to this passage which states that Calvinism would now be allowed in the German States.

C. The 95 Theses were Luther's complaints about the Catholic Church and were the catalyst to the creation of Lutheranism which is what led to the unrest that this Treaty was trying to end.

D. Thomas More was a Catholic whose book, *Utopia*, was not a criticism of religion nor was it encouraging religious toleration, but rather it was a criticism of Henry VIII's monarchy.