Church History

Mr. Myers

**The “Reformed Tradition”**

1. Sources of the Reformed Tradition
	1. John Calvin, Ulrich Zwingli, and associates
	2. Two streams of Reformed thought emerged from the Reformation era
		1. Dutch Reformed—Calvinism took root and spread across the Netherlands, an impact which is still alive today although not very strongly in America
		2. Anglo-Saxon Reformed tradition—Primarily through the work of John Knox, this interpretation of Calvinism became established in Scotland, then England, and then to America and other places in the world—the beliefs of this movement are crystallized in a document called the Westminster Confession
			1. Presbyterians
			2. Puritans
			3. Some Baptists
			4. Names associated with this tradition: John Calvin, John Knox, Jonathan Edwards, B.B. Warfield, Ryrie, John Piper, Joshua Harris
2. Beliefs of the Reformed Tradition
	1. Sovereignty of God over all things—“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over *all*, does not cry: 'Mine!'

–Abraham Kuyper

* 1. The Word of God is the source of authority
	2. Salvation is effected by Jesus Christ, without regard to man’s merit or response
		1. Total depravity
		2. Unconditional election
		3. Limited atonement
		4. Irresistible grace
		5. Perseverance of the saints
	3. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are sacraments—these are ceremonies with intrinsic spiritual benefits; infant baptism is practiced by some Reformed churches
	4. Reforming culture is one of the responsibilities of Christians—this receives more emphasis than does evangelism and personal conversions