Introduction

- Magisterial Reformers – Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin

- Radical Reformers - reformers who had no support from the ruling authorities

- Anabaptists – baptized adults that had previously been baptized as infants

German Radical Reformers

Wittenberg

Thomas Muentzer

- Muentzer became the priest at Zwickau

- One of the leaders of the German Peasants' War of 1524-1525

- May 1525 – dies in the battle of Frankenhausen

Münster

- Jan Matthijs – baker from Haarlem, Germany

- New Jerusalem is Münster, Germany

- Easter Sunday, 1535 – Matthijs killed

- Jan van Leiden – successor to Matthijs

- June 1535 – gates opened allowing combined Catholic-Lutheran army into the city

Swiss Radical Reformers

- 1524 – baptism crisis

- 1525 – public debate about baptism

- Swiss Anabaptists known as the Swiss Brethren

- January 1527 – Felix Mantz drowned in the river

- 1527 – Schleitheim Confession

- Anabaptists were concerned first with holiness

- Most radicals rejected justification by faith alone because they believed it was a threat to holiness

- Hans Hut – predicted Christ would return on Pentecost Sunday, 1528

Menno Simons

- 1496 – born in the Netherlands

- Age 28 – ordained a Catholic priest

- 1525 – began having doubts about transubstantiation

- Doubts about infant baptism influenced by the death of Sicke Freerks

- 1535 – finally breaks with Rome

- *The Blasphemy of Jan van Leyden*

- Mennonites

The Amish

- BASIN
  - B – Brotherhood of all believers – refuting the hierarchy of Roman Catholicism

  - A – Adult (or believers') baptism – refuting infant baptism

  - S – Separation of church and state – revealing a central tenet

  - I – In the world, but not of it – showing the belief in separation from worldliness

  - N – Nonviolent resistance – stressing the view of pacifism

- Jacob Amman – born mid 1600s

- Moved from Switzerland to Pennsylvania

Faustus Socinus

- Anabaptists

- Spiritualists

- Rationalists

    o 1539 – born in Siena, Italy

    o Socinianism – beginning of rational, moral, modern religion

Anabaptist ≠ Baptist