

Discipleship:  
An  
Introduction to  
Systematic Theology and  
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Redemption: The Reformation

The Heights Church October 1, 2017

# Doctrines of Redemption – The Reformation

- **Pre-Reformation Roman Catholicism**
- **Protestant Reformation Theology**
- **Post Reformation Doctrinal Debates**

# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

- **Pre-Reformation Roman Catholicism**
  - “Church Fathers” preserve Christianity
  - Constantine to Charlemagne
  - 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Century theologians
  - 13<sup>th</sup> Century (*The Wondrous Century*)
  - 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Century
  - 16<sup>th</sup> century through the Council of Trent

# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

- **When studying church history we need to be mindful of the following:**
  - **There were real events in church history. There are facts about what happened but they are not always entirely known and may be disputed.**
  - **There are different interpretations of what happened.**
  - **We must not be led astray by two dominant secular views of history.**
    1. **History is endless, meaningless and repeatable. “Those who fail to learn the lessons of history are doomed to re-live them.**
    2. **History is a meaningless succession of events without a goal or purpose.**

## The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

- **The Christian view of History is quite different.**
  - **God is the first cause of everything that happens.**
  - **History is a working out of God's redemptive purposes.**
  - **God is the Lord of History**
  - **Christ is the center of history**
  - **The new age is here.**
  - **All of history is moving toward the goal of the new heaven and the new earth.**

# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

## Protestant Reformation Theology

Categories	Sola's	Versus Roman Catholicism
<b>Authority</b>	<b><i>Sola Scriptura</i></b>	+ Church Councils, papal Bulls, Traditions
<b>Salvation</b>	<b><i>Soli Deo Gloria</i></b>	+ Human cooperation, veneration of Saints, Mary the Mother of God
	<b><i>Sola Fide</i></b>	+ Sacraments and works
	<b><i>Sola Gratia</i></b>	+ Baptism and works (human merit)
	<b><i>Solo Christo</i></b>	+Mediation of Mary, other Saints, the Church and Works
<b>Sacraments</b>		<b>7 vs 2</b>

- The Sola's were intended to distinguish between Protestant and Roman Catholic doctrine/theology.

# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

## Protestant Reformation Theology

- To fully understand Protestant Reformation Theology/Doctrine we need to study not only the Sola's but also the meaning of key doctrines like:
  - **Common Grace**
  - **Regeneration**
  - **Conversion**
  - **Justification**
  - **Sanctification**
  - **Union with Christ**
  - **Doctrines of Grace**
- Calvin – if we claim to do anything then God does not get **ALL the glory**.

# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

- **Is the Reformation relevant today?**
  - **What happens when I die?**
  - **Are there still sinners who need to be justified?**
  - **Was Luther just an activist change agent that shook up the status quo?**
  - **Was it a mere reaction to a situation 500 years ago?**

**“Protestants and Catholics now have the opportunity to mend a critical moment of our history by moving beyond controversies and disagreements that have often prevented us from understanding one another.”** [Pope Francis October 31, 2016](#)



# The Reformation – Setting the Table for October 31, 1517

- From the perspective of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Evangelical Protestants the Reformation appears to be all about doctrine.
- While the end result of the Reformation is mainly doctrinal that defined Roman Catholicism and Protestantism, October 31, 1517 and the subsequent Reformation is the culmination of a perfect storm of:
  - God raising up the right leaders at the right time
  - History of Roman Catholicism: theologians, popes, monasticism, and corruption
  - Politics: who actually rules Western Europe and the Church
  - European Wars
  - Islam: theology and military conquest
  - The Great Schism of 1054
  - Pre-reformers: Wycliffe and Hus
  - Technology: the printing press
  - And other factors?