**AP EURO identifications**

CHAPTER 4: THE AGE OF RELIGIOUS WARS

Section I: Identify and state the Historical Significance of the following:

1. Catherine de Medicis

2. The Guise Family

3. Henry IV/ Henry of Navarre

4. Queen Mary I of England

5. Phillip II of Spain

6. Elizabeth I of England

7. Cardinal Granvelle

8. Mary Queen of Scots

9. Gustavus Adolphus

10. William of Orange

Section II: Define and state the General Significance of the following:

11. Presbyters/ Presbyterians

12. Congregationalists

13. Baroque style

Section III: Describe and state the Historical Significance of the following:

14. *Politiques*

15. Huguenots

16. St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre

17. Protestant Resistance Theory

18. Edict of Nantes

19. Spanish Fury

20. Thirty Nine Articles

21. The Spanish Armada

22. The Palatinate

23. Edict of Restitution

24. Treaty of Westphalia

***TIMELINES DUE THE SAME DAY***

**CHAPTER 4 – THE AGE OF RELIGIOUS WARS**

CHAPTER SUMMARY

This chapter covers the religious wars in France, Spain’s attempt to win an empire, Spanish relations with England, and the Thirty Years’ War. Non-Lutheran Protestants were not recognized by the Peace of Augsburg. Calvinism and Catholicism were irreconcilable church systems; Calvinism was committed to changing societies and was attractive to proponents of political decentralization while Catholicism remained congenial to those who favored absolute monarchy and “one king, one church, one law.” After painful experiences, some rulers known as *politiques* subordinated theological doctrine to political-unity. With few interludes, the French monarchy remained a staunch Catholic foe of the French Protestants (called Huguenots) until 1589. Under the regency of Catherine de Médicis (for Francis II and Charles IX), three powerful families tried to control France: the Guises, the Bourbons, and the Montmorency-Chatillons. The Guises remained devotedly Catholic while the Bourbons and the Montmorency-Chatillons developed Huguenot sympathies. Catherine tried to play them off against one other. She wanted a Catholic France, but not under Guise domination. Three religious wars were fought between 1562 and 1570 and the Protestants were granted religious freedoms within their territories, only to have the peace shattered by the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre in 1572, which was supported by Catherine. Over 20,000 Huguenots were massacred on that day and Protestant reformers, who had urged strict obedience to the established political authority, now began to realize that they had to fight for their rights. Further political fighting finally resulted in the succession of the Protestant Henry of Navarre to the throne as Henry IV. Philip II of Spain was alarmed at the prospect of a Protestant France, but Henry was a *politique* and wisely converted to Catholicism while granting minority religious rights in an officially Catholic country (Edict of Nantes, 1598).

Philip II (1556–1598) inherited the western Hapsburg kingdom, where new American wealth had greatly increased Spanish power. During the first half of his reign, he focused attention on the Turkish threat, and in the Battle of Lepanto (1571), the Turks were decisively beaten by the Holy League. In 1580, Spain annexed Portugal. But Spanish armies were not successful in the Netherlands, which were composed of Europe’s wealthiest and most independent towns; many of these were also Calvinist strongholds. Initial resistance was brutally arrested by the Duke of Alba. But after 1573, the independence movement was headed by William of Orange. By 1577, a unified Netherlands forced the withdrawal of all Spanish troops. It was especially the resistance of the Netherlands that undid Spanish dreams of world empire. Although efforts to reconquer the Netherlands continued into the 1580s, Spain soon became preoccupied with England and France.

In England, Mary I (1553–1558) reverted to the strict Catholic practice of her father, Henry VIII. Her successor, Elizabeth I (1558–1603), was a *politique* who merged a centralized episcopal system with broadly defined Protestant doctrine and traditional Catholic ritual. English relations with Spain soon deteriorated. In 1570, Elizabeth was excommunicated for heresy and throughout the decade English seamen preyed on Spanish shipping in the Americas. In 1585, Elizabeth committed English soldiers to fight against the Spanish in the Netherlands. Finally, she was compelled to execute her Catholic cousin Mary, Queen of Scots, in 1587. Philip launched his Armada against England in 1588, but was soundly defeated; Spain never really recovered from this defeat.

In the second half of the sixteenth century, Germany (the Holy Roman Empire) was a land of about 300 autonomous political entities (secular and ecclesiastical principalities, free cities, and castle regions). Religious conflict accentuated these divisions; during this time, the population was about equally divided between Catholics and Protestants. In 1609, Maximilian of Bavaria organized a Catholic League to counter a Protestant alliance recently formed under the leadership of the Elector Palatine, Frederick IV. The stage was set for the worst of the religious wars, the Thirty Years’ War.

The chapter then details the conflict which is divided into four periods: the Bohemian (1618–1625), the Danish (1625–1629), the Swedish (1630–1635) and the Swedish-French (1635–1648). About one-third of the German population died in this war, which was ended by the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648. Among other provisions, it asserted the *cuius regio, eius religio* principle of the Peace of Augsburg and gave legal recognition to the Calvinists. This treaty perpetuated German division and political weakness into the modern period.

OUTLINE

I. Renewed Religious Struggle

II. The French Wars of Religion (1562–1598)

A. Appeal of Calvinism

B. Catherine de Médicis and the Guises

C. The Rise to Power of Henry of Navarre

D. The Edict of Nantes

III. Imperial Spain and Philip II (r. 1556–1598)

A. Pillars of Spanish Power

B. The Revolt in the Netherlands

IV. England and Spain (1553–1603)

A. Mary I (r. 1553–1558)

B. Elizabeth I (r. 1558–1603)

V. The Thirty Years’ War (1618–1648)

A. Preconditions for War

B. Four Periods of War

C. The Treaty of Westphalia

VI. In Perspective

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

How did religious conflict in Europe evolve over the course of the second half of the sixteenth century?

What caused the civil war between the Huguenots and the Catholics in France and what was the outcome?

How was Philip II able to dominate international politics for much of the latter half of the sixteenth century?

What role did Catholic and Protestant extremism play in the struggle for supremacy between England and Spain?

What toll did the Thirty Years’ War take on Germany?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did politics shape the religious positions of the French leaders? What led to the Saint Bartholomew’s Day Massacre, and what did it achieve?

2. How did Spain gain a position of dominance in the sixteenth century? What were Philip II’s successes and failures?

3. Henry of Navarre (Henry IV of France), Elizabeth I, and William of Orange were all *politiques*. What does the term mean and why does it apply to these three rulers?

4. What led to the establishment of the Anglican Church in England? Why did Mary I fail? What was Elizabeth I’s settlement, and why was it difficult to impose on England? Who were her detractors and what were their criticisms?

5. Why was the Thirty Years’ War fought? Was politics or religion more important in determining the outcome of the war? What were the main terms of the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648?

6. Why has the Thirty Years’ War been called the outstanding example in European history of meaningless conflict? Was it really such? Were the results worth the cost of the war?