17-4 Notes

* Counter-Reformation – the counter action of the Catholic Church to defeat Protestantism and convince people to return to the Church
* The Reformation triggered a series of bloody wars in Europe between Catholic and Protestant rulers.
* In an attempt to reform the Catholic Church, seminaries-special schools for training and educating priests- were set up.
* The pope recognized a new order of priests, the society of Jesus-known as the Jesuits.
* Jesuits were the pope’s agents who taught, preached and fought heresy-a religious belief that contradicts what the Church says is true.
* Henry IV, a Huguenot (a French Protestant), became king of France. He declared himself Catholic and attended mass in Paris to “win” the kingdom of France. He declared Catholicism to be France’s main religion, but gave freedom to the Huguenots to worship freely.
* The worst religious war of the Reformation era was fought in the Holy Roman Empire.
* Henry VIII was the stubborn, impatient and cruel king of England. He married six queens; two of which he divorced and two he beheaded.
* Annul – to cancel
* Henry’s daughter Mary I became queen and restored the Catholic Church and arrested Protestants who opposed her. She was called “Bloody Mary” because she had 300 people burned at the stake.
* After Mary I’s death, her half-sister Queen Elizabeth I became queen. Queen Elizabeth was Protestant and restored the Anglican Church. She went on to become one of the greatest rulers in English history.
* Englishmen who read about Calvinism wanted to purify the Anglican church of Catholic ideas. These reformers became known as Puritans. They formed their own congregations and chose their own ministers. This challenged the king’s power. The king persecuted the Puritans which caused many of them to move to America to practice their religion freely. There they founded the first colonies of America.