

The Lutheran Reformation and Confessions

Confessional Lutherans for Christ's Commission

Agenda

- Session 1** **God's Time and Place**
- Session 2** **Call for Reform**
- Session 3** **Aftermath of the Reformation**
- Session 4** **Luther's Theology**
- Lutheran Confessions**
- Breakouts** **Relevancy in Today's World**

Sixteenth Century Europe

The Rise in Humanism

Secular Independence

Political Challenges

The Medieval Church

**The Stage for the
Reformation**



Humanism

Focus on human nature and its achievements

Secular vs. ecclesiastical roots

release of academic thought from religious orthodoxy

Erasmus

In Praise of Folly (1509)

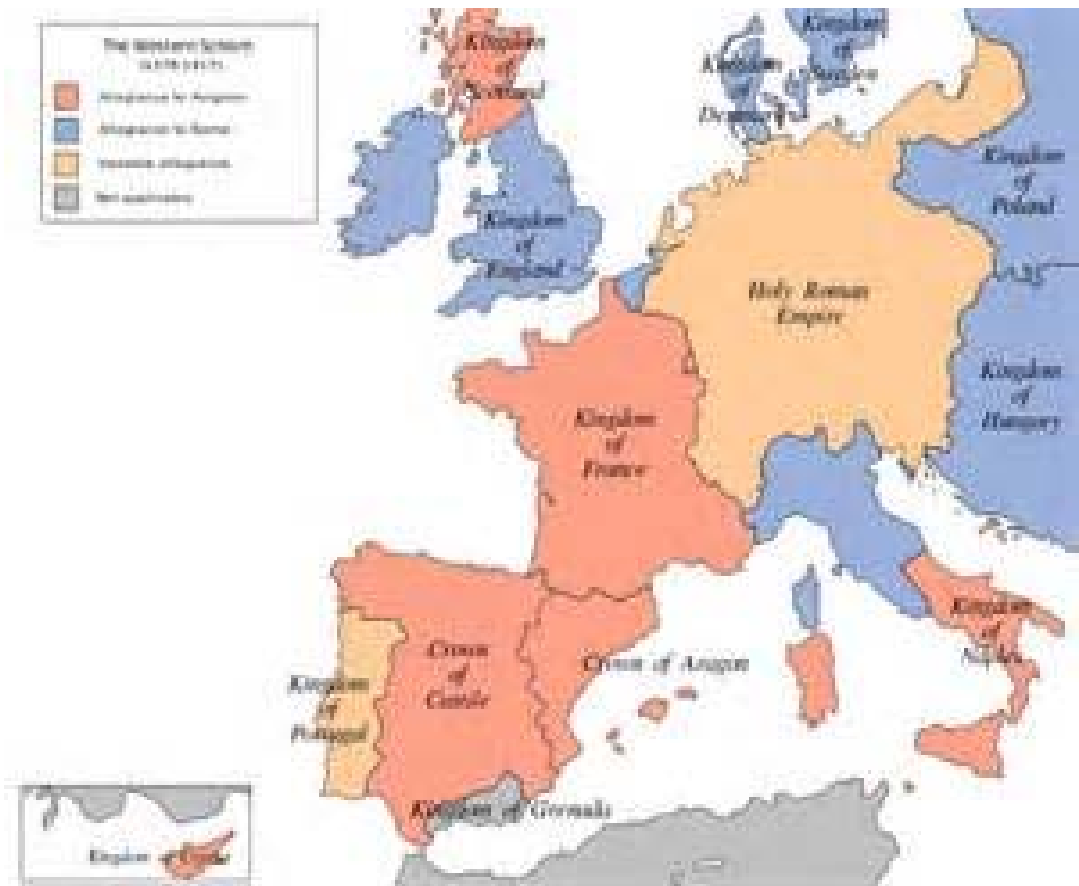


Great Papal Schism

Return to Rome

Two concurrent popes

Even a third pope



The Reformers

John Wycliffe (1330-1384)



Jan Hus (1370-1415)

Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498)



Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Review God's Time and Place for the Reformation

- Humanism
 - Human achievement v penance
 - Challenges to institutions
- Demise of the Manor
 - Reward for initiative
- Exploration
 - Self confidence
- Nation-States
 - Challenges to the Church of Rome
- Holy Roman Empire
 - Emerging nationalism
- Church of Rome
 - Scandals and in-fighting
- Early Reformers
 - Harsh consequences

Call for Reform

Initial Issues

Attempts at Reconciliation

Doctrinal Development

Here I Stand

Challenges and Struggles

Growth and Development



Growth and Development

Reformation grew
Charles distracted

Church order and hymns



Recap of Events of the Reformation

- **Posting of the 95 Theses** **seeking academic debate**
- **Heidelberg Defense** **dealt with sin, grace, free will**
- **Meeting with Cajetan** **frustrating dismissal**
- **Debate with Eck** **salvation by grace alone**
- **Tower Experience** **doctrine comes together**
- **Significant writings** **led to excommunication & ban**
- **Diet of Worms** **Luther's bold confession**
- **Sanctuary at Wartburg** **translation of the Bible**
- **Denouncing the Peasants' War** **Christian freedom & subjection**
- **Growth and Development** **largely unimpeded in the 1520s**

Legacy of the Reformation

Substantive Challenge to Rome

Attempts at reconciliation

Augsburg Confession

Military conflicts

Peace of Augsburg



Aftermath of Augsburg

Escalated tensions

Smalcald League

military league of German princes (1531)

Halle League of Roman princes (1533)

Council at Trent

counter-reformation

Smalcald War

Council of Trent

(1545-1547) (1551-1552) (1562-1563)

Clarify emergent position of the Church of Rome

Protestant princes declined to attend

Provided some financial and patronage reforms

Launched the Counter-reformation

Affirmed past doctrines



Augsburg Interim

Permitted both kinds in Communion and priests to marry

Restored Roman ceremonies

Pope as head of the church

Transubstantiation

Denied justification by grace through faith

Military enforcement



Peace of Augsburg

Peace for Lutherans

Legitimacy recognized

**Limited to Lutherans,
other reformers
excluded**



Key Distinctions of Luther's Theology

Understanding of Scripture

Law and Gospel

Justification

Concept of Man

Grace and Predestination

Vocation

Worship and Sacraments

The Church

Understanding of Scripture

God's Word

- Instrument of power
- Basis of divine revelation

Scripture is

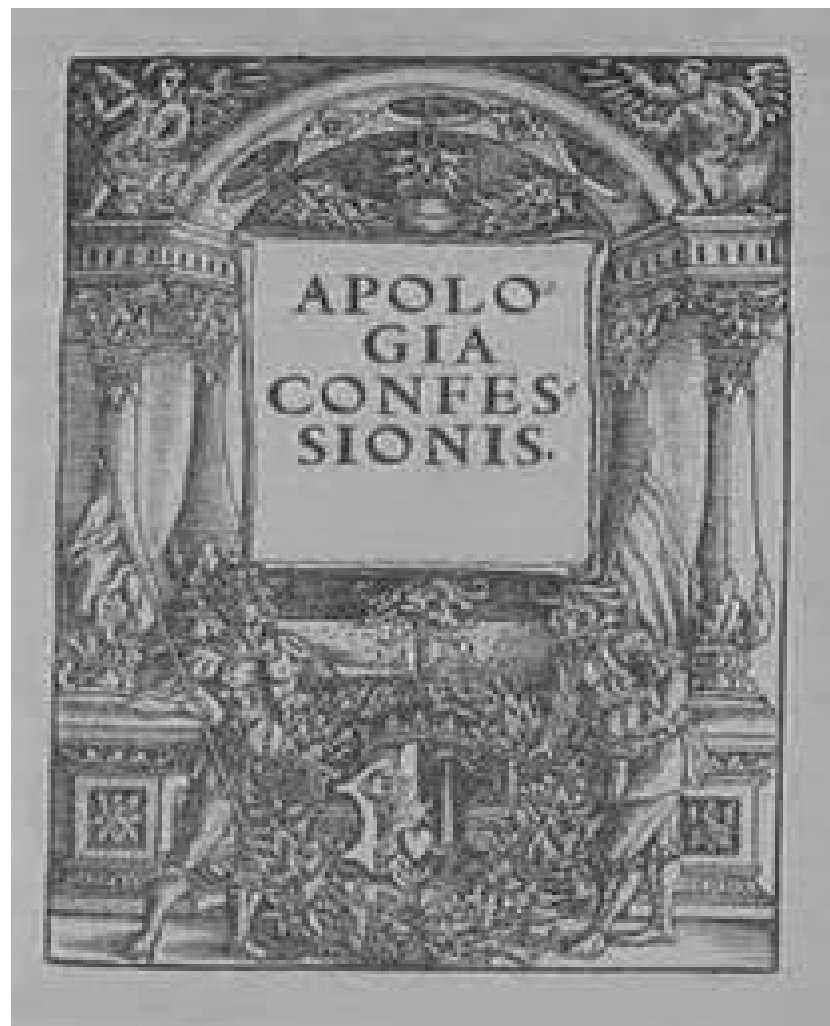
- Christ-centric
- Inerrant, consistent
- Accepted in faith

Availability to all



The Lutheran Confessions

- Ecumenical Creeds
- Small Catechism
- Large Catechism
- Augsburg Confession
- Apology to the Augsburg Confession
- Smalcald Articles
- Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope
- Formula of Concord



Augsburg Confession

- Preface
- I. God
- II. Original Sin
- III. The Son of God
- IV. Justification
- V. Ministry
- VI. New Obedience
- VII. Church
- VIII. What the Church Is
- IX. Baptism
- X. Lord's Supper
- XI. Confession
- XII. Repentance
- XIII. Use of the Sacraments
- XIV. Order in the Church
- XV. Church Ceremonies
- XVI. Civil Government
- XVII. Christ's Return
- XVIII. Free Will
- XIX. Cause of Sin
- XX. Good Works
- XXI. Worship of Saints
- XXII. Both Kinds in the Sacrament
- XXIII. Marriage of Priests
- XXIV. The Mass
- XXV. Confession
- XXVI. Distinction of Meats
- XXVII. Monastic Vows
- XXVIII. Church Authority
- Conclusion

Important to Remember

- **God placed the Reformation in the right time and place**
- **Intent to reform not break from the Church of Rome**
- **Luther provided Scripturally-based theology, not just a condemnation of practices**
- **Doctrinal integrity cannot be compromised**
- **The lay princes played an important role – reinforcing the importance of lay education**
- **Lutheran Confessions the first comprehensive, definitive statement of doctrine**
- **Justification by God's grace alone through faith in Christ alone**