

What Is Reformed Theology?
“Introduction”

I. Introduction – What is Reformed theology?

A. The short answer

1. Reformation
2. Systematic
3. Links of a chain illustration

B. Systemizes theology

1. Word of God not filled with
 - a.
 - b.
2. Cohesiveness

II. Background development of the Reformation.

A. Decline of medieval phenomenon.

1. Decline of the Papacy
2. Decline of Feudalism
3. New trade routes
4. Decline of the Roman Empire
 - a. The Roman Empire in the middle ages.
 - b. Nationhood

III. Ecclesiastical Setting

A. Role of the Papacy

1. Administration corrupted because of the need to raise money.

B. Papal Problems

1. Babylonian Captivity in Avignon, 1309-1377
2. A Great Divide 1378-1415
3. Moral corruption of the Renaissance Popes

C. Penance enacted during the medieval period.

1. Seven sacraments defined.
2. Parts of penance -
 - a.
 - b.
3. Penitent had three obligations.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. Indulgences introduced.
5. General indulgences
6. Indulgences clarification and how the people understood it.

IV. The Renaissance

A. Time period --

1. Rebirth

B. Sources

1. R_____ and G_____

C. Elements

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

D. Erasmus of Rotterdam 1466 - 1536

1. Key background features

IV. John Wycliffe (1330-1384)

A. The Morning Star

1. Secular and spiritual

B. Stressed vocation as a Christian calling.

C. Views and Authority

1. Emphasis.
2. View of Tradition
3. Erosion of papal authority.

D. His Writings

E. Wycliffe Translation of the Bible

F. Attacks on Wycliffe and his followers:

1. Key points

G. Meager reform by John Hus and his followers

1. His story