MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

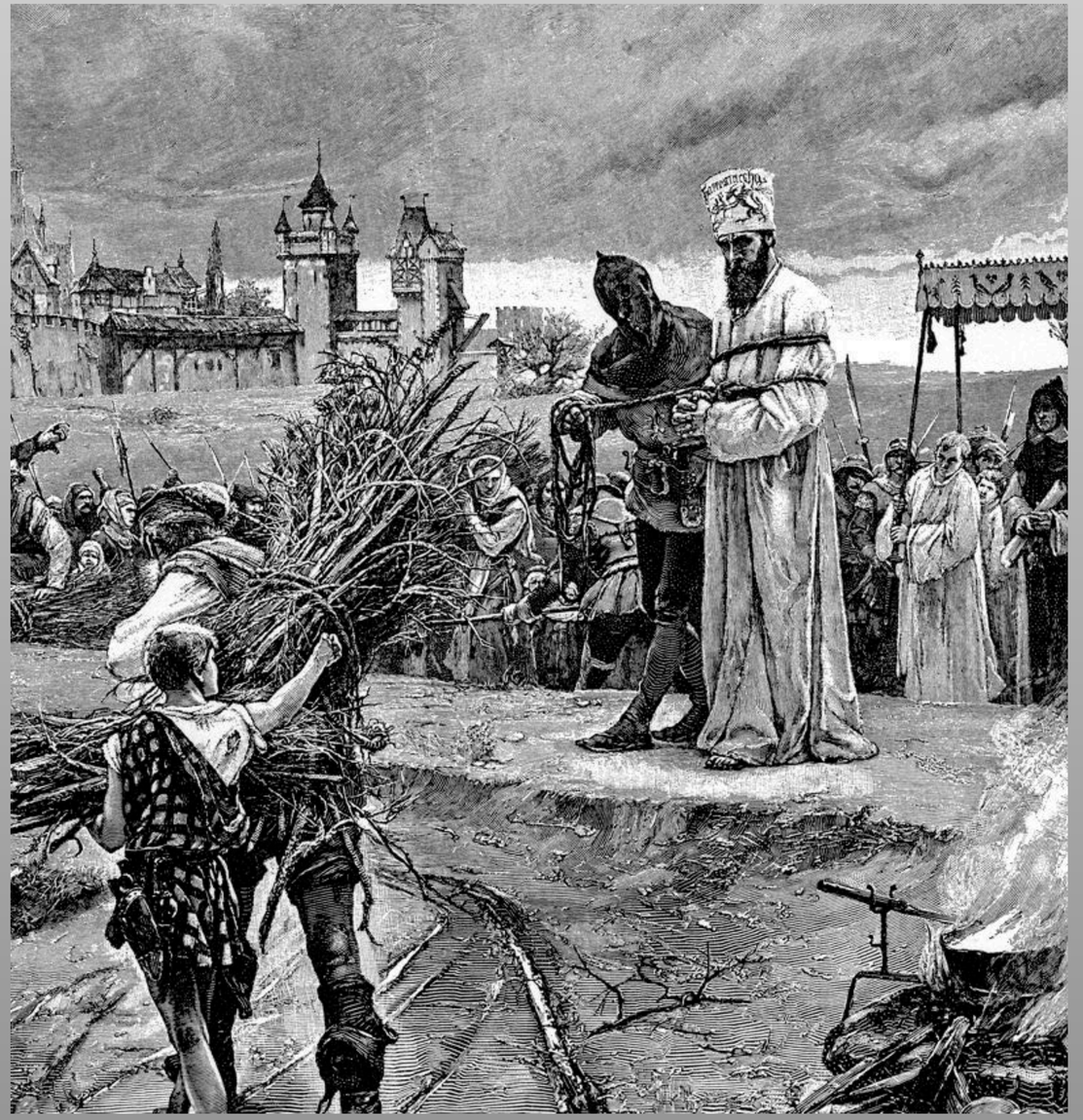
THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

FOR IN IT (THE GOSPEL) THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS REVEALED FROM FAITH TO FAITH; AS IT IS WRITTEN, "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Romans 1:17

PRE-REFORMATION (ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH)

- The Scriptures were obscured and irrelevant
  - The Latin Vulgate was the primary text (and the people didn't speak it)
    - A woman disciplined for 'murmuring' in the Church during the Latin service
  - The Scripture was subservient to the church
    - Pre-Reformers attempted to bring the Bible back to the people (and the doctrine of the Bible) but were condemned, persecuted and/or killed
      - The Waldensians, John Wycliffe, John Huss



RIPE FOR REFORMATION

PRE-REFORMATION (ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH)

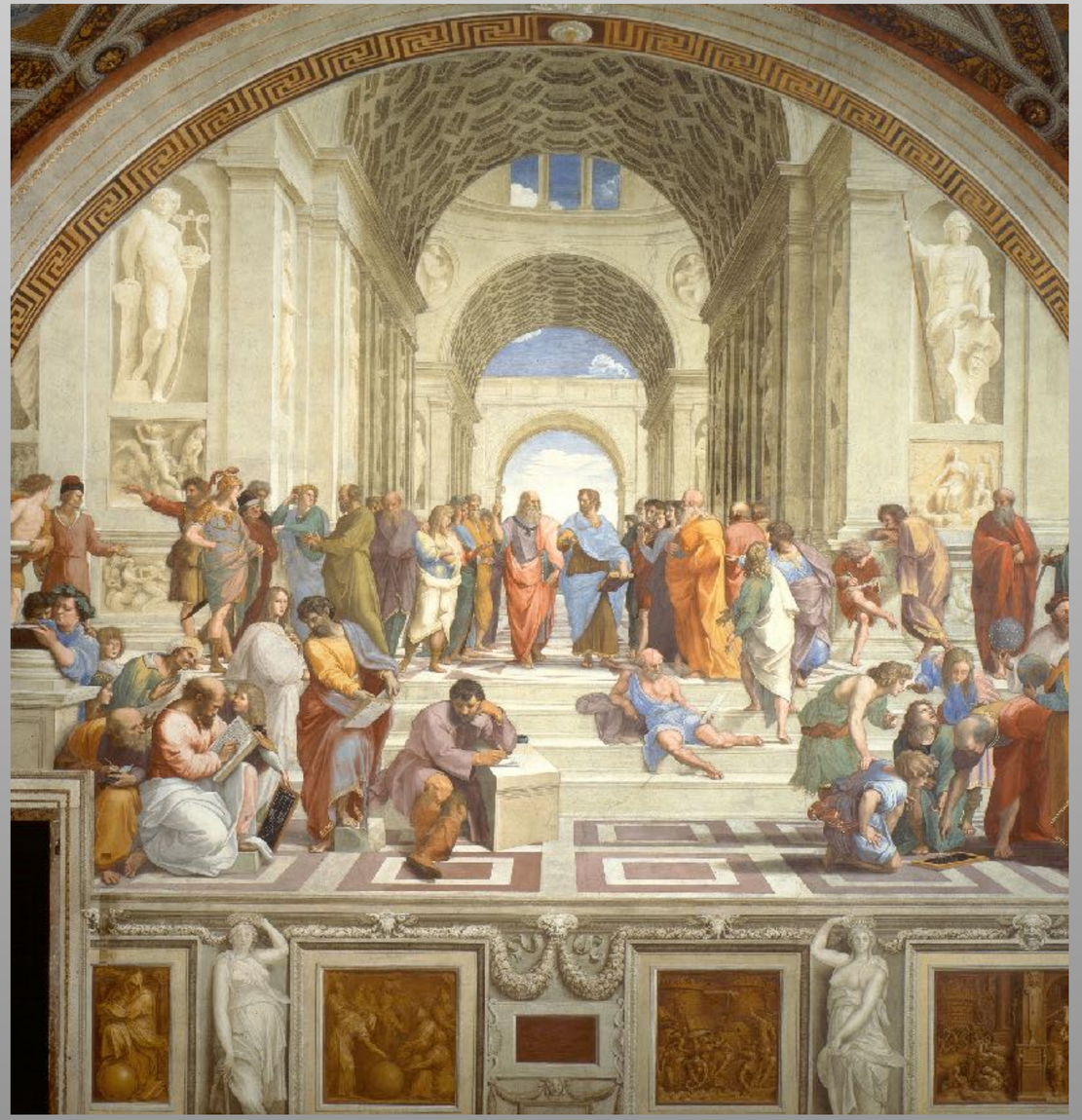
- The people had multiple intermediaries
  - Priests, the Virgin Mary, dead saints all came before Christ
- Legalism & Self-Righteousness of the Monasteries
- Sins of the Papacy, the Priests, & Indulgences
  - Nepotism, Simony, Hedonism, Political ambition
  - Ignorance, Drunkenness, gambling, immorality
  - Indulgences for profit, exploitation



RIPE FOR REFORMATION

PRE-REFORMATION (ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH)

- The Renaissance (*Rebirth of Greek culture)*
  - Humanist philosophy
    - *Ad fontes (*to the sources)
    - Critical of tradition & Authority
    - Focus on the individual
  - The invention of the printing press (1440)
- The impending rise of nation-states (greater freedom from the church and the Holy Roman Empire)



Luther Monument in Worms

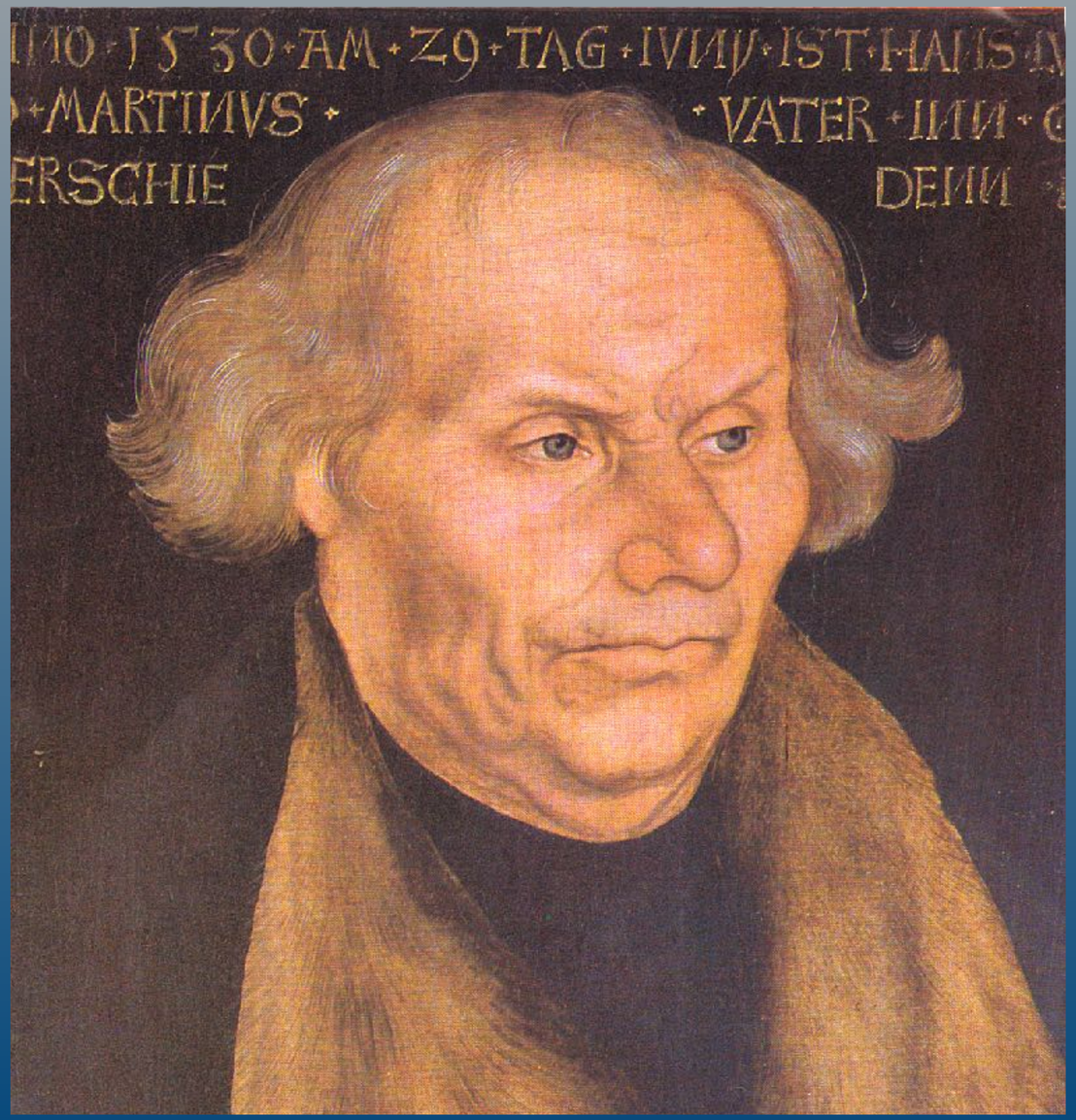


MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

CHILDHOOD

A PEASANT'S SON

- Martin Luther grew up in a moderate peasant's home
- His father was a miner
  - He eventually bought a mine and had moderate wealth
- Little to no learning or culture
  - Luther sung in the streets at age 14 to support himself
- He was taught at home to pray to God and the saints
  - revere the church and the priests
  - he was told stories of the devil and witches
- He was a man of the people, not the upper class



A HARD EDUCATION

STERN DISCIPLINE

- His mother beat him until she drew blood for stealing a nut
- He was flogged by his father and fled, holding a temporary grudge against him
- His school was severe, he was chastised 15 times in one single morning
- He also learned the catechism, creeds, Lord's prayer, 10 commandments, several hymns



UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

SCHOLASTIC STUDY

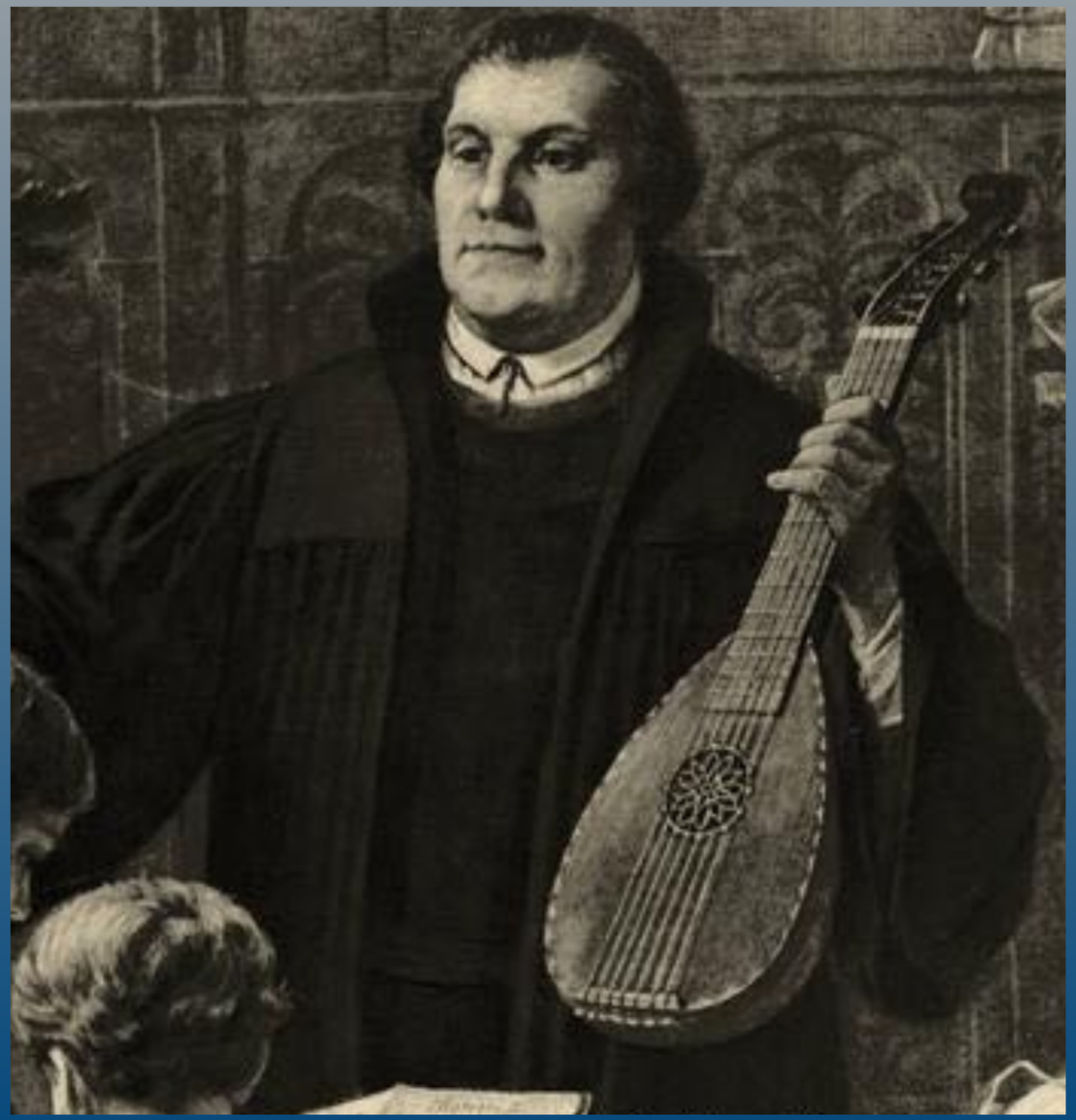
- Luther enrolled at the University of Erfurt at 18
  - it was one of the best universities in Germany
- His father had enough wealth so that he could assist Luther in his studies
- Scholastic Philosophy
  - Logic, rhetoric, physics, metaphysics
- Humanistic studies (classicism revived) were all over Europe and Luther studied Latin (Roman) Classics
  - Cicero, Virgil, Plautus, Livy



MUSIC & POETRY

MARTIN THE ARTIST

- He cultivated a love of music
  - He sang, played the lute
- He prized music as a noble gift of God and as a remedy against sadness and evil thoughts
  - It was an effective weapon against the assaults of the devil
- His poetic gift is seen in his hymn-writing
- He developed a sense of wit and humor



FROM EARLY ON, SINGING WAS A TRADEMARK OF THE LUTHERANS, AND IT TURNED THE REFORMATION INTO A SINGING MOVEMENT.

Burkhard Weisz

MORAL CHARACTER

'TO PRAY WELL IS HALF THE STUDY'

- His moral character was unblemished
  - No grievous stains on his early reputation
- He was a regular attendee at mass and observed daily devotions
  - His motto, 'to pray well is half the study' characterized his life and education
- He saw his first complete Bible at age 20 and read it with delight (though not with a systematic study)
  - He did not see the love and mercy of God, but rather his righteousness and wrath
- He was constantly concerned with his personal salvation and often gloomy and despairing of his sinful condition



A FEARFUL PROVIDENCE

LUTHER'S 1ST TURNING POINT

- Martin Luther was shocked by the sudden death of a friend (killed in a duel, or struck dead by lightning)
- Shortly afterward, he was overtaken by a terrible thunderstorm near Erfurt
  - He was so frightened that he fell to the earth to ask for help from St. Anne, the patron saint of miners



ST. ANNE, HELP ME! I WILL BECOME A MONK.

Martin Luther

A FEARFUL PROVIDENCE

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- Shortly afterward, he was overtaken by a terrible thunderstorm near Erfurt
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- He resolved to become a monk instead of a lawyer
  - This isolated him from his Father for many years



LUTHER THE MONK

AN AUGUSTINIAN CONVENT

- Luther embraced monasticism wholeheartedly by choice and by conviction
- It was to him a school of discipline and preparation for gospel freedom
- His sole motive was acquiring salvation
  - He studied, prayed, preached, begged, and embraced ascetic severities
    - Going without sleep, sleeping without a blanket, beating your body, extreme fasting, etc.
- He regularly prayed the paternosters and Ave Marias and consistently confessed his sins to the priest



IF EVER A MONK GO TO HEAVEN BY HIS MONKERY, I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THERE.

Martin Luther, on his time in the cloister

INTERNAL TORMENT

THE WRETCHED MAN

- Luther studied the scriptures and the scholastics
  - Gabriel Biel, William Occam (Occam's razor), Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus
- He was an exceptional student, but it did not satisfy him
- He wanted to escape sin and temptation and achieve salvation
  - He prayed, fasted and self-mortified more than any other (He was a model of sanctification)
- The more active he was in sanctification, the more he felt the burden of sin
- He trembled before the wrath of God, the Holy One



WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM! WHO WILL DELIVER ME FROM THIS BODY OF DEATH?

Romans 7:24

THOU ART A FOOL, GOD IS NOT ANGRY WITH THEE, BUT THOU ART ANGRY WITH GOD.

Luther's confessor, Johann Van Staupitz

JOHANN VON STAUPITZ

THE MYSTIC FATHER

- Staupitz was the teacher of the novices in the convent
  - He comforted Luther by reminding him of the forgiveness of sins, Paul's words of justification by grace through faith
- He was a mystic (focused on the inner life as opposed to outer forms and observances)
- He was an 'evangelical Catholic'
  - He directed Martin to turn from his sins to the merits of Christ
  - from the law to the cross
  - From works to faith
  - From scholasticism to the study of the Scriptures
- He encouraged Martin to enter the priesthood (1507) and sent him to Wittenburg
- He stirred him up against popery and protected him from Cardinal Cajetan

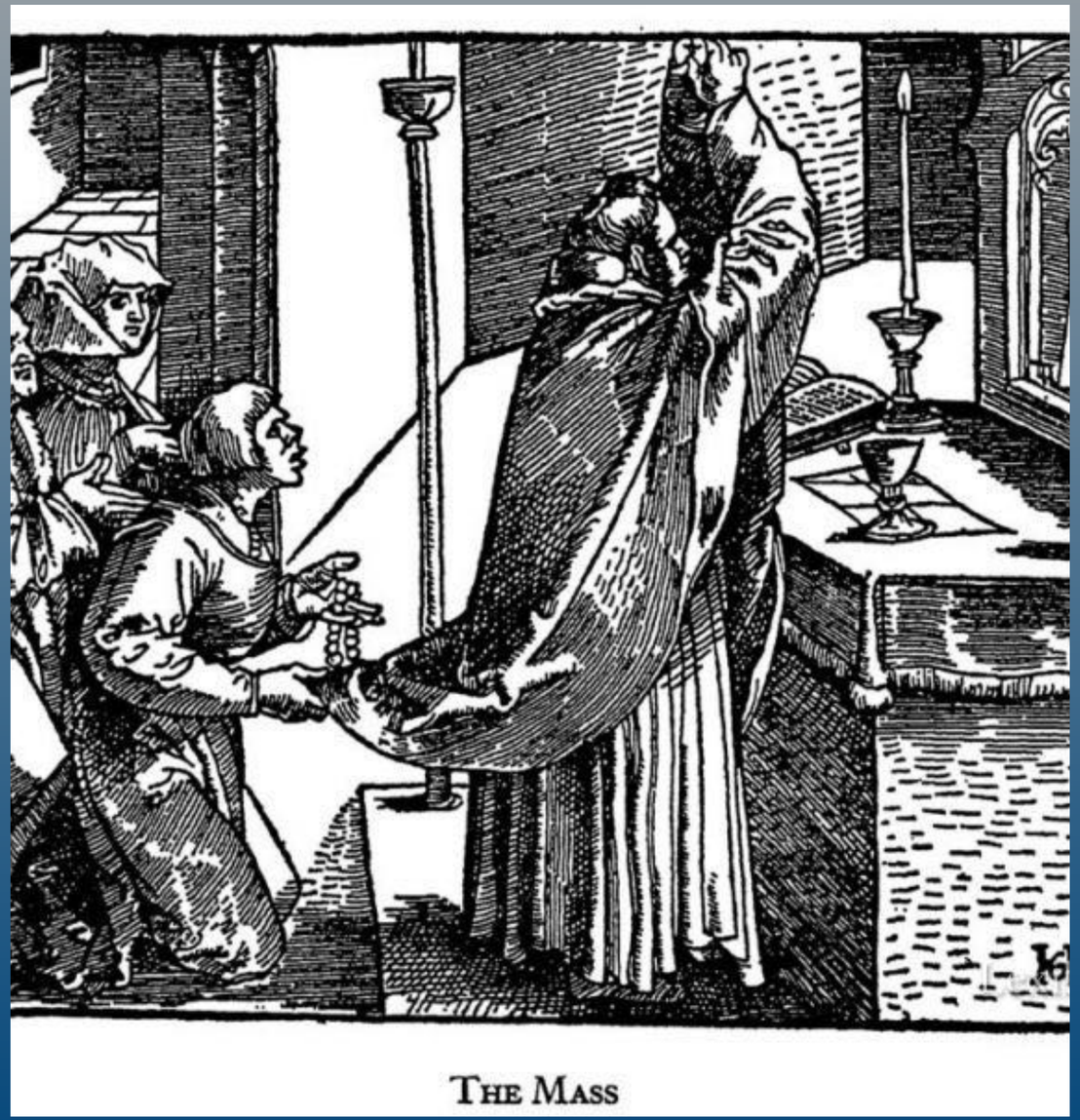


MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

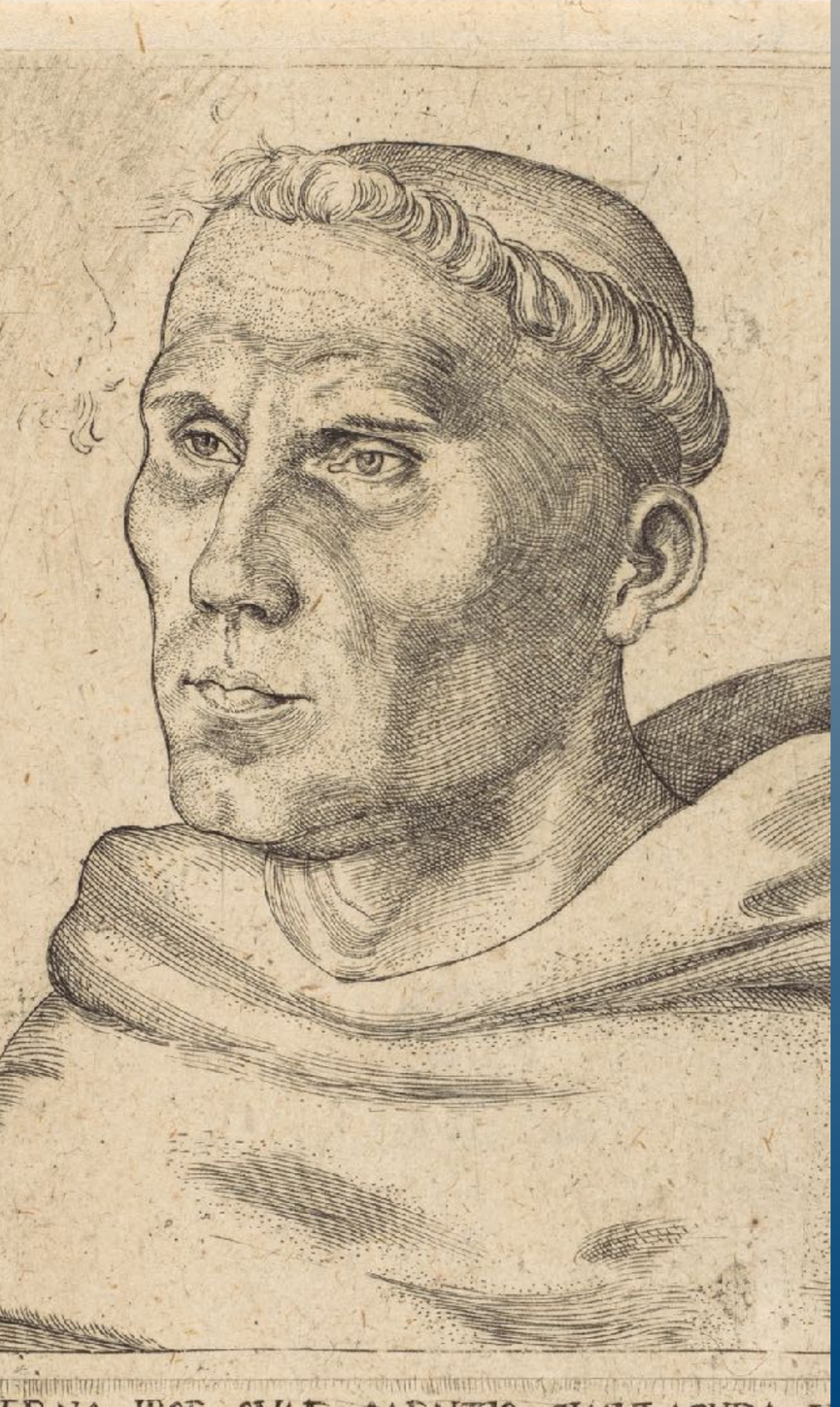
THE FIRST MASS

ANFECHTUNG (THE INNER TURMOIL)

- After Luther was confirmed as a priest (1507) he was called to perform his first mass
  - The Mass was the center of grace bestowed to Christians
    - Performing sacraments was key to receiving grace for forgiveness of sins
      - Sacraments are 'means of grace'
- The mass was the re-enactment of the sacrifice of Calvary
  - The bread literally turns into the body of Christ and the wine literally turns into the blood of Christ (transubstantiation)
- Luther trembled with fear at saying these words, "We offer unto thee, the living, the true, the eternal God."



THE MASS



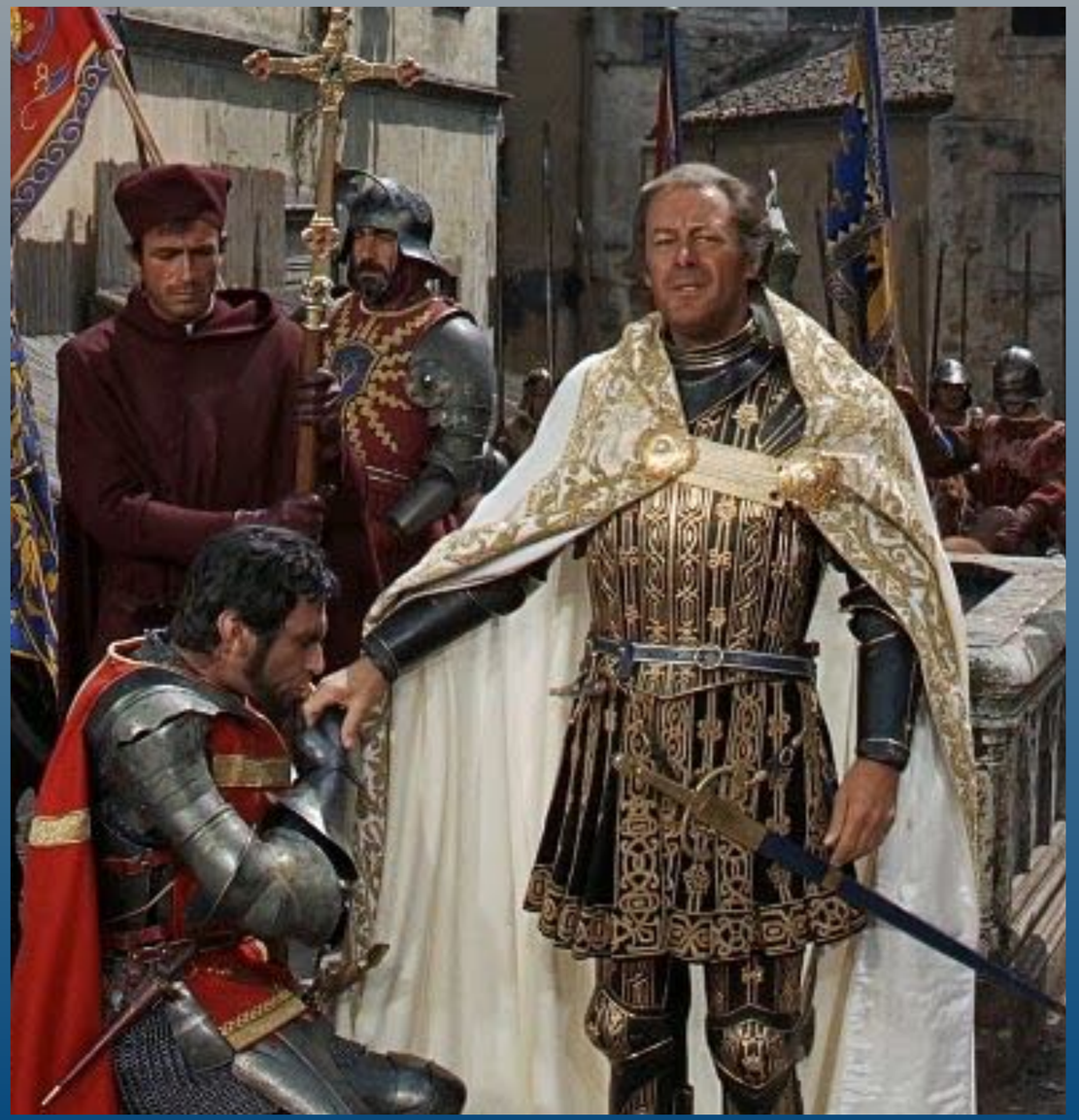
AT THESE WORDS I WAS UTTERLY STUPEFIED AND TERROR-STRICKEN. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, 'WITH WHAT TONGUE SHALL I ADDRESS SUCH MAJESTY, SEEING THAT ALL MEN OUGHT TO TREMBLE IN THE PRESENCE OF EVEN AN EARTHLY PRINCE? WHO AM I, THAT I SHOULD LIFT UP MINE EYES OR RAISE MY HANDS TO THE DIVINE MAJESTY? THE ANGELS SURROUND HIM. AT HIS NOD THE EARTH TREMBLES. AND SHALL A MISERABLE LITTLE PIGMY SAY, 'I WANT THIS, I ASK FOR THAT'? FOR I AM DUST AND ASHES AND FULL OF SIN AND I AM SPEAKING TO THE LIVING ETERNAL AND THE TRUE GOD."

Martin Luther

THE TRIP TO ROME (1510)

THE HOLY CITY?

- Luther was sent to Rome to represent the Augustinian order
  - The trip lasted several months and gave him an opportunity to see the country and the city
- Luther made no comments about the beauties of nature (on the trip) nor the wealth of Renaissance Art in the city
  - Rome was filled with not 'Holy Zeal,' but rather enthusiasm for Renaissance art and literature
    - The current Pope, Julius II, was a warrior pope dressed in armor (not in traditional pope vestments) and pursued art, architecture and glory above religious zeal
- Luther, upon seeing the city from afar, exclaimed, "Hail to thee, holy Rome! Thrice holy for the blood of martyrs shed here."



THE TRIP TO ROME (1510)

THE UNHOLY CITY

- Luther ran, 'like a crazy saint,' through all the churches, crypts, and catacombs to visit the 1000s of relics throughout Rome
- He wished that his parents were dead so that he might help them out of purgatory by reading mass in a holy place
- He ascended the Scala Santa (Pontius Pilate's stairs) one by one and offered prayers at each step
- He was never comforted by any relic, or reading of mass, or prayer to provide relief from purgatory
  - The 'Holy City' was full of immoral, unbelieving, and frivolous clergy
  - Money and luxuriousness replaced poverty and self-denial
- 'Rome, once the holiest city, was now the worst.'



FOR IN IT (THE GOSPEL) THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS REVEALED FROM FAITH TO FAITH; AS IT IS WRITTEN, "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Romans 1:17

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

REVELATION IN THE TOWER

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

- His studies of the Epistles (specifically Romans & Galatians) were pivotal for his dramatic change
- Luther pondered day and night over the meaning of the 'Righteousness of God.'
  - He thought righteousness was the righteous punishment of sinners and only a righteous man could live by faith
    - He saw his own unrighteousness and it tormented him
  - The spirit revealed to him that Righteousness is a gift of God through Faith (belief in the work of Christ)
- He found his justification in faith and obedience to Christ



I FELT MYSELF TO BE REBORN AND TO HAVE GONE THROUGH OPEN DOORS INTO PARADISE.

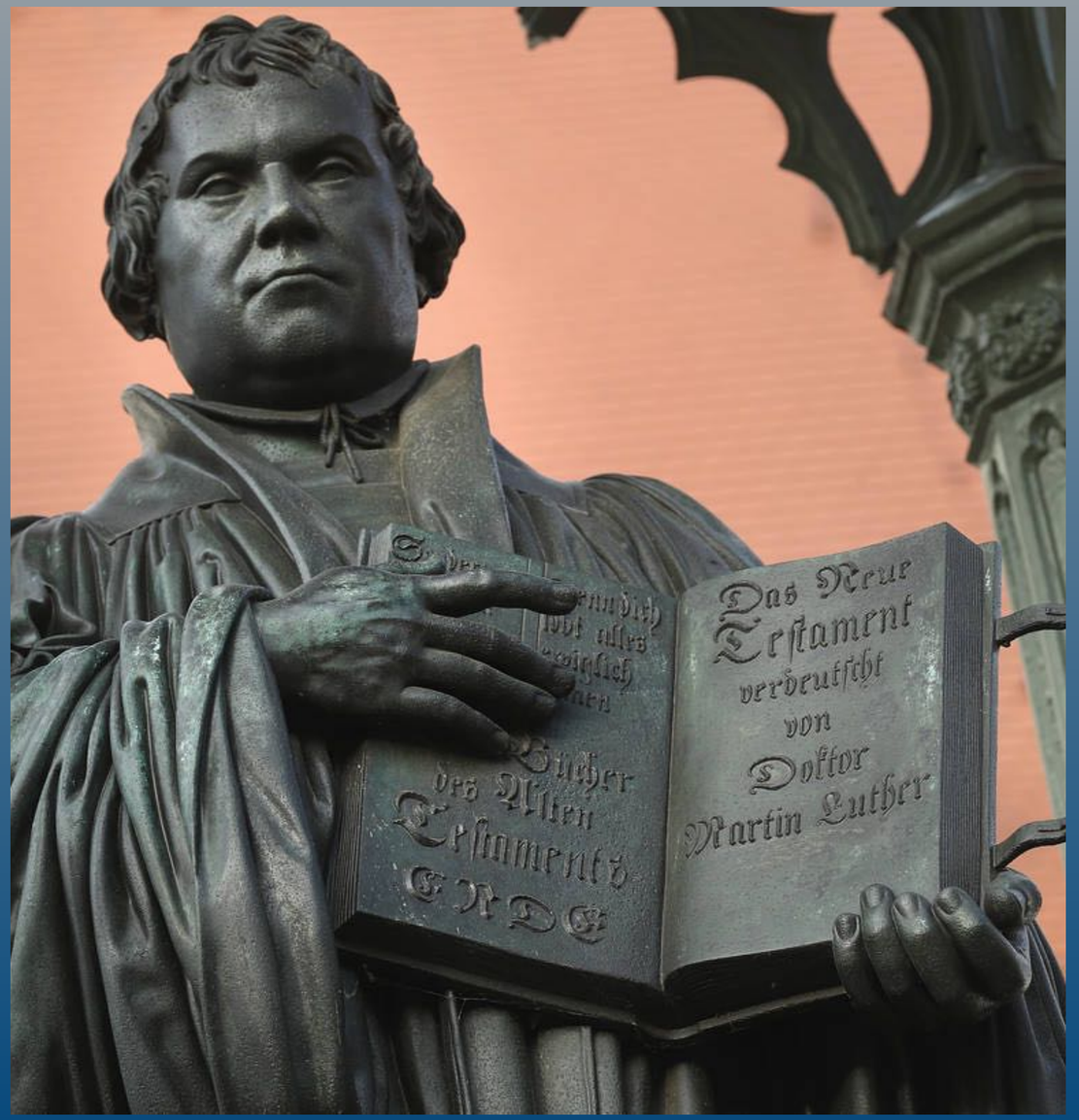
Martin Luther

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

A NEWFOUND LIFE

- This view contrasted the Catholic teachings
  - Catholic Justification was a gradual process
    - conditional to your faith and good works
      - keeping the sacraments, attending mass, confessing sins, continuing in prayers and almsgiving, etc.
  - Protestant (and Biblical) justification
    - Justification is a single act of God based on the merits of Christ
      - conditioned by faith
      - manifested by good works



A NEW LUTHER

UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES

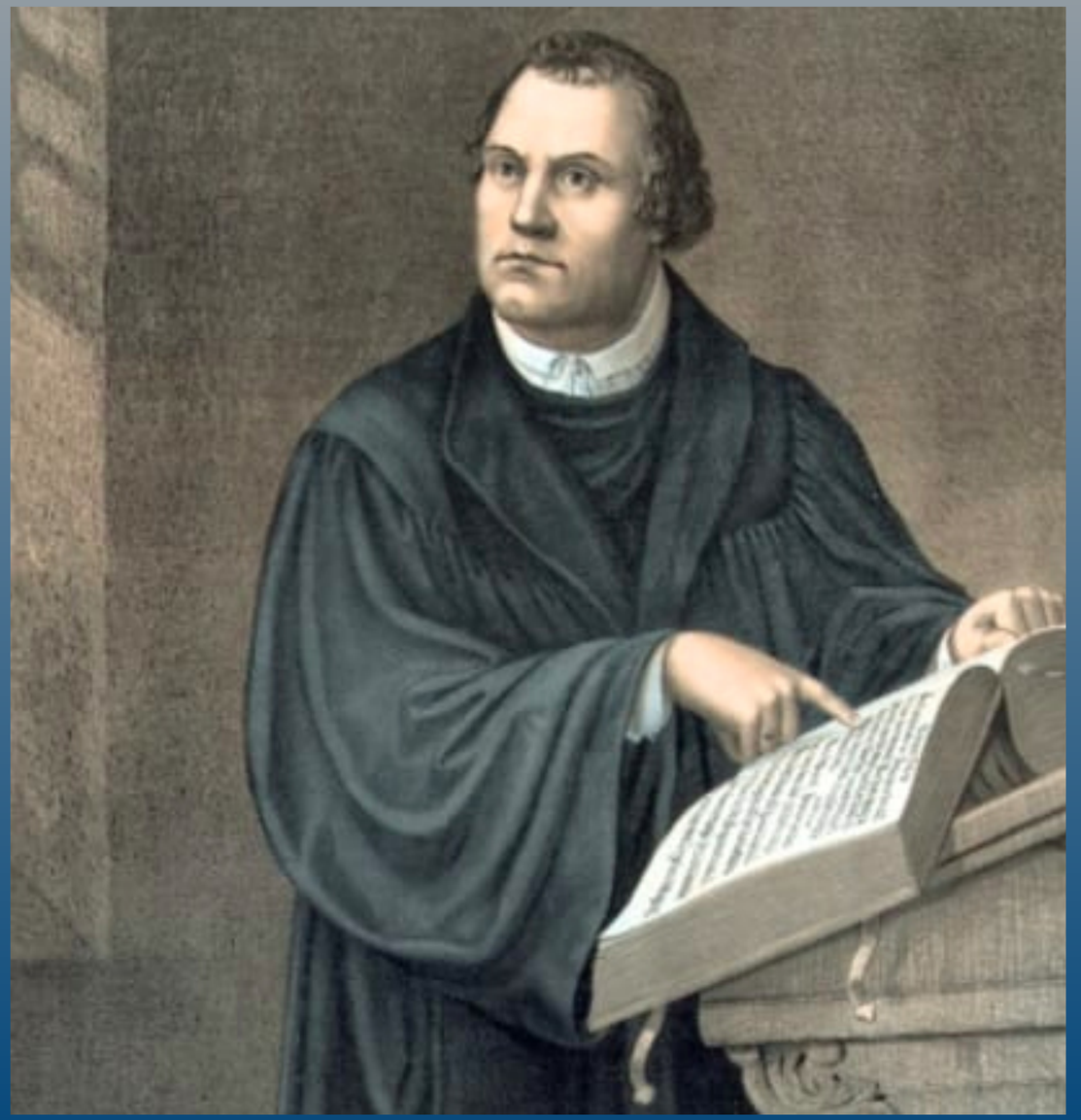
- Suddenly, the whole Bible was opened up to Luther
  - He felt relieved of the terrible load of guilt because of free grace
- He was no longer a legalist, earning his way into heaven
- He measured every other doctrine by the standard of 'sola fida,' 'faith alone.'
  - He was consistently accused of Antinomianism (anti-law) or righteousness is unnecessary because we have grace
    - But so was Paul
      - 'Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound? May it never be!' Romans 6:1



LUTHER & THE NEW TESTAMENT

EMBRACING THE SCRIPTURES

- Luther now understood and taught the scriptures more accurately than all of the medieval ‘schoolmen’ and the ancient fathers
  - He called the Epistle to the Galatians, ‘My Katie’ (His wife)
- His commentary on Galatians is still one of the best because he passed through the experiences of Paul
  - A monk of monks // A pharisee of pharisees
- Spiritual slavery was replaced with spiritual freedom in Christ



MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

HERE I STAND

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

THE WICKED FLEE WHEN NO ONE PURSUES, BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION.

Proverbs 28:1

THE PRACTICE OF INDULGENCES

SCHOLASTIC THEOLOGY

- An indulgence means the remission of the temporal punishment of sin
  - It may be granted by a bishop, archbishop, or the Pope
- In Barbarian tribes, financial payment was a substitute for physical punishment
  - This practice worked its way into the church to avoid bloodshed
- Thomas Aquinas tied it to the sacrament of penance and priestly absolution
  - Penance itself is a mistranslation by Jerome of Matthew 3:2



REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND.

DO PENANCE, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND.

Matthew 3:2

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

SCHOLASTIC THEOLOGY

- Penance includes 3 elements
  - contrition of the heart
  - confession by the mouth (to the priest)
  - satisfaction by good works
    - prayer, fasting, almsgiving, pilgrimages
- God alone forgives eternal punishment (hell), but the sinner has to bear temporal punishments
  - The temporal punishments are under the control of the church



TREASURY OF MERIT

SCHOLASTIC THEOLOGY

- The good works of Christ and the saints form a ‘Treasury of Merit’ that the Pope (as the treasurer) can draw from
  - He can dispense those merits or forgiveness of temporal punishment to those alive and dead
- The pope has access to these merits and he authorizes the distribution of them for payment or ‘alms giving’



MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

REBUILDING OF ST. PETERS

RESTORING THE GLORY OF ROME

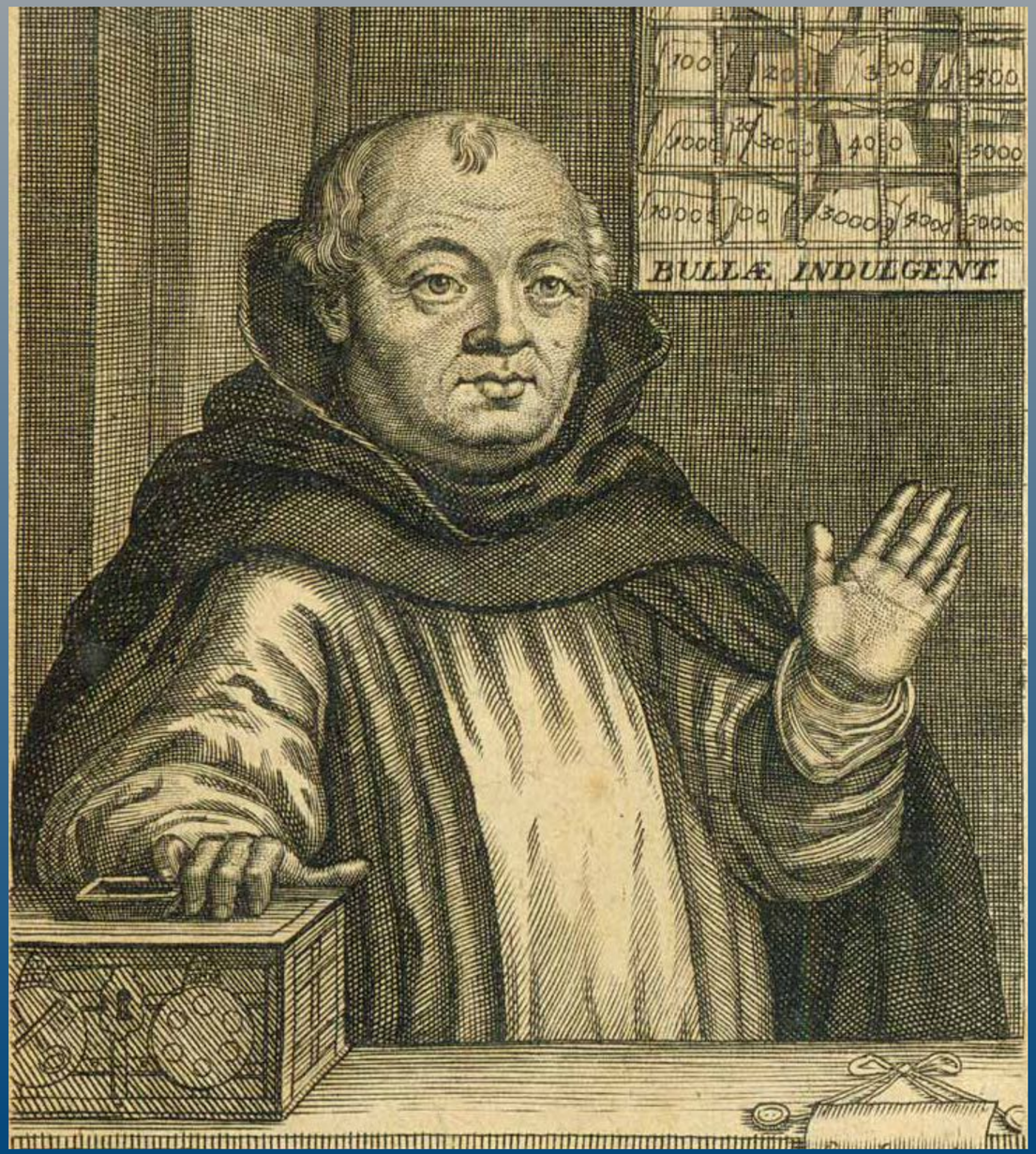
- The plan to rebuild the dome in St. Peter's Cathedral was the reason for the newest wave of indulgences
- The Pope issued a papal bull (an authoritative decree) for a special, plenary remission of sins
  - Albrecht of Mainz bought a third bishopric for 30,000 florins from the pope
- Albrecht sold indulgences (with the authority of the pope) to recompense the money he gave to the Pope
  - He hired Johann Tetzel (a Dominican monk) to 'hawk' indulgences



TETZEL & INDULGENCES

SELLING FORGIVENESS

- Tetzel traveled from city to city with ‘pomp & circumstance’ to proclaim his special indulgences
  - He was received like a messenger from heaven
- Everyone met him with songs, flags, candles and the ringing of bells and followed them to the church
- The preachers urged by hymns, sermons, and papal announcements to purchase a letter of indulgence
  - This was a ‘rare’ offer of salvation from punishment
- ’As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs.’



SAXONY & WITTENBURG

FREDERICK THE WISE

- Frederick the Wise, Elector of Saxony, did not allow Tetzel to preach indulgences in his province
  - He had a special day of indulgences on November 1st, all saints day, where he allowed viewing of his personal collection of relics
- Tetzel preached close enough to his province that many of Luther's parishioners were spending their money to buy freedom from the punishment of sin
  - Forgiveness of Sin was a free gift of grace to be apprehended by a living faith, you cannot buy it



MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

A SCHOLARLY PROTEST

THE 95 THESES

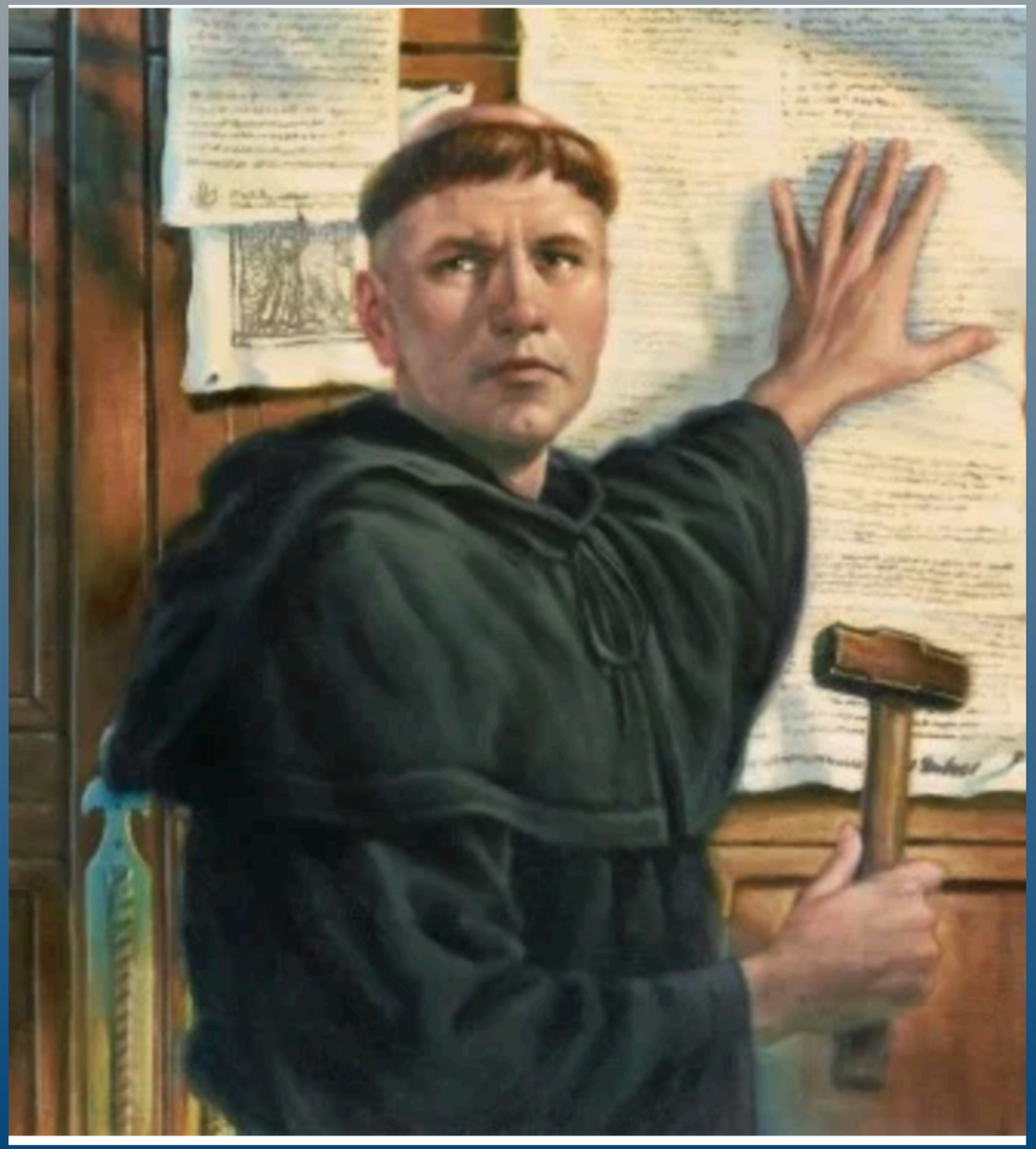
- Luther's *95 theses* was nailed to the door at the Wittenburg Castle Church
  - It was written in Latin
  - It was an invitation to an academic debate
- He chose October 31st because it was the eve of All Saints Day
  - It would attract professors, students, and people from all directions who were coming to get their indulgences by viewing the relics
- No one took the debate
  - But…the theses were translated, copied, and distributed throughout Germany



CONTENT OF THE THESES

EXAMPLES OF PROTEST

- There was no break from the Catholic Church
  - Although this was the beginning of the split
- They imply a belief in purgatory, the importance of the Pope, and the Roman Catholic Church
- They argue against the abuse of indulgences, not the indulgences themselves
- There is no mention of Tetzel, faith or justification



‘. . . I WAS THEN A MONK AND A MAD PAPIST, AND SO SUBMERSED IN THE DOGMAS OF THE POPE THAT I WOULD HAVE READILY MURDERED ANY PERSON WHO DENIED OBEDIENCE TO THE POPE.’

Martin Luther, (hyperbole)

OUR LORD AND MASTER WHEN HE SAYS, 'REPENT,' DESIRES THAT THE WHOLE LIFE OF BELIEVERS SHOULD BE A REPENTANCE.

Martin Luther, First of 95 Theses



28. IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE THAT WHEN THE MONEY CLINKS IN THE BOTTOM OF THE CHEST AVARICE AND GREED INCREASE; BUT WHEN THE CHURCH OFFERS INTERCESSION, ALL DEPENDS ON THE WILL OF GOD.

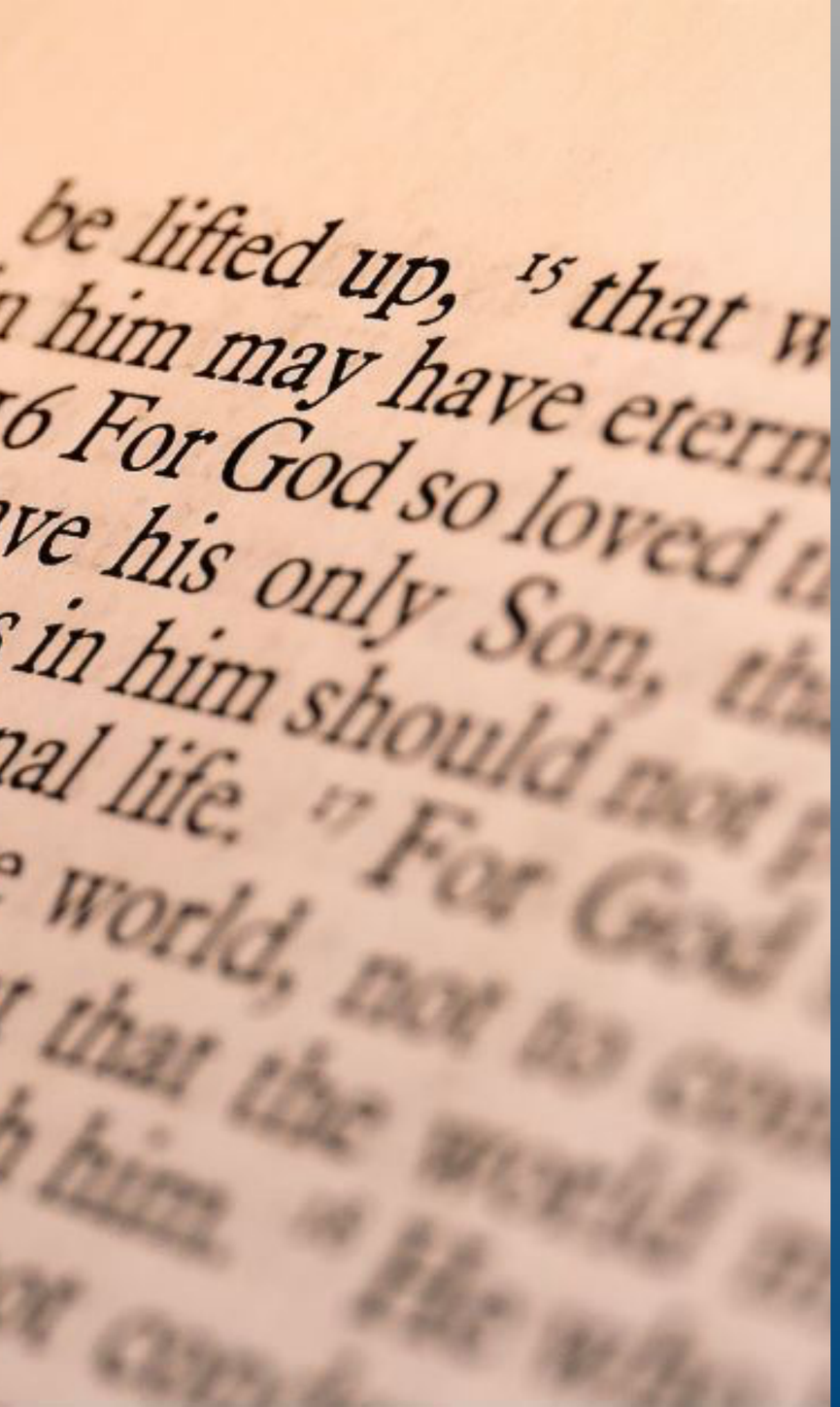
Martin Luther, excerpt from the 95 theses



43. CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE TAUGHT THAT ONE WHO GIVES TO THE POOR, OR LENDS TO THE NEEDY, DOES A BETTER ACTION THAN IF HE PURCHASES INDULGENCES;

44. BECAUSE, BY WORKS OF LOVE, LOVE GROWS AND A MAN BECOMES A BETTER MAN; WHEREAS, BY INDULGENCES, HE DOES NOT BECOME A BETTER MAN, BUT ONLY ESCAPES CERTAIN PENALTIES.

Martin Luther, excerpt from the 95 theses



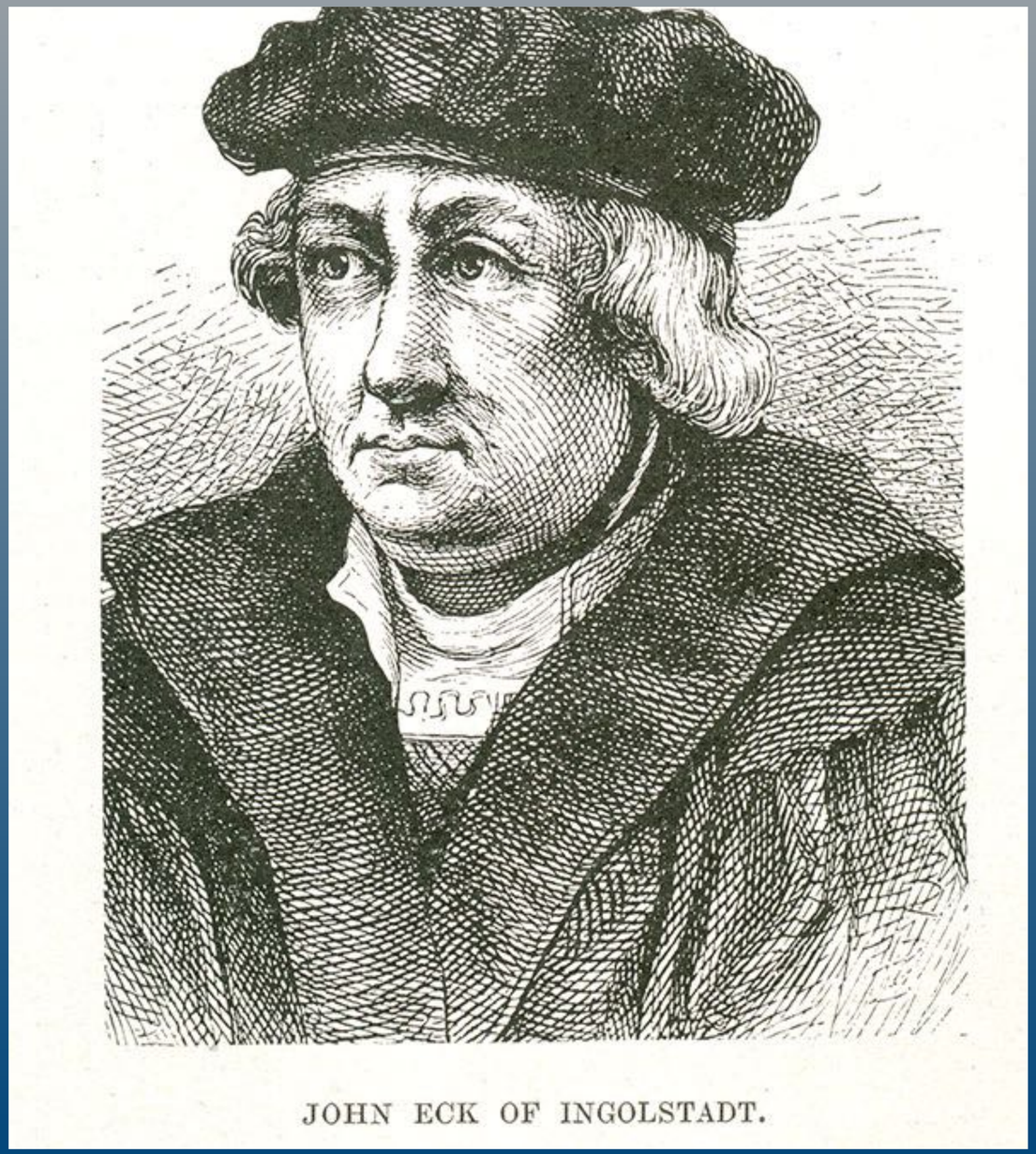
62. THE TRUE TREASURE OF THE CHURCH IS THE HOLY GOSPEL OF THE GLORY AND THE GRACE OF GOD . . .

Martin Luther, excerpt from the 95 theses

THE RESPONSE TO THE THESES

THE FIRST CRACK IN THE DAM

- Liberal Scholars, enemies of monasticism, German patriots and thousands of plain Christians embraced the content of the theses
- The scholastics, the staunch Catholics, the Dominicans, the episcopate and churchmen all condemned it
  - They wrote and argued against it, but could produce no arguments for it from the word of God, nor from the Greek & Latin Fathers
  - They argued from the authority of the Pope
- Luther began a vigorous defense of his theses through the pulpit, the chair, and the press



JOHN ECK OF INGOLSTADT.

THE OFFICIAL RESPONSE OF ROME

THE BREACH WIDENS

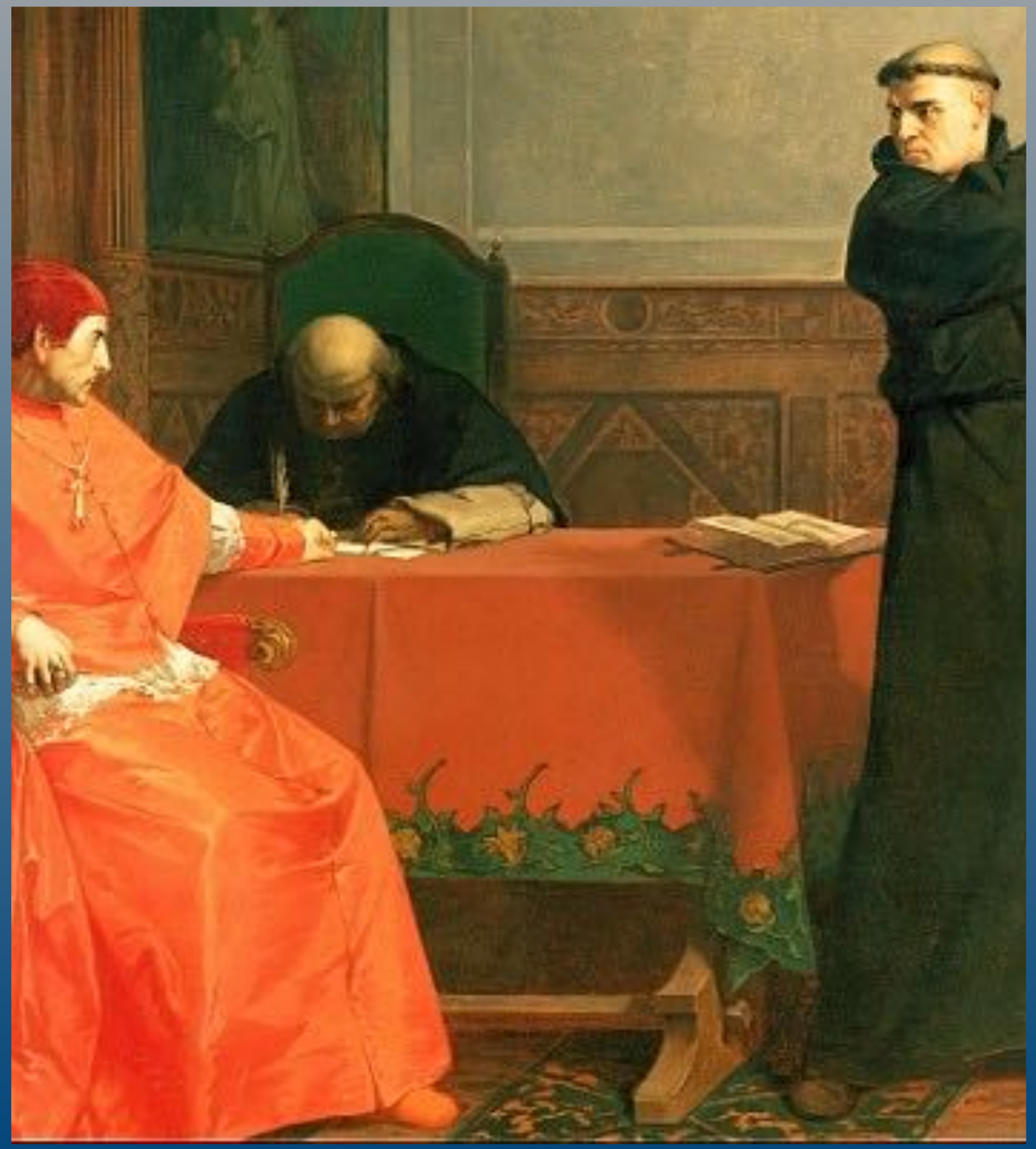
- Luther's consistent defense and disputes won him many young listeners, but no debates
- Pope Leo X tried to ignore the dispute as a monkish quarrel
  - He later appointed a 'commission of inquiry' and they found Luther needed to 'recant his heresies' at Rome
- The Pope demanded that Frederick the Wise deliver this 'child of the Devil' to Rome within 60 days
  - Frederick wisely deferred the meeting to Augsburg at the annual Diet (meeting time), a German province



DIET OF AUGSBURG

CAJETAN & LUTHER

- Luther proceeded on foot in humble garb
- Cardinal Cajetan represented the pope with pomp and ostentation
  - Cajetan was a diplomat and a defender of medieval scholasticism and church authority
- Cajetan demanded retraction of his errors and absolute submission to the Pope
  - He threatened Luther with excommunication
- Luther said he could do nothing against conscience, must obey God rather than man, and had scripture on his side



LUTHER'S RESOLVE

ESCAPE FROM AUGSBURG

- When it became obvious that it was not a debate or discussion, Luther escaped in the night from Augsburg
- Luther, still a faithful catholic, appealed to the Pope in letter to be 'better informed' about his agent, Cardinal Cajetan
  - He then appealed to a general council (anticipating excommunication)
- He eventually lost faith in a general council and appealed solely to his conscience and Scripture





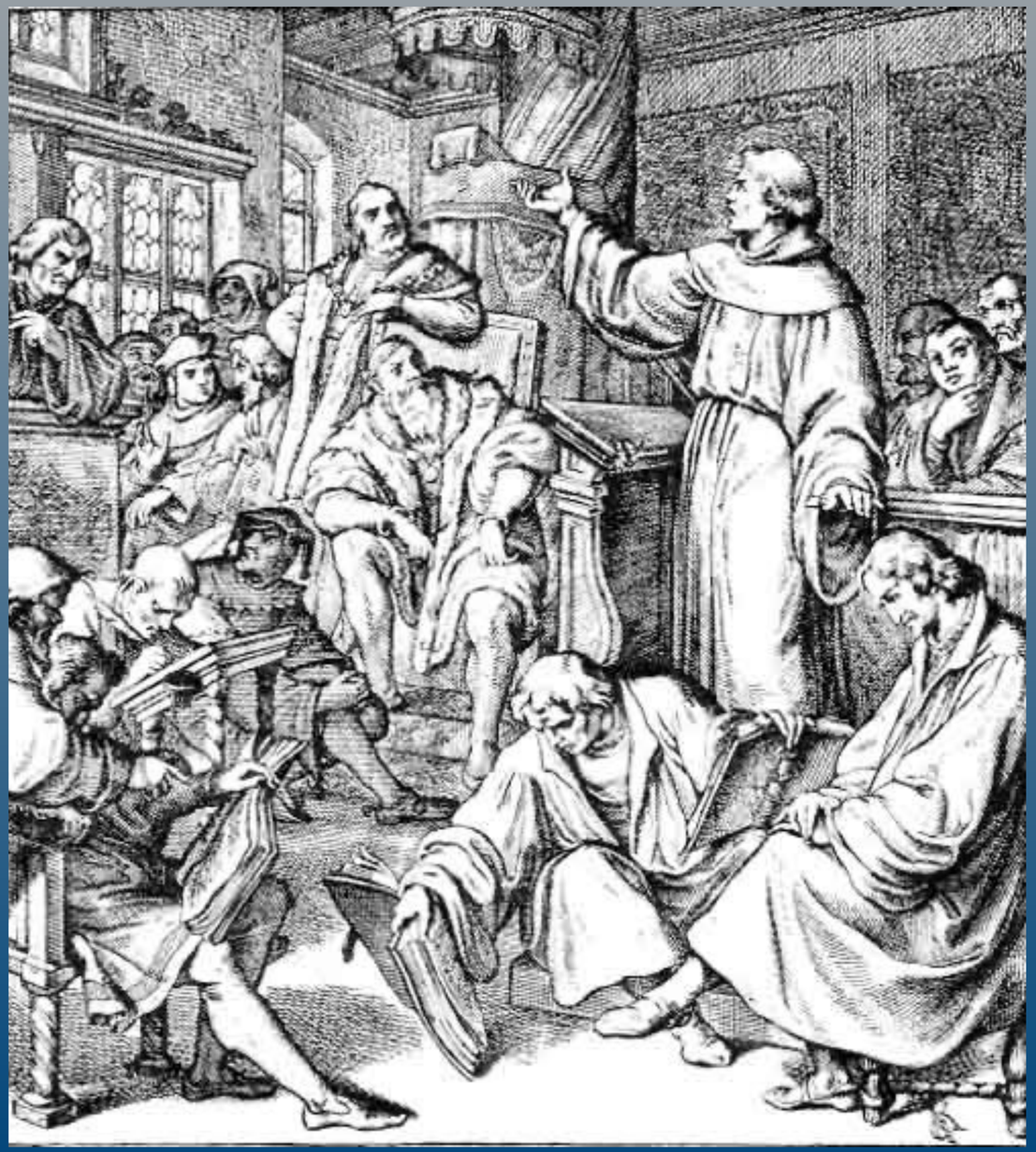
THE MORE THOSE ROMISH GRANDEES RAGE, AND MEDITATE THE USE OF FORCE, THE LESS DO I FEAR THEM, AND SHALL FEEL ALL THE MORE FREE TO FIGHT AGAINST THE SERPENTS OF ROME. I AM PREPARED FOR ALL, I AWAIT THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD.

Martin Luther

LEIPZIG DISPUTATION (1519)

THEOLOGICAL DEBATE

- Luther had a short-lived truce with Miltitz, a papal representative, to stave off the break with the Roman Catholic Church
- Duke George held a disputation with Luther, Carlstadt (a friend of Luther and later revolutionary), and Eck
  - It was a three week long intellectual battle
- Eck won the debate against Carlstadt on free will, but in the debate with Luther he was overawed
  - Luther surpassed him in Biblical knowledge and went back to the Apostles over the church fathers



LEIPZIG DISPUTATION (1519)

INVOCATION OF JAN HUS'

- Luther argued against the divine right of the Pope by virtue of the council of Nicaea, the church fathers, and the scriptures
  - He was charged by Eck with holding the heresy of Hus (unjustly condemned and burned at the stake)
- He argued that a general council as well as a Pope may err
- Both sides claimed victory
  - Luther thought it was a waste of time, but won many students from Leipzig University to Wittenburg
- This was his first denial of Papal authority



Luther und Eck.

I AM SORRY THAT THE LEARNED DOCTOR ONLY DIPS INTO THE SCRIPTURE AS THE WATER-SPIDER INTO WATER–NAY, THAT HE SEEMS TO FLEE FROM IT AS THE DEVIL FROM THE CROSS.

Martin Luther, in reference to Eck

CRUSADE AGAINST POPERY (1520)

STORM & PRESSURE

- Luther began to see the papacy as Anti-Christian
  - Full of lies, deceit, and errors
- He saw the church now as a spiritual communion of all believers under Christ the only head (not the popes, cardinals, and priests)
- He wrote that the Pope is ‘the antiChrist’
- He expressed that Scripture alone is the rule by which all doctrines must be judged
  - His estimation of the Scriptures continued to rise and thus made him bolder and stronger



THE WICKED FLEE WHEN NO ONE PURSUES, BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION.

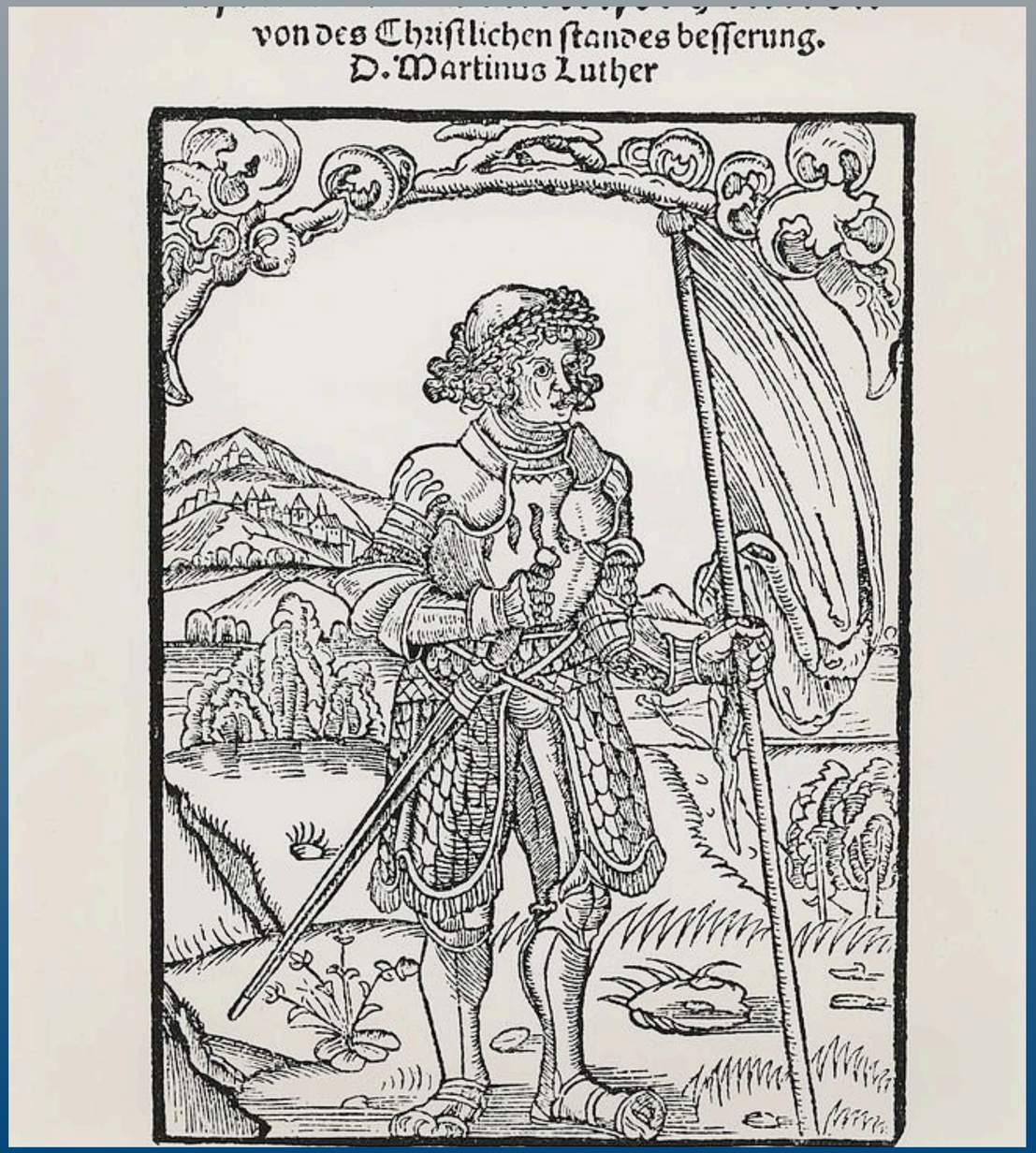
Proverbs 28:1

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

THE WRITINGS OF LUTHER (1520)

THE CHURCH AND MAN

- Luther wrote three reformatory works during this time
  - Address to the German Nobility
  - The Babylonian Captivity of the Church
  - The Freedom of the Christian Man
- These three works dismantled the papacy, declared every Christian a priest (a royal priesthood), and demolished the embellishments of Roman Catholicism (among other things)
  - forced celibacy
  - masses for the dead
  - festivals and saints days
  - mandatory fasts and begging



THE PAPAL BULL OF EXCOMMUNICATION

THE LAST UNDIVIDED CHURCH

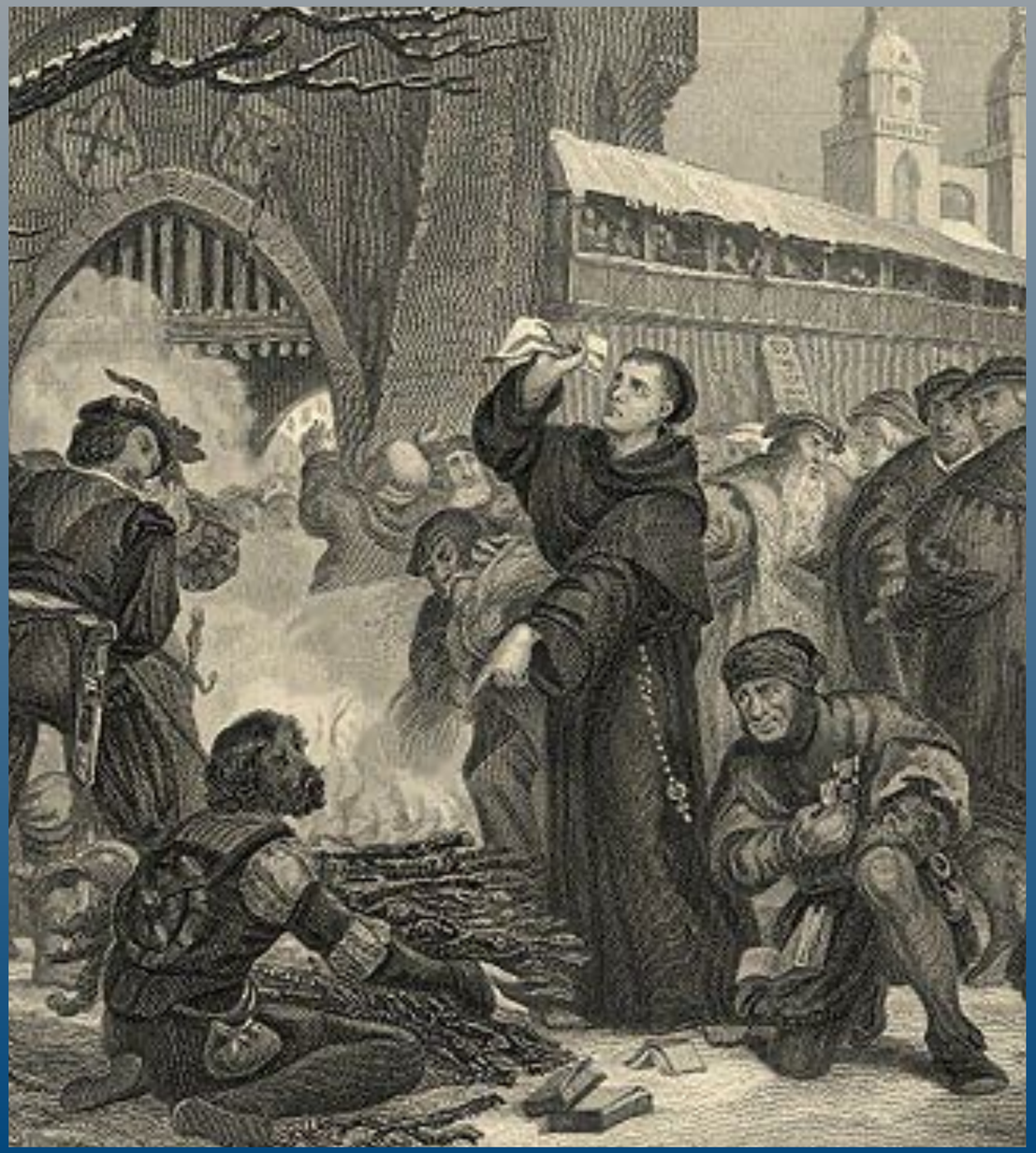
- The papal bull was the counter to Luther's 95 theses
  - It was the last address to the entire Latin Church, and was disobeyed by most of the church
- It did not cause the burning of Luther, but was rather burnt by him
  - It condemns and promotes the errors of Luther, while not mentioning or distorting the Reformers positive views
- Failing recantation, it promises the punishment of heretics (burning)
- It compels princes, magistrates, and citizens to seize Luther and his followers and hand them over to Rome



THE BULL BURNED

THE BREAK COMPLETE

- Luther, in response to his books and writings burned, set the papal bull ablaze
  - He wrote a short treatise on why the books were burned
- His excommunication set him free from the restraints of popery and monasticism
- The burning of the papal bull was a symbolic pulling down of the old church
  - It not only emancipated Luther, but the entirety of Protestantism from the authority of the Pope and councils and the Roman Catholic Church



THE DIET OF WORMS (1521)

CHARLES V, HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR

- Charles V was the newly crowned Emperor of 4 kingdoms
  - He was a devoted Catholic and desired to maintain the power of the Pope and quash this new heresy
- The goal of this Diet of Worms was to crush the heresy (once and for all)
  - He tried diplomatic methods at first, but the German princes and the people would not embrace the Pope nor his bull of excommunication
  - He then cited Luther to appear before the Diet within twenty one days (at Worms)



THE DIET OF WORMS (1521)

HERE I STAND

- Luther regarded this as a call from from God
  - even though he might be burned at the stake (like Hus)
- He was directed to either recant, or suffer the penalty of excommunication
  - There was no room for debate
- Luther received a promise of safe passage from Charles V (so did Hus on his travels)



I SHALL GO TO WORMS, THOUGH THERE WERE AS MANY DEVILS THERE AS TILES ON THE ROOFS.

Martin Luther

THE DIET OF WORMS (1521)

HERE I STAND

- Luther’s books were displayed on a table before him
- He was asked to admit they were his, then recant his works
  - He acknowledged authorship, but humbly requested more time before he made his decision on recantation
- He was granted a day to decide
- He returned the next day with an answer





UNLESS I AM REFUTED AND CONVICTED BY TESTIMONIES OF THE SCRIPTURES OR BY CLEAR ARGUMENTS. . . .I AM CONQUERED BY THE HOLY SCRIPTURES QUOTED BY ME, AND MY CONSCIENCE IS BOUND IN THE WORD OF GOD:

Martin Luther's final statement at the Diet of Worms



I CAN NOT AND WILL NOT RECANT ANYTHING, SINCE IS UNSAFE AND DANGEROUS TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST THE CONSCIENCE.

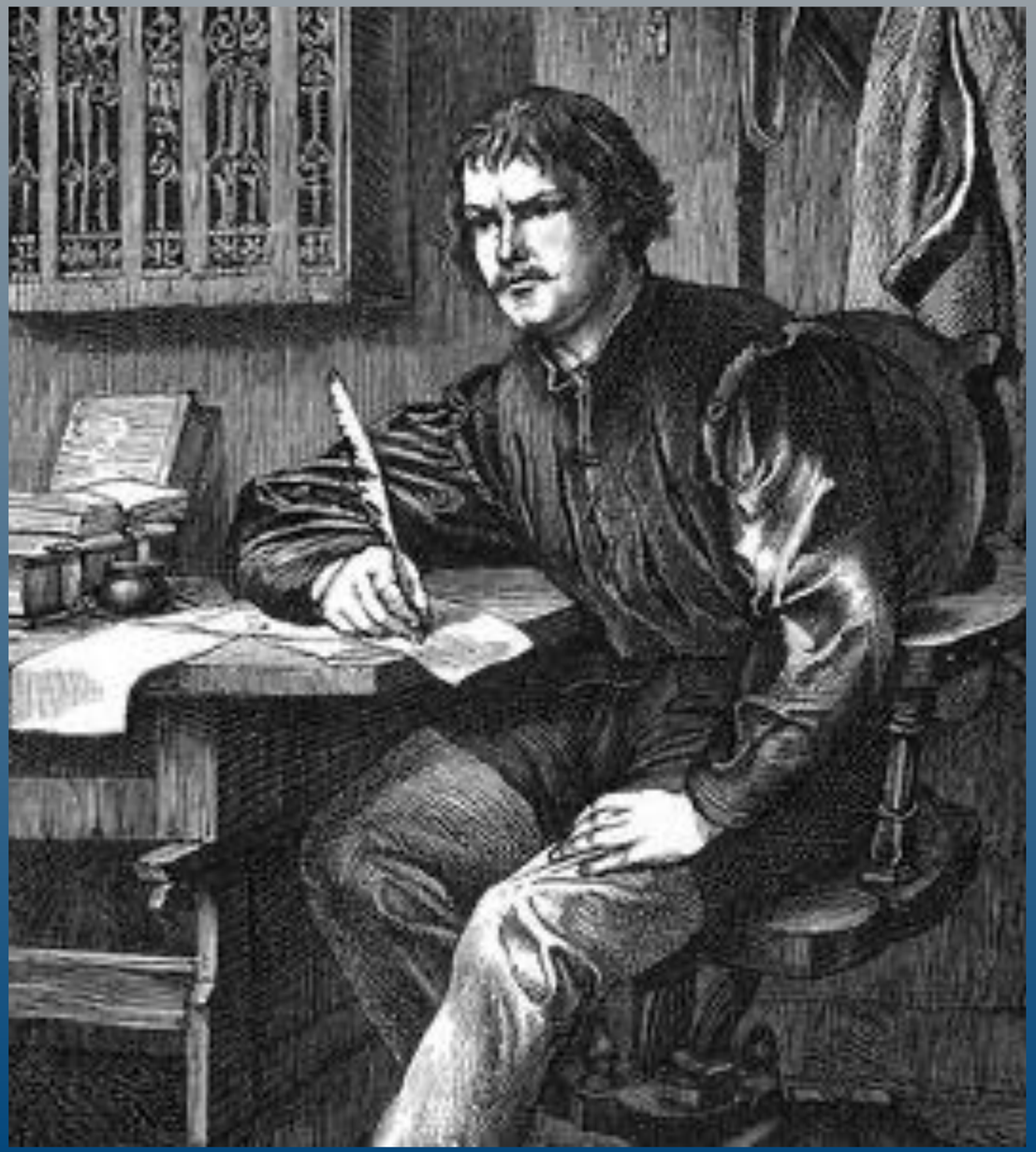
HERE I STAND. I CAN NOT DO OTHERWISE. GOD HELP ME. AMEN.

Martin Luther's final statement at the Diet of Worms

ESCAPE FROM WORMS (1521–1522)

WARTBURG REFUGE

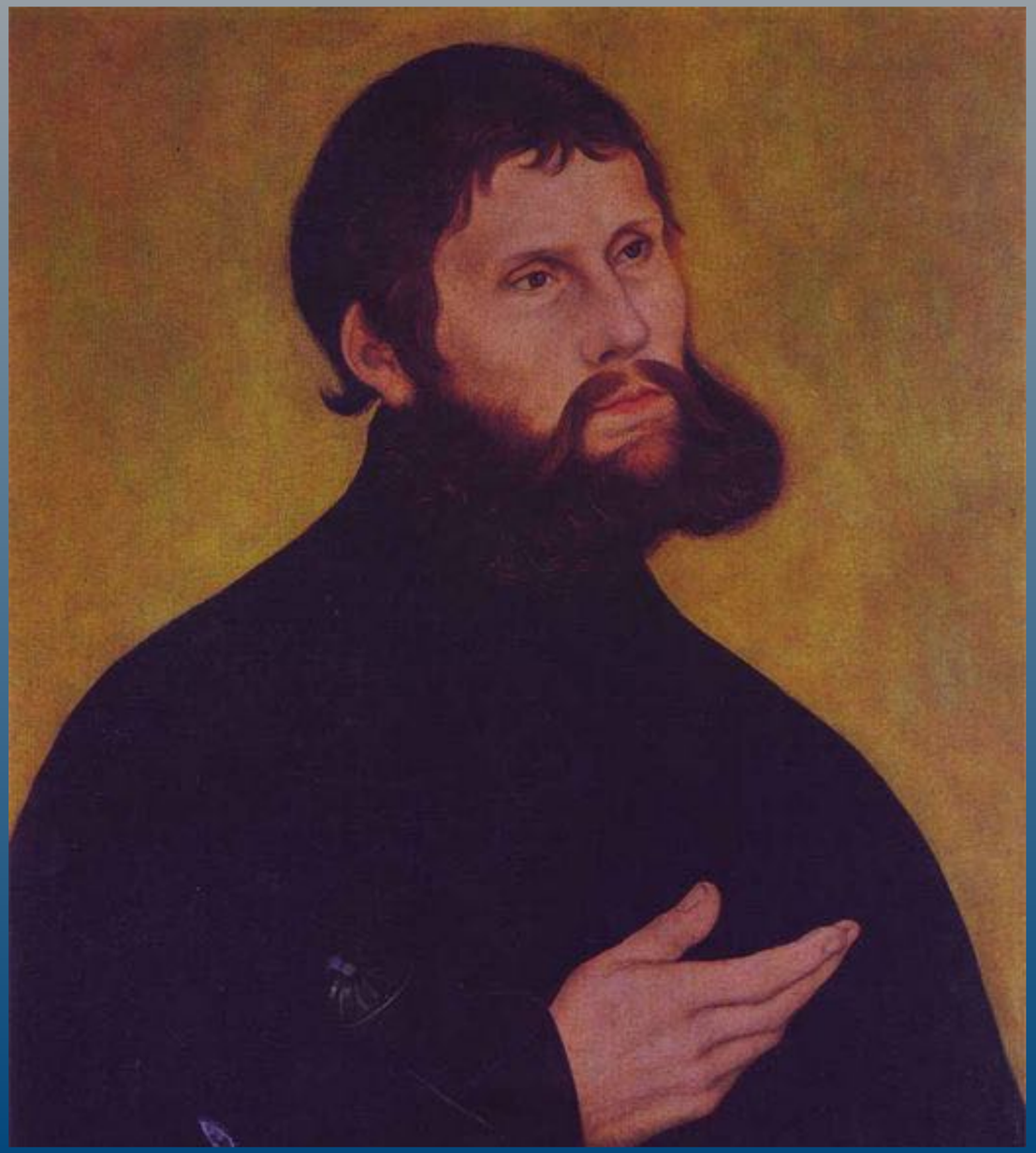
- The papists won at the Diet
  - Luther was condemned as a heretic
- He was outlawed by the Church & State, condemned by the Pope, the Emperor, the universities, cast out of human society, and left exposed to a violent death
- Luther had ‘safe travel’ for 21 days to Wittenburg
  - He was seized in secret by Frederick the Wise
    - He was taken to the Wartburg Castle



A MIGHTY FORTRESS (1521-1522)

A WILDERNESS REFUGE

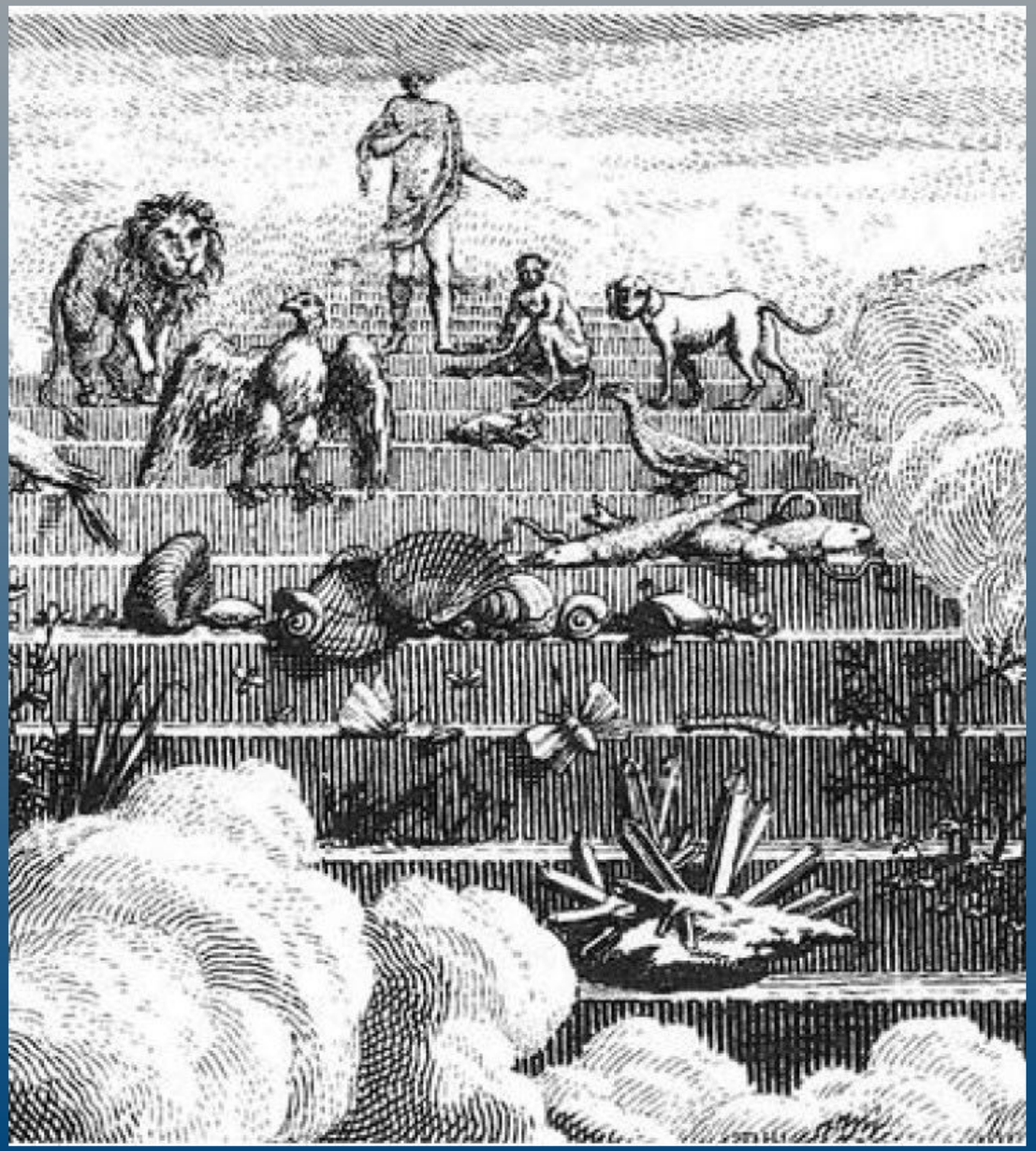
- Luther was now 'Junker Georg,' a knight
  - He grew out his hair and beard
- He spent most of his time in study and translating the New Testament into German
  - His translation established and cemented the high german language
- It was the most useful year of his life



THE SEPTEMBER TESTAMENT

THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS

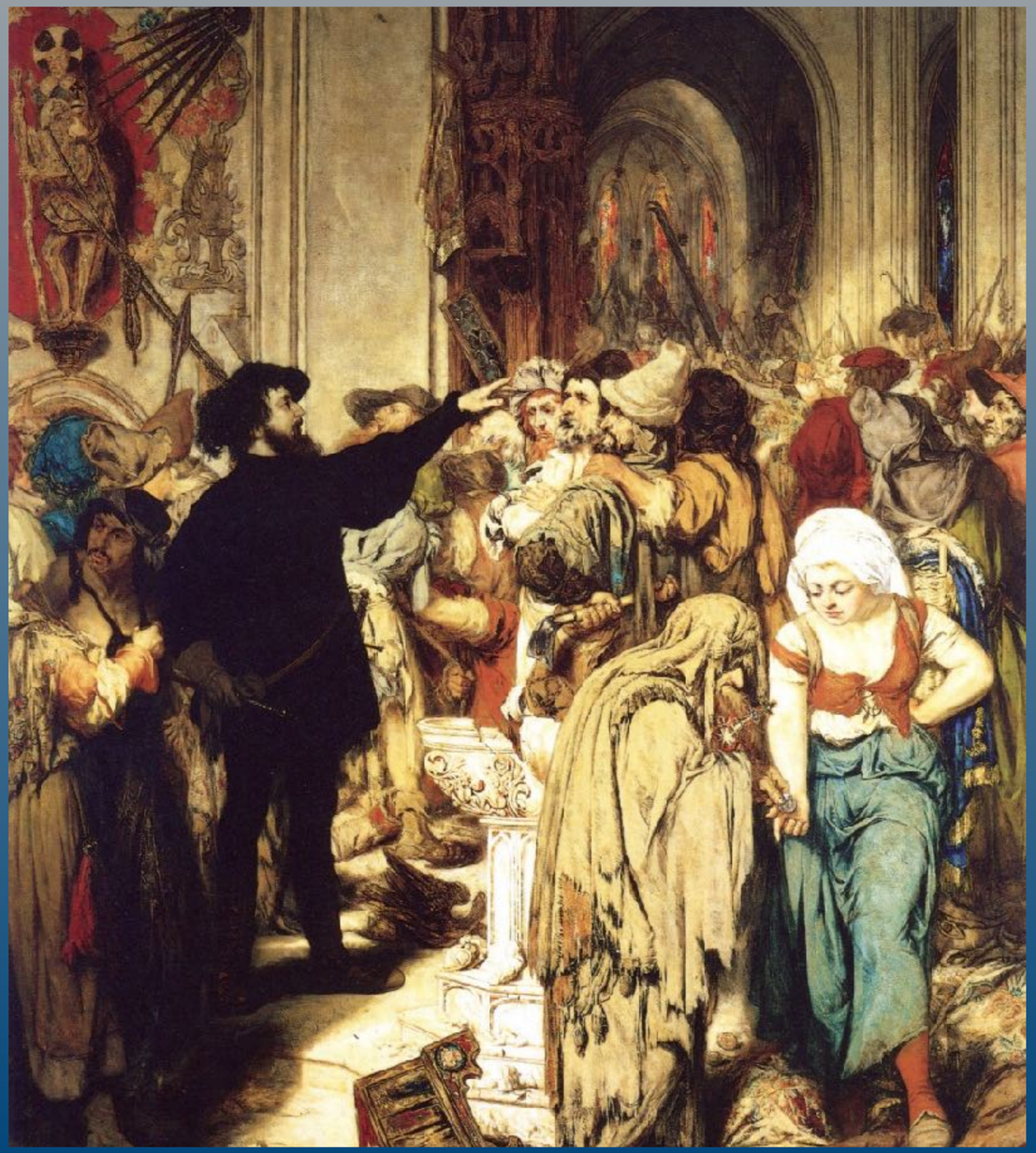
- The medieval world viewed the church as consisting of a 'chain of being'
  - A hierarchy of communication and authority:
    - Archangels > Angels >Archbishops >Bishops > Priests
- The significance of the New Testament in German is that every believer is a royal priest and has the right and authority to *read, interpret, and apply* the scriptures on their own with the aid of the Holy Spirit
- This directly contradicts medieval Roman Catholic theology



UNREST IN WITTENBERG (1522–1524)

LUTHER RETURNS

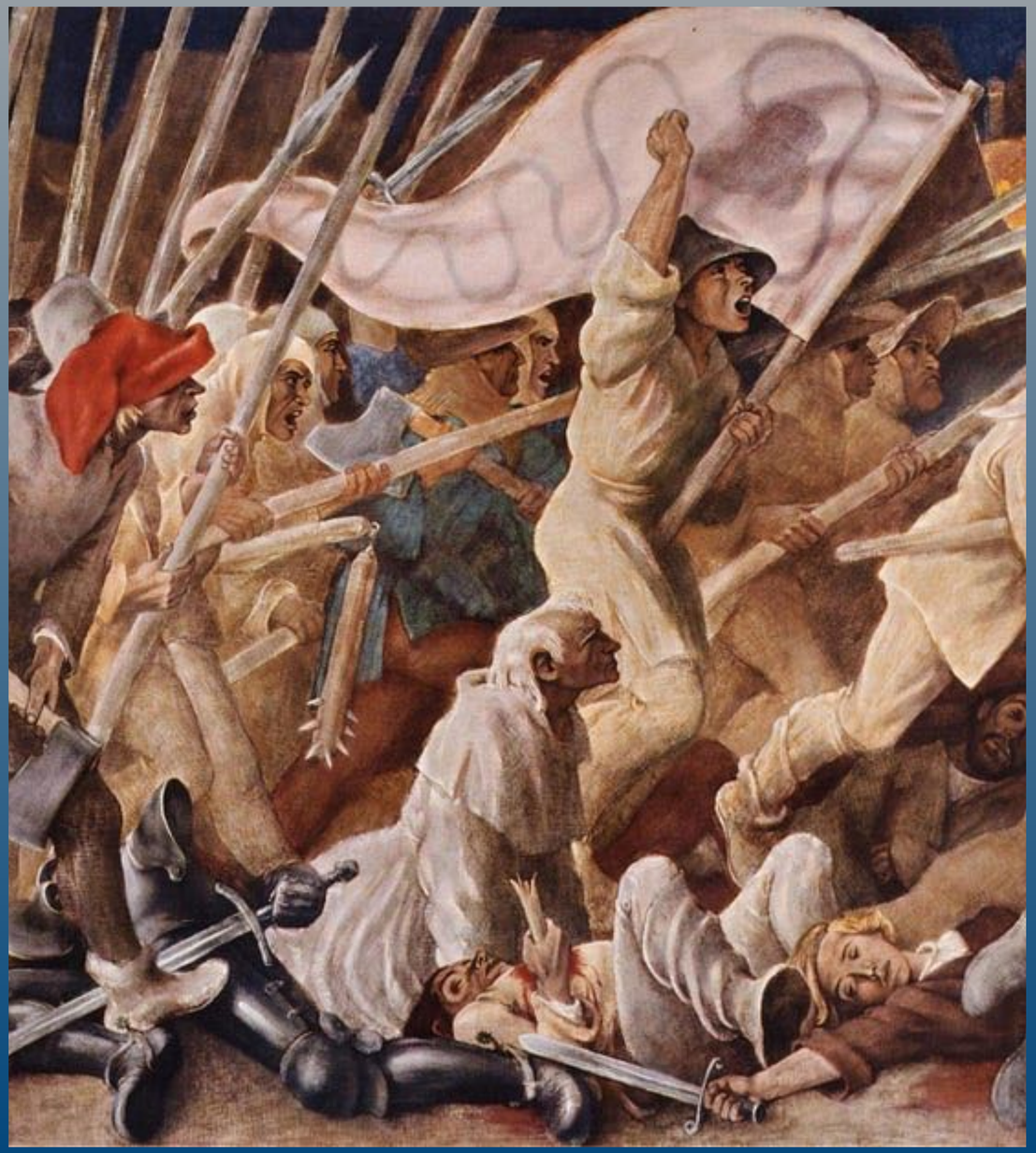
- While he was gone, a former colleague, Andreas Karlstadt began implementing radical reforms
  - Abolished the Mass, iconoclasm, encouraging radical violence among the peasants
- Luther advocated for change through teaching, preaching and gradual reform
- He preached a series of sermons called the *Invocavit Sermons* that condemned violent extremism and promoted a return to faith, love, and patience



THE PEASANT'S WAR (1524–1525)

VIOLENCE ACROSS THE NATION

- Inspired by Luther's writing on spiritual freedom, the peasants revolted against feudal oppression
  - Luther denounced them in *Against the Murderous, Thieving Hordes of Peasants*
- His treatise was used to violently suppress the peasants
  - It aligned him with the nobility and against the poor
- This is an example of how spiritual awakening can be co-opted by society and culture, and how a spiritual reform could have been overshadowed by a violent revolution



PROTESTANT MARRIAGE

KATHARINA VON BORA

- Katharina Von Bora was one of 12 nuns who escaped a convent after reading Luther's writings on monasticism
  - Luther arranged Marriages for the nuns, but Katharina boldly expressed her desire to marry Luther himself
    - Luther agreed to marry her as a statement of faith (not out of passion) but eventually grew to love her very much
- He called her *My Lord Katie, My Rib* and called his commentary on the book of Galatians, *My Katie*
  - She had a strong personality and practical skills
    - She managed the household, property, finances-she operated a farm, brewed beer, and raised their six children
    - They were a model of hosting and hospitality



MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

DEPRESSION, INNER TURMOIL

SORROW AND SUFFERING

- Luther suffered with Depression and inner turmoil in different phases of his life
  - His health declined, which contributed to his internal struggles
  - He felt a deep sense of spiritual warfare (the inkwell incident)
  - He felt responsible for the success of the Reformation and felt sorrow for the Peasant's war
- The Plague struck Wittenberg in 1527 and he stayed while others fled
  - Luther wrote *A Mighty Fortress is our God* to help him through his suffering
- In 1542, Luther's 13 Year old daughter, Magdalena, died
  - It caused deep sorrow and this is one instance where he seemed inconsolable



IT IS SO STRANGE TO KNOW THAT SHE IS HAPPY IN HEAVEN AND YET FOR ME TO BE SO SAD."

Martin Luther

LUTHER'S LAST DAYS

WORKING UNTIL THE END

- There was a crisis in Luther's hometown of Eisleben
  - Luther traveled to help settle the dispute
    - The trip was precarious because of storms, and also a fire outside his room, and the awful state of his room
  - He preached 'Christ, and Him crucified…' that Sunday in Eisleben
    - He died less than a month later, and 'preached' his last sermon, quoting John 3:16 & Psalms 68:19



MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

BLESSED BE THE LORD, WHO DAILY BEARS US UP; GOD IS OUR SALVATION.

Psalms 68:19