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The Reformation in France

- 1507 Guillaume Briconnet becomes abbot of St. Germain Des Pres in Paris and forms close working relations with Lefevre d'Etapes.
- 1509 John Calvin is born in Noyon.
- 1515 Guillaume Briconnet begins reform activities as Bishop of Meaux, where he is joined by Lefevre d'Etapes, Guillaume Farel, and Gerard Roussel.
- 1521 The faculty of the Sorbonne (University of Paris) condemns the works of Lefevre d'Etapes.
- Circa 1522 John Calvin begins studies at the University of Paris.
- 1524 Jean Crespin, a modest weaver in Meaux, becomes the first French Protestant burned for heresy.
- 1525 Briconnet closes down reform activities in Meaux under pressure from an inquisitional commission of the Sorbonne. Farel leaves for the Dauphiné and later Basel; d'Etapes and Roussel go to Strasbourg.
- 1529 Louis de Berquin, French translator of Erasmus, is burned at the stake in the Place de Maubert in Paris for advocating the ideas of Martin Luther.
- 1530 First translation of the New Testament into French is published by Lefevre d'Etapes.
- 1533 Calvin joins the Reformation and flees Paris.
- 1534 In the Affair of the Placards, Protestant tracts are widely distributed in Paris leading to repressive measures against Protestants.
- 1542 & 1544 Calvin's books are burned in front of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

- 1546 Fourteen leaders of the Protestant Church in Meaux are tortured and burned at the stake near the Cathedral.
- 1559 First national French Reformed Synod is held in Paris.
- 1559 Anne du Bourg, counselor to King Henry II, speaks out in the parliament of Paris to criticize the persecution of Protestants and is executed.
- 1561 Colloquy of Poissy fails to reconcile French Protestants and Catholics.
- 1562 Massacre of Protestants at Wassy by the Duke of Guise (uncle of Mary Queen of Scots) sets off the first Civil War pitting Catholics against Protestants.
- 1567-1568 Second Civil War
- 1568-1570 Third Civil War
- 1572 St. Bartholomew Massacre begins in Paris and spreads to other cities, resulting in the deaths of up to 70,000 Huguenots.
- 1572-1573 Fourth Civil War
- 1574-1576 Fifth Civil War
- 1577 Sixth Civil War
- 1580 Seventh Civil War
- 1585-1589 Eighth Civil War
Henry IV leads his Huguenot army into battle chanting the 118th Psalm for a great victory at Coutras, 20 October 1587.
- 1589 Henry IV, leader of the Protestants, becomes King of France.
- 1593 Henry IV becomes Catholic to bring stability to France and enters Paris.

16th Century French Kings

Francis I	1515-1547	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brother of Marguerite d'Angouleme
Henry II	1547-1559	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Husband of Catherine de Medici
Francis II	1559-1560	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Catherine de Medici • Husband of Mary Queen of Scots
Charles IX	1560-1574	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Catherine de Medici
Henry III	1574-1589	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Catherine de Medici
Henry IV vs. Charles X	1589-1593	
Henry IV	1594-1610 (uncontested)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of Jeanne d'Albret • Grandson of Marguerite d'Angouleme

