

Family History, Part 6 (Early Reformation)

Lesson 4 – Martin Luther

"Now they will roast a goose, but in a hundred years' time they'll hear a swan sing. They'd better listen to him." – Jan Hus ("Hus the Goose") before being executed by burning in 1414

His Life

1483 – On November 10, Luther is born in Germany

His father, a copper miner, wants his son to become a _____

(Both Luther and Calvin were trained as lawyers. How might this have affected their theology?)

1505 – Caught in a thunderstorm, he fears for his life. Calling out to St. Anne,

he promises to become a _____ if his life was spared.

As a monk, Luther was known for obsessiveness in confessing, studying, obeying.

He was once instructed to go out and _____ some more before coming back to confession.

"Love God? I hated him!"

1510 – Sent to Rome with the hope it would renew him, it instead _____ him

Sees a religion steeped in wealth, politics, and _____

1512 – Takes over a teaching position, experiences a sort of _____ while studying *Romans 1:17*

1517 – Deeply _____ by the work of Johann Tetzel selling indulgences

"As soon as a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs."

Writes 95 "theses" – statements for discussion – written in Latin.

Mostly about penance, indulgences, and the pope's ability to release souls from _____

On October 31, nails them to the door of Wittenburg Church

His hope is to _____ the church from within, not to _____ from it.

1519 – Declares that the Pope does not have exclusive right to _____ Scripture

1520 – The Pope writes a papal bull demanding Luther _____. Luther publicly _____ the decree.

1521 – Granted safe passage to a meeting (Diet) in the city of Worms.

He goes, expecting a _____; instead, he is called upon to _____ his teachings.

After taking a day to consider, Luther refuses to recant

Luther is excommunicated and goes into hiding

1522 – Finishes translating the New Testament into _____, helped by Philip Melancthon

Begins working on translating the Old Testament (finishes in 1534)

1524-25 Peasants' War – To the surprise and disappointment of many, Luther _____ it.

1525 – Marries Katharina von Bora – former _____ Luther had smuggled to freedom in fish barrels

Known as "Dr. Katie" to the students who boarded in their home

A very suitable partner in life and ministry

Spends the next _____ years organizing, educating, administrating, and writing

1546 – Dies of a stroke in the same city where he was born

"I simply taught, preached, wrote God's Word: otherwise I did nothing...the Word did it all."

The “Wild Boar”

Even in his own day, Luther was known for his _____ speech and rhetoric
the Anabaptists should be hanged as seditionists; the pope was the Antichrist;
the Jews should be expelled and their synagogues burned; Zwingli and others were near heresy

He spoke often of _____ and his work, often seeming to believe the enemy was _____ him.

He firmly believed the events of his own time were part of the _____ of the world,

He saw the Pope as a/the _____ and the invading _____ as part of Armageddon.

Luther’s Legacy

Bible Translation and Books

Between 1500 and 1530, Luther’s works represented _____ of all materials printed in Germany.

Justification by Faith Alone

Though not the first to make this observation, Luther made this doctrine famous

In studying Romans 1:17, Luther saw that the righteousness that saves us doesn’t come from ____.

It is the righteousness of _____, which we receive by believing God’s promise.

It was the difference between being _____ righteous and being _____ as righteous.

Law and Gospel

God’s Law, in Luther’s view, primarily serves to _____ us and drive us to _____.

The Gospel is the announcement of God’s promises to save people through Jesus Christ.

Luther said that distinguishing between the two is _____ to Christian faith.

Without this distinction, our faith will always revert to _____-righteousness.

Luther would disagree with Calvin’s view of the law’s role in the life of the _____.

Two Kingdoms

Luther taught that God uses two strategies to _____ the devil and _____ mankind:

Strategy one is through temporal institutions such as marriage, _____, and the church

These institutions keep ____ in check and promote what is good and just.

Strategy two is through the _____ of the gospel.

Luther believed _____ strategies were of God and worked effectively in their distinct spheres.

Politics and other public spheres do not need to be distinctly “Christian” in order to be effective.

This develops into the idea that there is a spiritual kingdom and an earthly one,
and that each one should not overlap or engage in the work of the other

Hymnody

Luther personally wrote and encouraged the writing of many new hymns.

Very often took them directly from Scripture –

he believed the purpose of hymns was to _____ Scripture to the people

Used either original music or familiar folk songs.

Some you might recognize: *A Mighty Fortress*, *From the Depths of Woe* (Psalm 130)