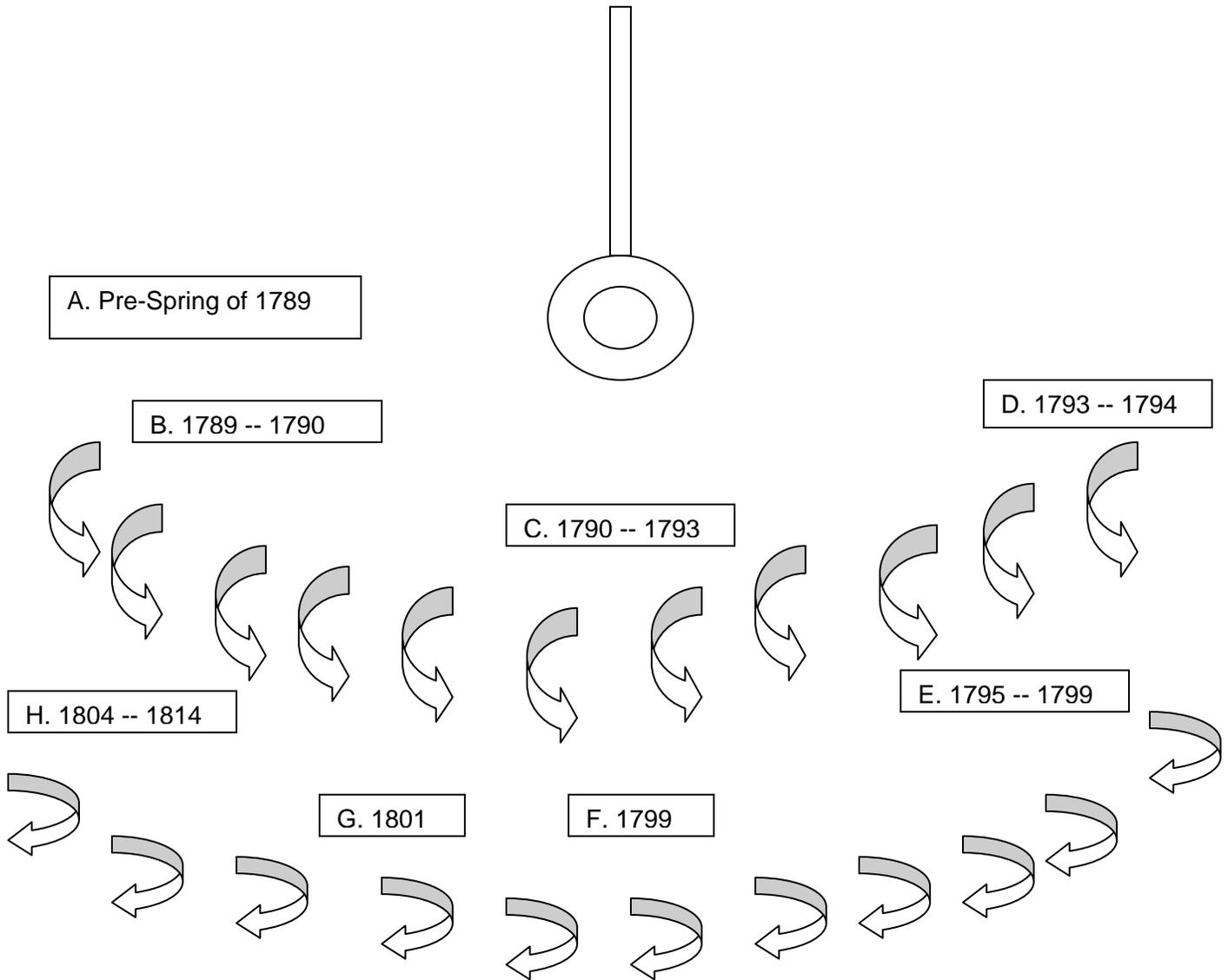


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To Jesus Through Mary

Name _____ Per. _____ Date _____
Eighth Grade Religion Chapter 10 Test Written Section

A. The Church Through Out the French Revolution

In each time frame describe the relationship of the Church to the government in France at that time.



- A. **Pre-Spring of 1789:** This is still the age of the Absolute Monarchs. Louis XVI is the King of France. The absolute monarchs have been attempting to dominate the Church in France and to limit its' power. They have been especially hostile to the power of the popes over the Church in France.
- B. **1789 – 1790:** Louis XVI may be the absolute monarch but he is bankrupt. After a gap of over 100 years he calls to meeting the Estates General which is the French legislature. His purpose in calling them together is to get their help in raising taxes. They the three estates met the members of the Third Estate, the merchant class, is willing to trade cash for some share in the political power. Members of the First Estate, the clergy, assist them in dissolving the Estates General and creating a new

legislature, the National Assembly. The National Assembly starts the process of creating a new government for France, a constitutional monarchy. On July 14, 1789 the mob storms the Bastille outside of Paris and the French Revolution begins.

- C. **1790 – 1793:** The new National Assembly has the same financial difficulties as did the monarchy. In order to finance their government they turn against the Church. In 1790 they pass a new law, the Civil Constitution of the Clergy. The purpose of this law was to regulate the affairs of the Church in the new constitutional monarchy. The National Assembly seized all Church property, closed down monasteries, ended the tithe which supported the works of the Church, and demanded that all priests and bishops swear an oath of allegiance to the new government. Fifty percent of the priests refused to swear allegiance and the vast majority of the bishops did not too. It also called for the election of bishops and pastors, denied the pope any say in these appointments and reorganized dioceses and parishes. In 1791 Pope Pius VI condemned not only the Civil Constitution of the Clergy but the entire direction of the French Revolution calling it ungodly.
- D. **1793 – 1794:** During these years we had the Reign of Terror and the revolution turned very bloody and violent. All those who opposed the revolution were arrested and put to death. The king and queen were beheaded. 50,000 nobles, royalists and political opponents were murdered. Catholicism was declared illegal and a new goddess was proclaimed, the Goddess of Reason. 1,000's of priest and religious were killed.
- E. **1795 – 1799:** By this time the French Revolution had gone as radical as can be and society was totally chaotic. There was now a move to return to greater stability and more order. The Directory comes to power at this time. The Directory tolerates Catholicism. The active persecution has ended. Priests still must swear allegiance to the government. The government continues to hold possession of Church lands. The clergy is spied upon. There is a strict separation of Church and State. In 1798, the revolutionary armies march over the Alps into the Italian peninsula and invade the Papal States. The Papal States are conquered, Pope Pius VI is forced to flee the city of Rome and the revolutionaries declare a Roman Republic. A year later Pius is arrested and deported to France where in 1799 he will die in prison. For the next 7 months there will be no pope since the cardinals cannot gather in Rome for a conclave.
- F. **1799:** Napoleon Bonaparte has risen in ranks of the revolutionary army from a common soldier to a victorious general. He returns to France from Egypt and will seize control of the government. He realizes it is time to end the chaos and instability that France has been experiencing since 1789.
- G. **1801:** In March of 1800, the cardinals had gathered in Venice and elected a new pope, Pius VII. Pius VII will become one of the greatest popes of the modern era. Through negotiations with Napoleon the Church will be restored in France. Both Pius VII and Napoleon work out the Concordat of 1801. According to this treaty the Church in France is legal again, there is freedom of worship, the pope is recognized as the head of the Catholic Church (even in France) and the pope is able to appoint new bishops. Catholicism is recognized as the religion of the majority of the French people. Napoleon gains the cooperation of French Catholics as he tries to firm up his government and return order and stability to France.
- H. **1804 – 1814:** Napoleon invites Pius VII to Paris to crown him as Emperor of the French. During the middle of the ceremony Napoleon grabs the crown of the hands of Pius VII and places it on his own head. He will not be subservient to the Church or the Pope. After Pius VII refuses to join Napoleon in his attacks on England, the French army once again marches over the Alps into the Italian peninsula and seizes control of the Papal States. Pius VII is arrested and brought as a prisoner to Paris. He will refuse to be controlled by Napoleon, will not act as pope, and lives the life of a simple monk in prison. He will remain in prison until the defeat of Napoleon in 1814.