

K) The last decades in Wittenburg

IV. EVALUATING LUTHER: THE “MEASURE OF THE MAN”

A) His faults

B) His gifts

C) His theology:

1) “Theology of Glory”

2) “Theology of the Cross”

GRBC

Church History – Session 6



Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation, AD1483-1546

*“...we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.”
Galatians 2:16*

I. INTRODUCTION: WHY LUTHER MATTERS

A) Historical importance

B) The great question: “What must I do to be saved?”

II. BACKGROUND: WHO NEEDS A REFORMATION?

A) Abuses within the church:

1) Absenteeism

2) Simony

3) Sexual immorality

4) Relics

5) Indulgences

B) Early Attempts at Reform

1) John Wycliffe – England

2) John Huss – Bohemia

III. THE REFORMATION BEGINS – MARTIN LUTHER

A) “Young Man Luther” – fear, guilt, and law school

B) Into the Monastery

C) Into the Bible

D) The Gospel!...rediscovered

E) Back to indulgences: the 95 Theses

F) The (in)fallible Pope?

G) *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*

1) What is the biblical view of sacraments?

2) What did this mean for the Catholic Church?

H) The Pope responds: A “wild boar” loose in the vineyard!

I) The Diet of Worms: Luther will not recant

1) The Bible his final authority

“Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason – I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other – my conscience is captive to the Word of God.”

2) Protestantism is born

J) Luther goes to Wartburg, and the reform goes everywhere