

## Timeline of Luther's Life

- 1483 July 6: Martin Luther born in Eisleben, Germany
- 1505 Begins study of Law
- 1505 July 2: Vows to become monk after thunderstorm
- 1505 July 17: Enters Augustinian order to become a monk
- 1507 Conducts his first Mass
- 1511 Transferred by Staupitz to Wittenberg from Erfurt
- 1513-16 Lectures on Psalms, Romans, and Galatians at U. of Wittenberg
- 1517 October 31: Announces 95 Theses in Wittenberg
- 1518 April 26: Heidelberg Disputation
- 1519 July 4–14: Debates Eck at Leipzig, Sola Scriptura is realized by Luther
- 1520 *Treatise on Good Works, To the Christian Nobility, The Babylonian Captivity of the Church, and The Freedom of a Christian* are published
- 1520 Pope Leo X issues papal bull giving Luther 60 days to recant
- 1521 April 16–26: Luther's defense at the Diet of Worms
- 1521 May 4: Luther is hidden at the Wartburg castle
- 1522 Luther's German translation of the New Testament published
- 1524 Peasants' War begins.
- 1525 Luther marries Katherine Von Bora, a former nun
- 1525 Luther publishes *On the Bondage of the Will* against Erasmus
- 1529 Marburg Colloquy (Luther & Zwingli split over the Lord's Supper)
- 1530 June 25: The Augsburg Confession is presented
- 1546 February 18: Martin Luther dies at age 62 in Eisleben, Germany

## Further Reading

- Roland Bainton, *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* (New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury Press), 1950.
- Heiko A. Oberman, *Luther: Man Between God and the Devil* (New Haven, Conn.; London, 2006).
- F. Bruce Gordon, *Zwingli: God's Armed Prophet* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2021).

## Questions?

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## Reformation Unleashed: Martin Luther and Ulrich Zwingli (1483- 1546)

Church History Core Seminar | Class 6 of 13

## Introduction: Is the Reformation Over?

“The Holy Bible... is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.” (*Statement of Faith*, Article V).

## Context: Councils and Humanism

### Conciliarism

Western Schism (1378-1417)

Council of Constance (1414-1418)

### Humanism

Desiderius Erasmus (1469-1536)

## Martin Luther (1483-1546)

### *Life & Background: the Terror of God's Righteousness*

### Luther the Monk

“If ever a monk got to heaven by his monkery, it was I.”

## Luther the Professor

### *Indulgence Controversy*

95 Theses (October 31, 1517)

The Diet of Worms (April, 1517)

“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. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me. Amen.”

Huldrych Zwingli (1484 - 1531)

### *Life and Background*

### *Humanism and “Ad Fontes!”*

“Before anyone among us had heard the name of Luther, I had begun in 1516 to preach the Gospel of Christ. When I entered the pulpit, I did not preach the words of the Gospel lesson appointed for the mass that morning, but rather from the biblical text alone.”

### *Expositional Preaching*

“All our work, who preach the Gospel... consists only in preaching how we find the assurance of our salvation in the death of the living Son of God.”

### *Patient Reforming Work*

“Behold the grandeur of the Christian shepherd! He feeds the flock with painstaking watchfulness, and does not constrain except as far as the word itself constrains.”

### *Partnerships with Friends*

The Marburg Colloquy (October 1529) and Split between Luther and Zwingli over the Lord’s Supper

### *Battle of Kappel and Death (October 11, 1531)*