* Hugenots: the leader of Geneva’s political revolt against the House of Savoy in the 1520s, which had been prelude to the city’s Calvinist Reformation
  + Held important geographic areas
  + Heavily rep. amongst French society
* Treaty of Cateau-Cambrésis**:** treaty that ended the Hapsburg-Valois 1n
* 1559
* 1559 – internal French conflict and a shift of European balance of power away from France to Spain
* Guises **–** dominant family in eastern France. Henry the II’s General -- Duke of Guise – brothers were cardinals or church
* Montmorency-Chatillons: controlled the center of France
* Bourbans: power lay in the south and west
* Montmorency-Chatillons and Bourbans became political leader of the French Protestant resistance
  + Guise dominated France caused more peeps to join the Calvinist church
* Calvinism served the forces of political decentralization
* Catherine the Médicis sought allies among the Protestants
* March 1562 – duke of Guise massacred many worshippers at a Protestant congregation {*MARKED BEGINNING OF FRENCH WARS OF RELIGION*}
  + Catherine then compromised with the Guises
* 1570 – crown granted acknowledged the power of the Protestant nobility and granted the Huguenots religious freedoms within their territories and the right to fortify their cities
* Protestant influence grew – Catherine sought support from and plotted with the Guises against the ascendant Protestants
* August 24, 1572 – Coligny (Huguenot leader) and 3,000 other Huguenots were butchered in Paris {known as the Saint Bartholomew’s Day Massacre} Within three days, coordinated attacks across France killed an estimated 20,000 Huguenots
  + This threw France into a civil war
  + Pope Gregory VIII and Phillip II of Spain greeted news with celebrations
* Classical Huguenot theories of resistance appeared in…
  + *Franco-Gallia* of François Hotman
  + *On the Right of Magistrates over Their Subjects* – Theodore Beza’s
  + *Defense of Liberty* – Philippe du Plessis Mornay

Peace of Beaulieu: (May 1576) granted the Huguenots almost complete religious and civil freedom

* Henry of Navarre: a legal heir to the French throne by virtue of his descendent in a direct male line form St. Louis IX
* Day of the Barricades: Henry III attempted to rout the league with a surprise attack in 1588
* Henry IV – poilitque
* July 25, 1593 – Henry publicly abandoned the Protestant faith and embraced the religion of his country – Catholicism
* 1596 – the Catholic League was dispersed, its ties with Spain were broken, and the wars of religion in France had ground to a close
* Edict of Nantes – (April 13, 1598) proclaimed a formal religious settlement. It recognized minority religious rights within what was to remain a Catholic country
* Treaty of Vervins – (May 2, 1598) ended hostilities between France and Spain