

# Reformation

## 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation

1517—2017 Oct. 31



### **Reformation:**

1. The action or process of reforming an institution or practice.
2. A 16<sup>th</sup>-century movement for the reform of abuses in the Roman Catholic Church ending in the establishment of the Reformed and Protestant Churches.

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**Protestant:** Mid-16<sup>th</sup> century:  
via German or French from Latin  
*protestant*- 'protesting,'  
from *protestari* (to protest).

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1455     Gutenberg completes printing the Bible with movable type  
A German blacksmith, goldsmith, printer, and publisher  
who introduced printing to Europe. His introduction of  
mechanical movable type printing to Europe started the  
Printing Revolution and is widely regarded as the most  
important invention of the second millennium, the seminal  
event which ushered in the modern period of human  
history. It played a key role in the development of the  
Renaissance, Reformation, the Age of Enlightenment, and  
the scientific revolution and laid the material basis for the

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modern knowledge-based economy and the spread of learning to the masses.

- 1466 Johann Mentel prints first Bible in German. His first printing of a Bible in vernacular language stands out, the so-called Mentelin Bible of 1466, the first attested edition of the full Bible in the German language, translated from the Vulgate, and one of the earliest printed works in German. The Mentelin Bible was the basis for a further thirteen pre-Reformation editions of the Bible (including those by Zainer and Sorg) which appeared in southern Germany before editions of the Luther Bible, based on Hebrew and Greek, from 1522.
- 1481 Beginning of the Spanish Inquisition under joint direction of state and church
- 1483 Luther is born in Eisleben
- 1484 Ulrich Zwingli is born in Switzerland and leader of the Reformation in Switzerland.
- 1492 Christopher Columbus makes first voyage to the Americas
- 1492 Roderigo Borgia becomes Pope and during his reign which lasted until 1503 the RCC went down morally and spiritually weakening the RCC.
- 1503 da Vinci Mona Lisa
- 1503 pocket handkerchief comes into use (blow your nose)
- 1506 Leonardo da Vinci paints Mona Lisa
- 1508 Michelangelo begins to paint the Sistine Chapel
- 1505 Birth of John Knox –leader of Scottish Reformation
- 1509 Persecution of Jews in Germany—destruction of all Jewish books, esp. Talmud
- 1512 Luther earns doctorate, leaves the monastery to teach: At Wittenberg.
- 1512 Copernicus –the earth turns around the sun.
- 1515 Luther delivers a lecture on Romans.  
He is appointed district vicar over ten monasteries.
- 1516 Erasmus publishes the New Testament with Greek and Latin text.

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1517 On October 31, Luther distributes his Ninety-Five Theses on Indulgences. At the Church in Wittenberg  
Beginning of the Reformation

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1518 Luther summoned before Cardinal Cajetan at Augsburg, but refuses to recant. He defends himself in Augsburg with arguments based on the Bible rather than church doctrine.

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1519 In July, while debating Johann von Eck (counter reformer) at Leipzig, Luther refutes supreme authority of popes and councils.

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1519 Zwingli begins New Testament sermons;  
**Beginning of the Swiss Reformation.**

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1520 Beginning of the Anabaptist movement in Germany

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1521 Luther is excommunicated and called a heretic; and banned from the Holy Roman Empire; He refuses to recant his writings at Diet (Assembly) of Worms. An edict condemns him as a heretic, and outlaw. He hides at Warburg Castle where he translates the New Testament. Private masses, abolished in Wittenberg.  
Luther began his trip to Worms on April 2, 1521. The journey to the Imperial Diet did not embody the repentance the church had hoped for. The journey to Worms was more like a victory march; Luther was welcomed enthusiastically in all of the towns he went through.

He preached in Erfurt, Gotha and Eisenach. He arrived in Worms on April 16 and was also cheered and welcomed by the people.

Luther's appearance at the Imperial Diet was described as objective, clever and well thought out. He had to appear before the Emperor twice; each time he was clearly told to

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take back his teachings. Luther didn't see any proof against his theses or views which would move him to recant: *"Unless I am convinced by Scripture and plain reason - I do not accept the authority of the popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other - my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me. Amen."*

On his journey back to Lutherstadt Wittenberg, he is 'kidnapped' and taken to Wartburg Castle near Eisenach. In reality, he is once again under the protection of Frederick the Wise. Safe in the fortress, Luther grows a beard and goes by the name of "Squire George" ("Junker Jörg"). In just 10 weeks, he translates the New Testament from Greek into German.

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1521 Pope Leo X confers title "Defender of the Faith" on King Henry VIII for his stand against Luther.

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1522 Luther returns to Wittenberg, condemning fanatics and use of icons; finishes translation of the New Testament (Old Testament finished in 1534) Luther returns to Wittenberg and sets off a series of theological and social reforms, such as education for all. He encourages musicians and poets to write music and hymns for church services  
The Wittenberg printer Hans Lufft, produces 100,000 copies in the course of the next 40 years.

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1522 Polyglot Bible, in Latin, Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic published by the University of Alcala in Spain.

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1523 Luther encourages monks and nuns to leave their abbeys. One nun who followed this call was none other than Katharina von Bora, who fled to Wittenberg, where she would come to meet Luther.

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1523 Clergyman, Matthew Zell marries Katharina Schutz

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Zell They were both excommunicated and wrote a letter in defense of clerical marriage.

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1524 Caspar Cruciger the Elder marries Elizabeth Cruciger. He was professor of Theology at the University of Wittenberg, preacher at the Castle Church, secretary to and worked with Martin Luther to revise Luther's German Bible translation Elizabeth wrote what is believed to be the first Protestant Hymn: The Only Son from Heaven.

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1525 The first rebaptism of believers takes place, beginning the Anabaptist movement in Zurich spreading to Germany. A Protestant sect of a radical right movement arising in the 16th century and advocating the baptism and church membership of adult believers only, no infant baptism, 'sola Scripture (Scripture alone), millennialist, and very strong on the separation of church and state. No State Church.

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1525 Luther marries former Nun Katharina von Bora. On Dec. 25 and holds what is believed to be the first Protestant Service.

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1525 William Tyndale's translation of the New Testament, printed in Worms.

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1526 Persecution of Jews in Hungary.

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1527 Marburg, the first Protestant university is founded (although the name Protestant would be first use in 1529.)

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1528 Embracing Luther's theology, Ursula von Munsterberg flees the convent in Freiberg and writes a letter to her family-a treatise summarizing the major points of Lutheran theology.

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1528 Reformation begins in Scotland

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1529 Luther and Zwingli join together to present their disputation on the Eucharist at Marburg.

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1529 Luther publishes The Large Catechism, an easy-to-understand explanation of Christian theology.

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- 1529 Luther writes “A Mighty Fortress is our God” and it became The Battle Hymn of the Reformation.
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- 1530 The Diet of Augsburg attempts to mend the divisiveness in the Roman Empire. Luther does not attend because he is still considered an outlaw. Melanchthon presents Augsburg Confession. The Augsburg Confession is written by Luther's close associate and friend, Philipp Melanchthon. He presents it to the Diet of Augsburg, but his arguments are rejected. However, this document was – and still is – the cornerstone of Lutheran faith.
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- 1531 War in Switzerland between the Protestants and the Catholics in which Zwingli is killed.
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- 1534 Henry VIII declares himself supreme head of the Church of England.
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- 1534 Luther publishes the German Bible.
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- 1535 Anabaptist uprising at Munster; Anabaptist are executed.
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- 1535 Thomas More is beheaded for opposing Henry VIII.
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- 1536 William Tyndale burned at the stake.
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- 1543 Copernicus declares in his writing that the earth.. revolves around the sun. Nicolaus Copernicus was a Renaissance and Reformation Era mathematician and astronomer who formulated a model of the universe that placed the Sun rather than the Earth at the center of the universe, .
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- 1543 First Protestants burned at the stake by Spain Inquisition.
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- 1545 Council of Trent convenes for the reformation of the Catholic Church.
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- 1546 Luther dies in the county of Mansfeld, in Eisleben, at age 63.

## And the Rest is History

### BASIC OUTLINE

- Fall DTS magazine ▪
- Google ▪
- Dictionary of the Christian Church ▪
- The Timetables of History ▪

### THREE SOLAS FIVE SOLAS

The Five Solas did appear in various ways and by various people during the Reformation period but they were not put together until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Sola	'Alone'
Sola Fide	By faith alone
Sola Scriptura	By Scripture alone
Solus Christus	Through Christ Alone
Sola Gratia	By grace alone
Soli Deo Gloria	Glory to God alone

“In most of the earliest articulations of the solas, three were typically specified:

Scripture over Tradition,  
Faith over Works, and  
Grace over Merit,  
Each intended to represent an important distinction  
compared with Catholic doctrine.



