

The Festival of the Reformation



At noon on the Eve of All Saint's Day, October 31, 1517 A. M. D., Dr. Martin Luther nailed the *Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences* to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. The *Disputation* was comprised of 95 Theses, the first of which is: "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent', He willed the entire life of the believers to be one of repentance."

While the *95 Theses* were written in Latin, and meant "to serve as the basis for a scholarly discussion with his colleagues at the University of Wittenberg." (*AE 31.19*) Although they were not meant to be read by the general public, they were quickly translated into German, and were widely distributed. The date of October 31 has since been observed as the birthday of the Reformation.

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