

# Acts 14:19-28

## 1 Timothy 3:13

- In the Galatian Churches...
  - Who was the head of these early gentile church?
  - Did the church in Jerusalem have authority over them?
  - What did Paul exhort them to do before leaving them?
  - Who did Paul put in place before leaving them?
- To Timothy
  - What is to be the primary focus of the ministry?





## Lesson 13: The Church Responds to Quagmire

### The Rise of English Puritans



# The English Reformation

- Henry VIII (1509-47) broke away from Rome
  - For pragmatic reasons rather than theological conviction
- Mary Tudor “Bloody Mary” (1553-58) returned England to Rome
  - Heavily persecuted protestants
- Elizabeth (1558-1603) turned back to “Protestantism”
  - No further reforms than under Henry
  - Many Protestants desired further (actual) reform



# The Church of England

- “Anglicanism” is Roman Catholicism in English
  - Strict structure
    - A single head
    - Assigned Bishops over diocese
    - Assigned Priests over parishes
  - Strict Liturgy
    - Clerical “vestments” or garb
    - Book of common prayer
    - Common order of service
- No other “religion” was legal



# Source of Controversy

- Church Government
  - The Anglican church was thoroughly Episcopal
    - King - Bishops - Priests
  - Puritans preferred Presbyterianism (a few congregationalists)
    - Each church should ordain their own elders/pastors
- Worship
  - Anglican - The head (King) dictates what is allowed
  - Puritan - Scripture dictates what is required
- Soteriology
  - Puritans were mostly reformed (Calvinistic)
  - Anglican church beginning to make Arminian noises



# 3 Stripes of English Puritans

- Those who refused to disobey
  - Ours is to preach and pray hoping for reform
  - Example: John Foxe
- Those who sought to petition parliament
  - Political problems need political solutions
  - Squashed by Elizabeth, the ruler of the church
- Those who refused to obey
  - Met in secret
  - Ordered much like their reformed brethren on the continent



# False Hope: James I

- James succeeded Elizabeth (1603-25)
  - Immediately petitioned by 1000 Puritan pastors for reform
  - Hampton Court summit in January 1604
  - Completely derailed by March 1604





# A New Bible

- One suggestion from Hampton Court was for a new Bible translation
- The Geneva Bible has been in circulation for 40+ years at this point
  - Too many reformed commentary notes
  - Too many presbyterian implications
- Thus the “need” for a non-reformed English translation...The KJV
  - Kept the Apocrypha until the 1666 edition
  - BTW there’s no such thing as the 1611 today



# Separatism

- **Some sought asylum in Europe**
  - The new Dutch Republic welcomed English protestants
  - Yet they were sojourners in a strange land
- **Some sought asylum in America**
  - The voyage on the Mayflower 1620
  - The goal was not political independence but religious independence
- **Some remained but separated from Anglicanism**
  - Began relying upon Scripture alone (*Sola Scriptura!*)
  - From these came the first English Baptist that were also reformed (circa 1633)



# Growing Problems

- Charles 1 succeeded his father James (1625-49)
  - Despised sharing power
  - Despised Reformed theology
  - Praised High Church order
  - Married a French Catholic - Henrietta Maria
  - Plunged England into Civil War





# The Westminster Divines

- Parliament called for a body of theologians to unify their cause in doctrine
  - Westminster Confession
  - Westminster Catechism (longer and shorter)
  - Handbook on Worship



# The English Civil War

- Parliament's army was inept
- Later joined by a Presbyterian Scottish army
  - This helped win a few battles, but not enough
- Development of the "New Model Army"
  - Professional military commanders instead of members of parliament (MP's)
  - Lead by Sir Thomas Fairfax and Oliver Cromwell



# Three-Way Struggle

- Charles I and the royalists
  - High Church
  - Absolute Monarchy
- Parliament
  - One unified Presbyterian church for all England
- The New Model Army
  - Anti-Monarchy
  - Religious Liberty



# How to kill a King

- The New Model Army won
  - Took “custody” of Charles
  - Purged Parliament of all unfriendly MP’s
  - “Voted” to put Charles to death
- Oliver Cromwell became “Lord Protector”
  - Fairfax resigned from the army
  - The English Republic was born



# Absolute Power Corrupts

- Religious Freedom for the first time in England
  - Great times for Baptists and Independents
  - Citizens no longer required to attend church
  - Not so much for Anglicans, Catholics, and Presbyterians





# Conclusion...ish

- The Puritan movement is not complete
- Highlights from this lesson
  - Combining the church and the state is NEVER a good idea
  - The best of motives are irrelevant if not executed Biblically
  - Separation can be a necessary way to reform, but you had better accept the consequences