

The Reformation

SERMON OF THE WEEK

**“Blessings of Church
Membership”**

*the Authority for all We
Christianity.*

do, in word or in deed,
the Lord.”

is *inspired* by God and
profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction,
for training in righteousness; 17 that
the man God may be adequate,
equipped for every good work.

Matt 15:9 “In vain do they worship Me,
Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.”

2. Apostasy & False Teachers **Were Foretold**

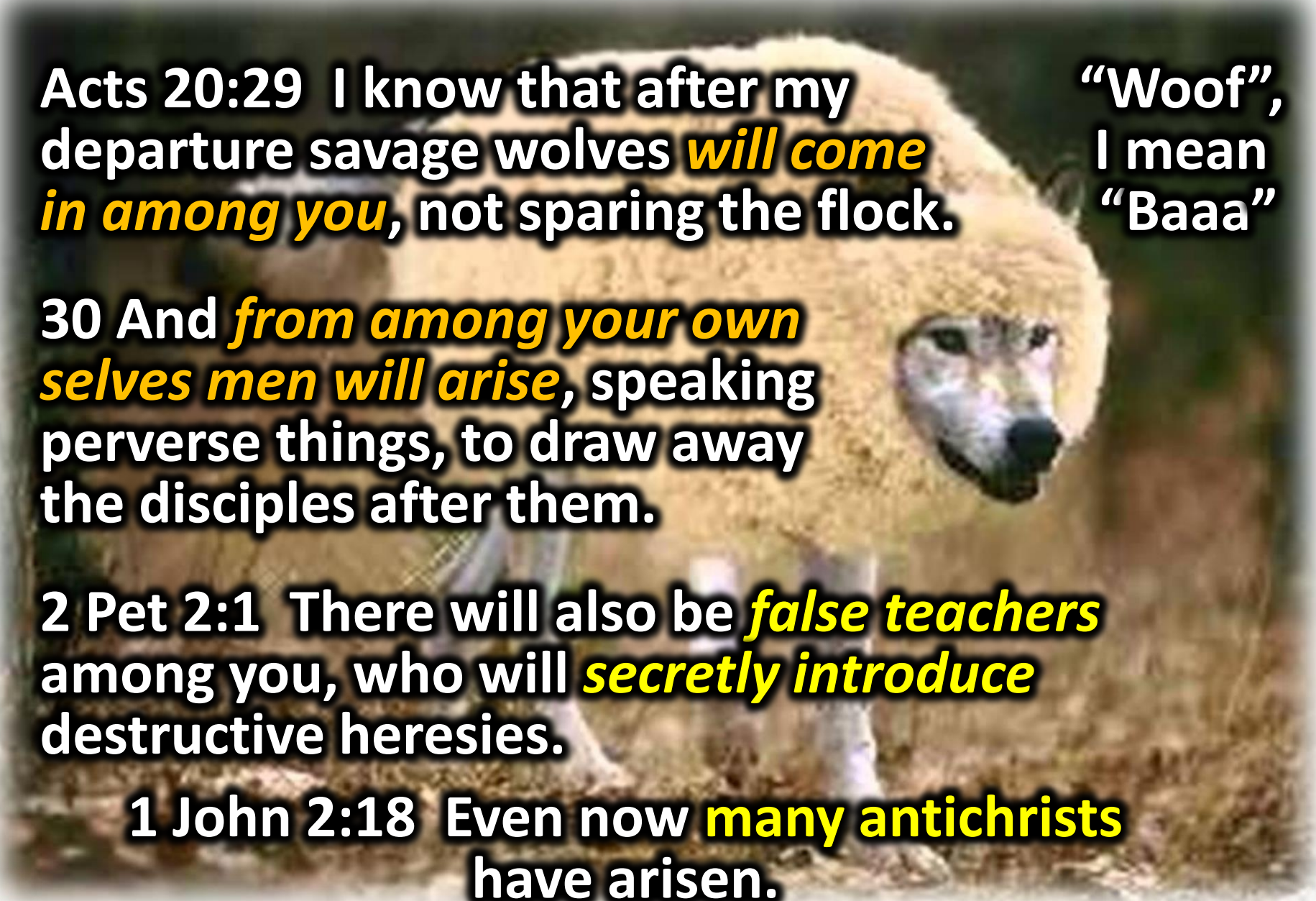
Acts 20:29 I know that after my departure savage wolves **will come in among you**, not sparing the flock.

“Woof”,
I mean
“Baaa”

30 And **from among your own selves men will arise**, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

2 Pet 2:1 There will also be **false teachers** among you, who will **secretly introduce** destructive heresies.

1 John 2:18 Even now **many antichrists** have arisen.



FALSE PROPHETS



**1 Tim 4:2 The
hypocrisy of
liars seared
in their own
conscience..**

**Causing good people to
believe lies.**

3. Rise of *Un-Scriptural* Doctrines

Monarchial Bishop
Clergy-Laity distinction
Holy Water- blessed
Infant Baptism
Sprinkling for baptism
Veneration of Mary
Praying to dead saints
Veneration of relics/bones
Universal Roman pope
Transubstantiation
Clerical Celibacy enforced
Purgatory
Sale of indulgences



4. Early Calls for **Reform**

Helvidius, author of a pamphlet c AD 383 against the belief in the perpetual virginity of Mary. He argued that the biblical mention of "sisters" and "brothers" of the Lord constitutes solid evidence that ***Mary had normal marital relations with Joseph & additional children after the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus.*** [Mk 6:3; Mt 13:55f]

Jerome, [347-420] priest, replied in a treatise **The Perpetual Virginity of Blessed Mary**, that the "sisters" and "brothers" spoken of were either **step-brothers, children of Joseph by a former marriage, or first cousins**, children of Mary's relative Elizabeth & siblings of John the Baptist.

4. Early Calls for **Reform**

Vigilantius, [c AD 400], presbyter, in France & Spain; author of a treatise against a number of church practices. He argued against:

1. The superstitious reverence paid to the **remains** of holy men, which were carried round in the church assemblies in gold vessels to be kissed, and the prayers in which their intercession was asked.
2. the **supposed miracles** performed at shrines of martyrs, perverts purpose as sign to unbelievers.
3. Sending **alms to Jerusalem**, which might better have been given to the poor locally.
4. The **unmarried, solitary life** of clerics was a cowardly forsaking of responsibility.

4. Early Calls for **Reform**

Jovinian c 400. Although a monk, he published a treatise against monasticism and celibacy in the priesthood & questioned the doctrine of the perpetual virginity of Mary.



Siricus, Bishop at Rome condemned this treatise & excommunicated him in A.D. 390. **Jerome** with his Letter Against Jovinian, denounced Jovinian and showed by numerous examples that chastity, virginity, and fidelity were prized among virtuous pagans as well as among Christian.
[ph So What? That, proves nothing re Mary]

4. Early Calls for **Reform**

Peter Waldo; France. 1200AD (1140-1218)

Came across a **Bible** in French
Renounced **transubstantiation**.

Advocated Priesthood **believers**!

Advocated **local church** rule.

Image worship is idolatry!

Pray to the **dead** is useless!

Extreme unction is unscriptural.

Clergy can **marry**. Denied **purgatory**!

Holy Water no better than Rainwater!

Relics were simply rotten bones of whoever.

The Bible is the only source for our Authority !

Pope declares followers **Heretics**. Thousands killed.



5. What Does this Mean For US?

(2 Tim 4:2)

PREACH *the*
WORD

2 Tim 4:3 “*Be ready in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience...*”

2 Tim 2:15 Handling *accurately* the word of truth.

1 Peter 3:15
“Being ready *to make a defense...*”

Phil 2:12 “Work *out your own salvation..*”

6. The Spread of the Reformation

AD 1600

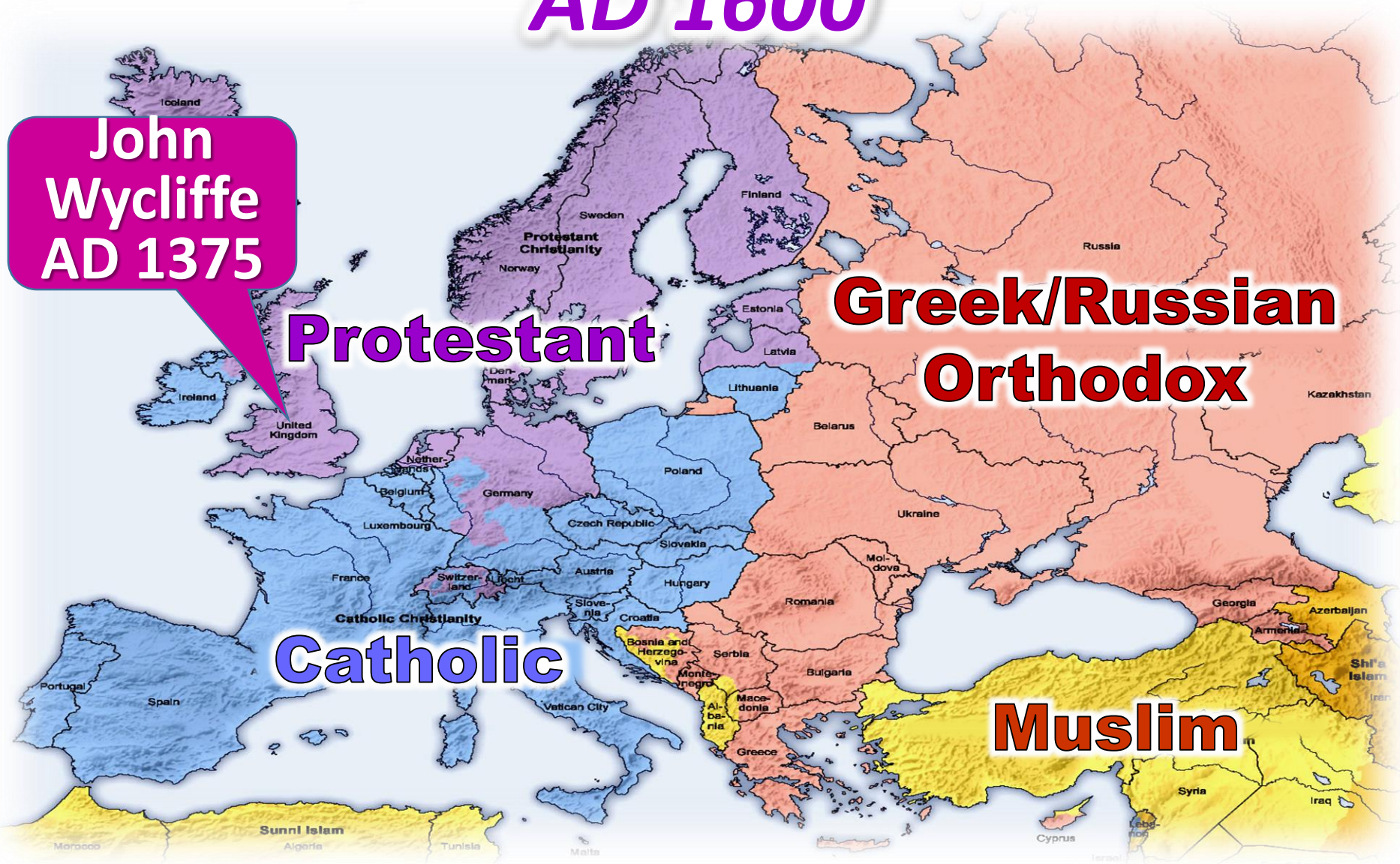
John
Wycliffe
AD 1375

Protestant

**Greek/Russian
Orthodox**

Catholic

Muslim



7. John Wycliffe: England AD 1375

1378 He asserted *Christ* was head of
The Church, *not* the Pope!

He said the *Bible* is the sole authority,
not the church! *He opposed transubstan-*
tiation. Impact: priests withholding com-
munion didn't withhold salvation from the people !
He rejected purgatory, clerical celibacy, pilgrimages,
indulgences & monasticism as irredeemably corrupt



1382 He made 1st English NT Bible translation from
Latin available to all the people to support facts.

1383 Lay preachers spread his ideas all over England

1384 Wycliffe died! *OT* now available in English too.

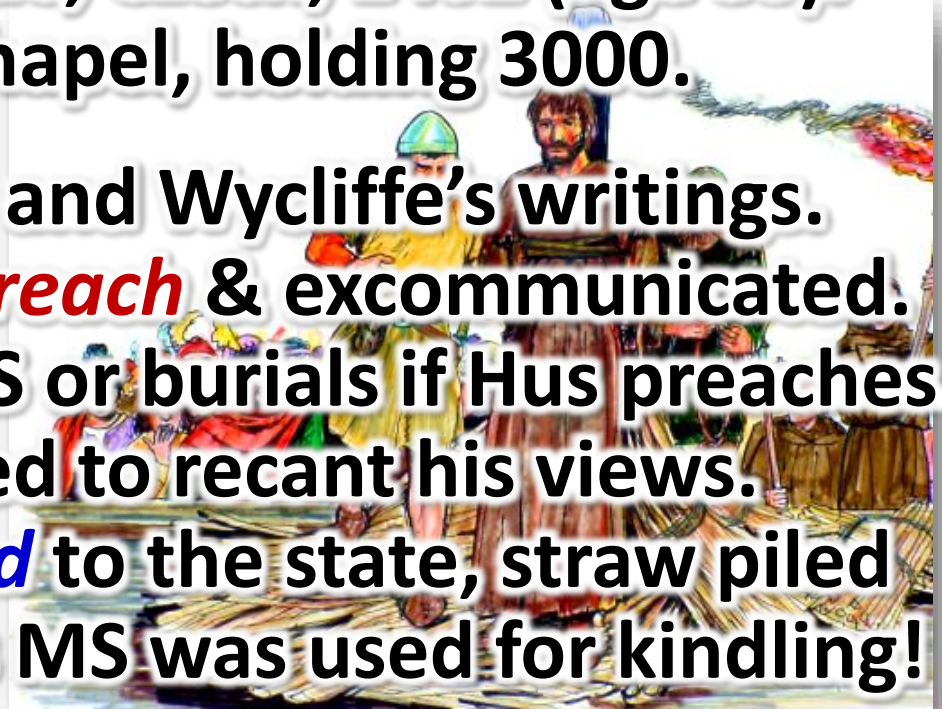
1401 Preaching his ideas now *punishable by death* !

Wycliffe was the Morningstar of the Reformation!

8. **John Huss**: Prague, Czech AD 1400

He was a **priest** in Prague, Czech, 1402 (age 33).
Preached in Prague's Chapel, holding 3000.

He discovered the Bible, and Wycliffe's writings.
Huss was forbidden to preach & excommunicated.
1412 **City Interdict**: No LS or burials if Hus preaches.
1414 Huss **arrested**, asked to recant his views.
1415, July 6th He was **tied** to the state, straw piled
to his neck, Wycliffe's MS was used for kindling!



Among his dying words he proclaimed, "In 100
years, **God will raise up a man** whose calls
for reform cannot be suppressed." He was
heard to sing & recite Psalms as flames rose.

He became a hero to Luther 1517, 100 years later.

Rev2:
10

9. Ulrich **Zwingli**: Switzerland AD1500

Swiss Pastor in Zurich.

Read Erasmus Greek New Testament.

Tithes & inst music not scriptural !

Bible is our sole authority.

No fees for baptisms and burial

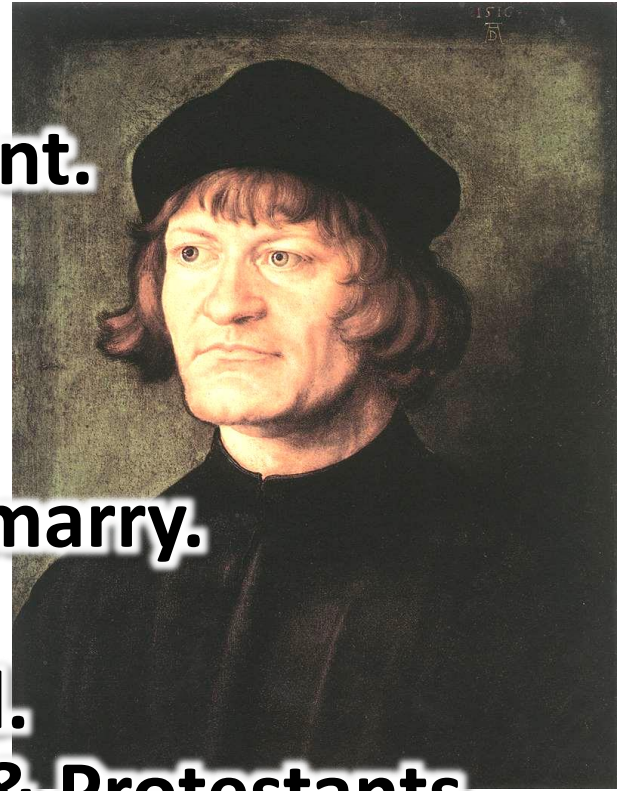
Monks and nuns were allowed to marry.

Images and relics were banned.

1529 Mass was eliminated in Basel.

War broke out between Catholics & Protestants.

Zwingli took the field as a chaplain & was killed.



He believed infants could be saved without baptism. Lord's supper is a commemoration. Nothing should be held in religion that isn't proved by Bible.

10. Martin **Luther**: Germany AD1517

Born 1483, died 1546

Entered **Monastery**, Ordained 1507

Trip to Rome—shocking corruption.

Became professor of Theology 1511

Studied and taught Romans 1515-1517.

He lectured on **Salvation by faith** (Rom 1:17)

He was incensed on the **sale of indulgences**.

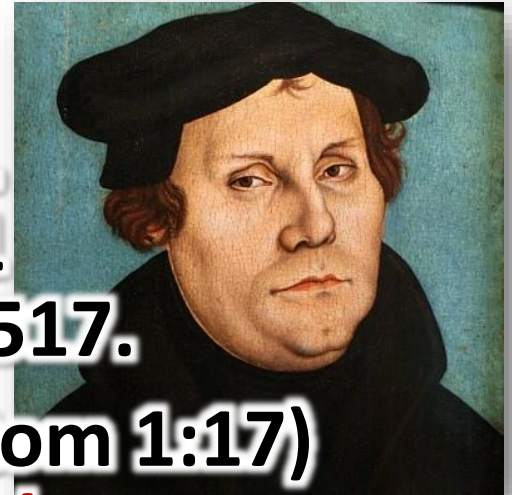
Nailed **95 thesis** on Cathedral door, Wittenberg.

He declared that the early church **had no pope**.

Had debates and **2 heresy trials**.

Luther said: *Let me be refuted.. by scripture or the clearest of arguments, otherwise I cannot recant.*

Here I take my stand: I cannot do otherwise, so help me God. He later translated the Bible into German.



The Restoration *Principle*

Isa 8:20 ***"To the law and to the testimony!"***
If they do not speak according to this word,
it is because there is no light in them." NKJV

Jer 6:16 "Stand in the ways and see , ***and ask for the old paths, where the good way is,*** and walk in it. Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'" NKJV

1 Peter 4:11 "If anyone speaks, let him ***speak as the oracles of God.***" NKJV

Speak Where the Bible Speaks