

7.53 Explain the heightened influence of the Catholic Church, the growth of literacy, the spread of printed books, the explosion of knowledge and the Church's reaction to these developments.

The Church and the Printing Press

- Most people who could read were educated at monasteries and most of them were monks or priests
- The only way people knew what was in the Bible was based on what their priests told them
- This gave the church great POWER

The Church and the Printing Press

- The printing press led to
 - More people could read (literacy)
 - more Bibles being printed
 - Bibles being translated into the vernacular
- People began to read the Bible for themselves instead of relying on priests
- This HURT the power of the Catholic Church