

## Summer Reading Assignment

*Read A World Lit Only by Fire by William Manchester. In well-written paragraphs provide complete answers for the following questions. Be certain you answer all parts of each question.*

1) Explain what characteristics Manchester attribute's to the medieval mind. How were these features manifested in the life of ordinary people as well as among the powerful and influential? What is the contrast between the Renaissance spirit and the medieval mind (Chapter 1)? Give examples.

2) The German princes and people supported Luther's reformation more for political and economic reasons than for religious ones. Explain detailing examples from the book.

3) A split in the Catholic Church or a movement for reform was inevitable because of the abuses and worldliness of those who were its leaders and spokesmen. Assess the validity of this statement and support your answer from the reading.

4) According to prelate Alvaro Pelayo of Spain (1500's) "wolves are in control of the church and feed on Christian blood!" Explain this quotation for the time periods 1200-1517 and assess its validity.

5) Using the cartoon on page 200 as a starting and reference point, discuss the actions taken by the Catholic Church to institute reform and assess whether or not the Lutherans (source of the cartoon) are justified in their feeling. (Note: The 3 men in the cartoon are Cardinals and the painting behind the altar is of the Pope. Also look at page 132).

6) The last section of chapter 1, The Medieval Mind, ends with a list of names (pg. 27-28). Pick 3 of these names and explain why Manchester implies that these names are "dragons" lurking to destroy the medieval status quo (you should explain each name separately).

7) Manchester states that heroism is not reflective and swift, but deliberate and never mindless. He argues it is difficult to find another figure whose heroism matches Magellan's. Explain Manchester's argument for the heroism of Magellan. Assess the validity of his argument and support your answer from the reading.

If you have questions about this assignment you may email me at: [cveciana@aol.com](mailto:cveciana@aol.com).

I must receive your assignment by the first day of class.