Religious Wars

I. French Civil Wars
   A. Gallican Church
      a. French Catholic Church
      b. Placed under authority of monarch by *Concordat of Bologna*
         - Bishops/abbots nominated by monarch
      a. Monarch had no need to encourage Protestantism
   B. *Treaty of Cateau-Cambresis*
      a. Ended Hapsburg-Valois struggles
      b. Removed fear of outside intervention
   C. Calvinism in France
      a. Called French **Huguenots**
      b. Spread mainly among nobility (Geneva was near France)
   D. Noble struggles
      a. Bourbon, Chatillon, and Guise (Valois were the monarchs)
      b. Each sought to dominate monarchy
      c. Bourbons were Huguenots
      d. Guise were the most powerful
   E. Catherine de Medici
      a. Henry II died in tournament
      b. Three successive monarchs dominated by their mother (Catherine)
         i. Francis II (1559-1560)
         ii. Charles IX (1560-1574)
         iii. Henry III (1571-1589) *last of the Valois monarchs*
      c. Catherine tried to reconcile Huguenots and Catholics (Like Elizabeth I of England)
      d. Catherine, although Catholic, sought political power above all
      e. Occasionally supported Huguenots
   F. The Wars
      a. 1562: Duke of Guise killed group of Huguenots worshipping in a barn
      b. Huguenot nobles struck back
      c. Total of 9 wars erupted between noble families
      d. Most wars were political, not religious, however religion was the excuse
      e. Spain (Philip II support Guise & Catholics
      f. England (Elizabeth I) support Huguenots
   G. 1572 Peace was declared for a wedding
      a. Cream of the crop Huguenots gathered in Paris to celebrate wedding of
         Henry IV of Navarre (Huguenot) with King Charles IX’s sister
      b. King Charles IX was ill
      c. Guises saw wedding as disastrous
      d. Catherine was jealous of her son’s power
      e. Catherine decided to ‘remove’ many of the aristocrats that had gathered
      f. *Saint Bartholomew’s Day Massacre* resulted
         i. 3,000 died in Paris that day
         ii. 20,000 Huguenots killed in all
         iii. Henry IV of Navarre spared because he agreed to convert to
              Catholicism (Henry later converts back to Calvinism)
   H. Catholic (Holy) League
      a. Charles IX died and Henry III took over
      b. Everyone hated the neurotic Henry III and fighting resumed
c. Guise family created the league to eradicate Huguenots
d. To block Guise move, Henry III plotted assassination of leader of the Guise (Henry Guise)
e. Henry III started working with Henry IV against the Guise family
   [Henry IV of Navarre was heir to throne (Bourbon family)]
f. Spanish Catholic Hapsburgs supporting Guise in spurring riots in Paris

I. Henry III was assassinated in 1589, Henry IV of Navarre became king
   a. Henry was a popular guy
   b. He united most of France
   c. Paris still a Catholic stronghold
   d. Spain supported Catholics in Paris
   e. Henry could not take Paris

J. Henry IV of Navarre
   a. Appeased Spain by converting to Catholicism
   b. "Paris is worth a mass" Henry was now able to take Paris
   c. Henry IV and Philip II restored peace terms of 1559
   d. To appease the Huguenots, Henry passed the Edict of Nantes (1598),
      granting Huguenots:
      i. Freedom of worship
      ii. Freedom to assemble
      iii. Right to maintain fortified towns for protection
      iv. Access to universities
      v. Ability to hold public office
   e. Edict was a truce, NOT religious freedom!!!

K. French learned that strong central government was only answer to national problems – i.e. Absolute Monarchy

L. Henry IV assassinated in 1610: 9 year old son Louis XIII ascended
   a. France subjected to aristocratic turmoil
   b. Strong minister needed
   c. Cardinal Richelieu chosen

M. Cardinal Richelieu
   a. Defeated Huguenot unrest that had begun after Henry’s death
   b. Removed many political and military privileges
   c. Brought France into the 30 Year’s war on the side of Protestants in order to counter the traditional French enemy, the Hapsburgs

N. The idea of *politique*
   a. Political unity is more important than religious uniformity
   b. The French Religious Wars depict the growth of this idea
   c. Henry IV of Navarre is one of the best examples of this idea
   d. Elizabeth I of England might be yet another example

II. The Catholic Crusade
   A. Charles V Hapsburg
      a. Divided his kingdom into two parts (Philip = Son; Ferdinand = brother)
         i. Spain, Milan, Netherlands, and New World went to Philip II
         ii. Ferdinand received Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, and HRE title
   B. Ever since Ferdinand and Isabella, Spanish monarchs demanded religious unity: Catholicism!
      a. Jewish and Muslim population forced to convert, flee, or die
      b. Spanish Inquisition was a major tool in weeding out heresy
c. Protestantism never took root in Spain

C. Income
   a. Spain began wealthy
      i. Money from Ferdinand’s Mediterranean trade
      ii. Charles V’s massive power base
   b. The New World was bring in truck loads of cash

D. Philip II (1556-1598) Hapsburg
   a. Sever personal habits
   b. Hard worker
   c. Only laughed once: when he heard of the French St Barth Day Mass
   d. Reclusive
   e. Devoted his life to returning Catholicism to Europe

E. Religious Crusades
   a. All the massive Spanish wealth was spent on these wars!
   b. Reconquista of Ferdinand and Isabella
   c. Spanish Inquisition within Spain
   d. Mediterranean Wars
      i. Philip’s half-brother Don John led these wars
      ii. Series of wars against the Ottomans
      iii. Secured Mediterranean for Christians after naval victory over the Turks at Lepanto off the coast of Greece in 1571
   e. Portugal was annexed by Spain after Portuguese king died without an heir (1580)
      i. Portugal fall under watchful eye of Jesuits and Inquisition
      ii. Powerful Portuguese navy now under control of Philip
      iii. Portuguese colonies also controlled by Spain
   f. Spain supported English monarch Mary Tudor, but NOT Elizabeth!
      i. After Mary’s death, Philip and Queen Elizabeth began a ‘cold war’
      ii. Elizabeth secretly hired ‘pirates’ (Francis Drake) to sink Spanish ships in the Caribbean to curtail inflow of wealth to Spain
      iii. Dissent over the Netherlands revolt (discussed later) also caused tension between Spain and England
   iv. Eventually, Spanish Armada sent to attack England and the Netherlands
   v. England and mother nature attacked Armada (1588) and defeated them, causing a massive blow to Spanish military power

G. Netherlands Revolt
   i. Spanish Netherlands revolted against Spanish rule (discussed later)
   ii. Spain launched attack after attack and spend loads of cash on trying to keep Netherlands under Spanish and Catholic control
   iii. Spain would up losing control of much of the territory

F. Philip’s death left Spain broke and exhausted
   a. The following Spanish monarchs were ineffective
   b. Spain loses her dominance after Philip and devolves into a pawn of foreign political intrigues
III. The Netherlands Revolt

A. Netherlands (Low Countries)
   1. Group of 17 provinces around the mouth of the Rhine
   2. Ruled by Spain
   3. Each province had tradition of relative independence
   4. Stadholders elected as military leader when needed
   5. Many cities dominated by wealthy merchants
   6. Many supported Calvinism (some Huguenots that fled France)

B. Philip II's intervention
   1. Imposed more centralized rule
   2. Strengthen Catholic Church
   3. Tried to force ideas from Council of Trent
   4. His interference and attempts to reinstate Catholicism led to resistance

C. William of Orange (the Silent: he spoke to few people about his plans)
   1. Compromise of 1564 made
      a. Agreement to resist Philip II
      b. Many Calvinist nobles and merchants joined
   2. Rebellion began

D. Council of Troubles (Blood)
   1. Duke of Alva sent to establish council and lead rebel suppression
      (1567-1574)
   2. Executed thousands of Calvinists
   3. Imposed new taxes (including 10% sales tax)
   4. Established an Inquisition

E. War
   1. Sea Beggars
      a. Sailors that resisted Spanish
      b. Opened dykes to frustrate Spanish occupation and invasions
   2. Spanish responded with the Spanish Fury
      a. Unpaid Spanish Soldiers sacked Antwerp
      b. Ended Antwerp's commercial supremacy in Netherlands
   3. War raged for years (began 1564, Spanish driven out in 1590's, war ended in 1609)

F. Pacification of Ghent (1576)
   1. Northern and Southern Provinces united to resist Spanish
   2. They were unable to cooperate, and the agreement dissolved before it began
   3. Two groups split based upon religion
      a. Union of Utrecht: Calvinist: Similar boundaries to Netherlands
      b. Union of Arras: Catholic: Similar boundaries to Belgium
   4. Spain maintained influence in Union of Arras, thus 'Spanish Netherlands' (southern territories)

G. International Attention
   1. One of Catherine de' Medici's sons tried to become leader of revolt - failed
   2. England sent troops and money to support rebels after 1585
H. End of Conflict
   1. Spanish driven out of northern territories in 1590’s
   2. War ended in 1609
   3. Northern territories not recognized until 1648 (*Treaty of Westphalia*)
      a. Northern provinces independent
      b. Dominated by province of Holland
      c. Called the *United Provinces*
   4. Southern territories ruled by Spanish king, called *Spanish Netherlands*

IV. Thirty Years War
   A. Failure of the *Peace of Augsburg*
      1. Did not recognize Calvinism
      2. Frederick III, ruler of Palatinate, converted to Calvinism
      3. Frederick III was one of the seven e*lectors* of the HRE’s emperor
      4. Several other German princes followed suit
      5. Success of *Council of Trent* in southern states increased tensions
         a. Areas such as Bavaria eradicated all traces of Protestantism
         b. Jesuits played a prominent role in restoring Catholicism in South
   B. *Bohemian Period (1618-1625)*
      1. Ferdinand of Styria crowned king: he was ardent Catholic
      2. Majority of Bohemians were protestant
      3. In 1618 group of Protestant Bohemians surrounded two of Ferdinand’s
         Catholic advisors and threw them out a window
         a. Called *Defenestration of Prague*
         b. Advisors survived because they fell in pile of dung!
      4. HRE’s Emperor Mathias died following year
      5. Cousin Ferdinand king of Bohemia became new emperor
      6. Bohemia immediately chose Frederick, the Calvinist elector of
         Palatinate, as new Bohemian king
      7. Ferdinand had no army, so he turned to Bavaria for aid
         a. Bavaria agreed to supply military
         b. Given electorate status in place of Palatinate (still 7 electors)
      8. Bavaria defeated Frederick in 1622 at the *Battle of White Mountain*
         a. Lutheran ruler of Saxony helped Catholics defeat Frederick!
         b. Lost both Bohemia and Palatinate
         c. Nicknamed the Winter King because he only reign that one
            season
   C. Why did wars continue?
      1. Many still had private armies that earned living through war
      2. There existed a perceived threat to Protestants that attracted outside
         attention
      3. Everyone thought basic constitution of HRE was altered when
         Palatinate lost electorate status to Bavaria (seen as loss of German
         independence)
      4. Emperor Ferdinand confiscated Protestant lands in Bohemia and
         Palatinate
         a. Many (even Bavarian ruler) feared increase of Hapsburg power
         b. Ferdinand relied on Albrecht von Wallenstein of Bohemia to
            create a vast mercenary army so Ferdinand wouldn’t have to rely
on outside armies for support (Wallenstein was Protestant!!)

D. **Danish Period (1625-1629)**
   1. Ferdinand, using Wallenstein’s army of 125,000 to invade protestant lands in the north
   2. King of Denmark, Christian IV, led army in defense of Protestants
   3. Christian IV was easily defeated
   4. **Edict of Restitution** 1629 outlawed Calvinism and required all Lutherans to return lands taken since 1552 (16 bishoprics, 28 cities and towns, 155 monasteries and convents)

E. **Swedish Period (1629-1635)**
   1. Edict of Restitution led Swedish king, Gustavus Adolphus to get involved
   2. Claimed to protect protestants, really had desire to acquire German land along the Baltic
   3. **French Cardinal Richelieu** financially supported Gustavus Adolphus in order to block increasing Hapsburg power
   4. Hapsburgs pushed back at the **Battle of Breitenfeld** (1630)
   5. Gustavus Adolphus died at **Battle of Lutzen** (1632)
   6. 1633 HRE Ferdinand executed Wallenstein
      a. HRE feared Wallenstein’s growing power
      b. Suspected Wallenstein of dealing with enemy

F. **Swedish-French Period (1635-1648)**
   1. France (Cardinal Richelieu) continued to supply Germans with troops and money to resist
   2. In essence, France, Sweden, and their allies fought Austrian and Spanish Hapsburgs and their allies
   3. Most destructive phase of war
      a. German towns decimated
      b. Agricultural collapse and famine
      c. 8 million dead

G. **Treaty of Westphalia (1648)**
   1. Reaffirmed Peace of Augsburg
   2. Added Calvinism to Augsburg agreement
   3. Pope rejected Treaty but was ignored by all
   4. Independence of United Provinces recognized
   5. German state retained nearly complete independence from HRE

**V. Effects of the Wars of Religion**

A. Warfare, although often with religious elements, would not be primarily for religious goals

B. Last attempt of Catholics to reunite Europe failed

C. Nobles usually dominated the struggle attempting to resist growing centralization of power: they failed except in the HRE

D. Most political entities (Elizabeth I and Henry IV of Navarre) sought state unity more than religious unity (Age of Absolutism began)

E. Spanish and Austrian Hapsburgs continue to work together although Spain began a decline that ended its role as a great power in Europe

F. German states enter a period of economic decline due to destruction

G. England and France rise to the top of the political heap in Europe