



**COUNTER  
REFORMATION**

**1530's - 1648**

# COUNTER REFORMATION OR CATHOLIC REFORMATION

Definition: The Catholic Church's series of reforms (changes to make the Church better)

- This was a response to the spread of Protestantism in the mid-1500's to the early 1600's.
- Jesuits
- Council of Trent
- Index of Banned Books
- Inquisition

# JESUITS (1540)

Ignatius of Loyola,  
leader of the  
reformation and  
the Society of  
Jesus (Jesuits)

- Famous for mission work
- Concentrated on education



# COUNCIL OF TRENT

- Held between 1545 & 1563
- Redefined issues questioned by Protestants

## Clarified Catholic Teaching

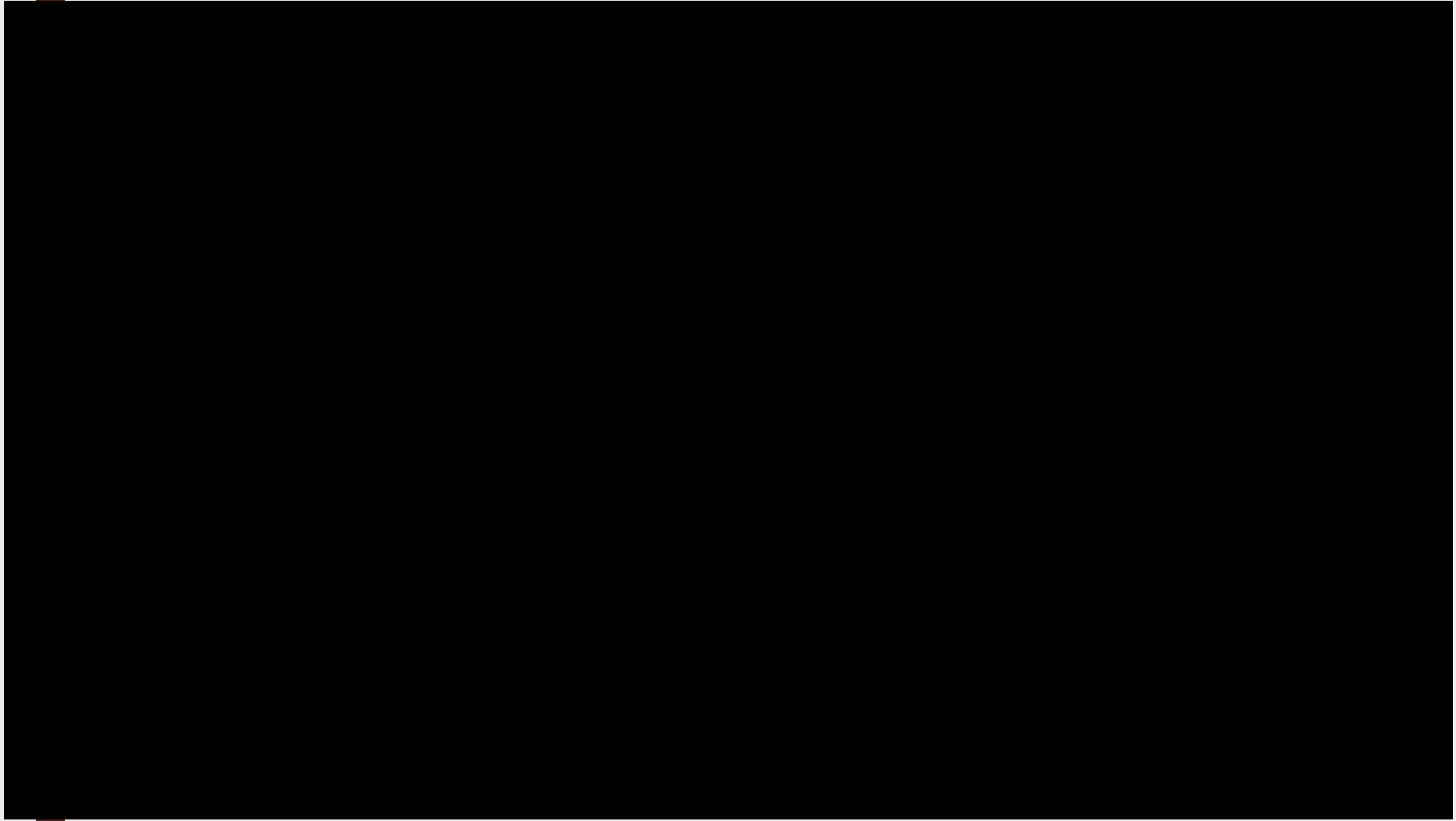
1. Need faith & good works for salvation
2. The Bible + Church Traditions + Pope needed for valid Christian teachings
3. Sale of Indulgences were abolished
4. Leaders should limit corruption

# INDEX OF BANNED BOOKS

- Created in 1559 by the Pope Paul IV
- Purpose was to prevent **heresy** and ensure books were morally correct
- Banned both Protestant literature and texts by some intellectuals, like Erasmus



# THE INQUISITION



# THE INQUISITIONS

- The Roman Inquisition (1542):
  - *tried people for:*
    - Being Protestant
    - Witchcraft
    - Breaking with Church Law
- Spanish Inquisition(1478):
  - *Tried to convert:*
    - Jews
    - Muslims
    - Protestants
- Both used torture and executions

# Was the Counter Reformation successful?

## PROS

- shed its reputation for corruption
- spread widely through missionary work

## CONS

- did not win back many of the “lost souls” that had converted to Protestantism
- States and businesses wanted the Church to be less involved with political affairs.



# THE WHEEL

The giant spiked wheel was able to break bodies as it rolled forward, causing the most agonizing and drawn-out death



# THE HEAD CRUSHER

With the victim's chin placed on the lower bar, a screw then forces the cap down on the victims cranium. The recipients teeth are crushed and forced into the sockets to smash the surrounding bone. The eyes are compressed from their sockets and brain from the fractured skull.



# THE RACK

The victim was tied across a board by their ankles and wrists, rollers at either end of the board were turned by pulling the body in opposite directions until dislocation of every joint occurred.



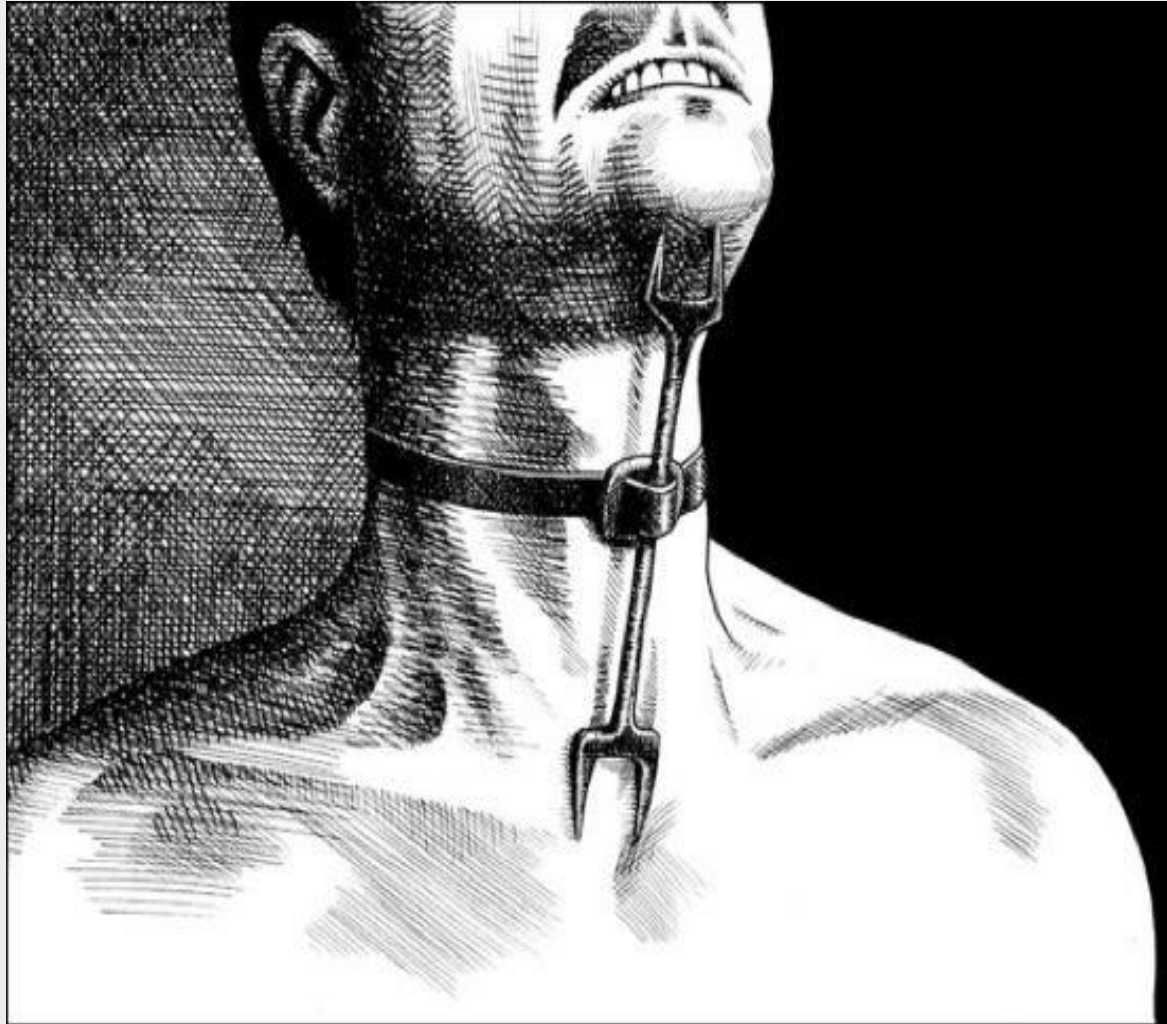
# THE STOCKS

With their feet in the stocks, two pieces of timber clamped together, both across each leg above the ankles. The soles of their feet then having been greased with lard, a blazing brazier was applied to them, and they were first blistered and then fried. At intervals a board was put in between the fire and their feet and removed once they disobeyed the command to confess themselves of guilt for which they had been charged. Being more painful, but less fatal, this was the torture most used for women. It was also favored in cases where children were to be persuaded to testify against their parents.



# HERETIC FORK

This instrument consisted of two little forks with the four prongs plunged into the flesh, under the chin and above the chest, with hands secured firmly behind their backs. The forks did not penetrate any vital points, and thus suffering was prolonged and death was always nearly avoided. The pointed prongs on each end to hoist the persons head made speech or movement near impossible.



# THE PEAR

The pear was a torture device used on females. This device was inserted into the mouth of the victim and then expanded by force of the screw.



# Sources of torture techniques

[http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/vatican/esp\\_vatican29.htm#The Church](http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/vatican/esp_vatican29.htm#The Church)