

Comparative Religion II

LUTHERANS



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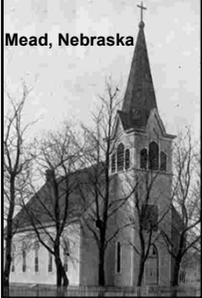
LUTHERANS

LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Danville, Illinois



Mead, Nebraska



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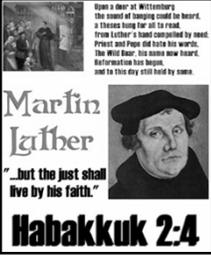
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FOUNDER - MARTIN LUTHER



MORE BOOKS HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER THAN ANY OTHER RELIGIOUS FIGURE OTHER THAN CHRIST



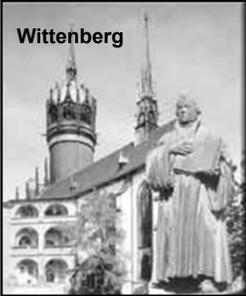
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UNIVERSITY OF WITTENBERG

Wittenberg





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TETZEL SELLING INDULGENCES

License to sin.
Copy of the infamous indulgence by Tetzel.



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INDULGENCE PAPER



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LUTHERANS
POSTING 95 THESES AT WITTENBERG



OCTOBER 31, 1517 - LUTHER NAILED 95 THESES ON THE DOORS

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LUTHERANS
FAMOUS DOOR AT WITTENBERG



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EXCERPTS OF MARTIN LUTHER'S 95 THESES

6. "The Pope cannot remit any guilt, except by declaring and showing that it has been remitted by God."
18. "It does not seem proved, either by reason of Scripture, that souls in purgatory are outside the state of merit, that is, unable to grow in love."
19. "Nor does it seem proved that souls in purgatory, at least not all of them, are certain and assured of their own salvation."
27. "They preach only human doctrines who say that as soon as the money clinks into the money chest, the soul flies out of purgatory."

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LUTHERANS
95 THESES CONTINUED

32. "Those who believe that they can be certain of their salvation because they have indulgence letters will be eternally damned, together with their teachers."
45. "Christians are to be taught that he who sees a needy man and passes him by, yet gives his money for indulgences, does not buy papal indulgences but God's wrath."
54. "Injury is done the Word of God when, in the same sermon, an equal or larger amount of time is devoted to indulgences than to the Word."

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LUTHERANS
95 THESES CONTINUED

79. "To say that the cross emblazoned with the papal coat of arms, and set up by the indulgence preachers, is equal in worth to the cross of Christ is blasphemy."
82. "Questions of the laity such as: 'Why does not the Pope empty purgatory for the sake of holy love and the dire need of the souls that are there if he redeems an infinite number of souls for the sake of miserable money with which to build a church? The former reason would be most just; the latter is most trivial.'"
94. "Christians should be exhorted to be diligent in following Christ, their Head, through penalties, death and hell."

(From LUTHERAN CYCLOPEDIA ed. by Erwin Leuber)

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LUTHER AND MELANCHTHON



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POPE LEO X (1513-1521)

ARCHBISHOP AT AGE 8, CARDINAL AT AGE 13. APPOINTED CARDINALS AS YOUNG AS 7 YEARS OF AGE. "...MAINTAINED THE MOST LUXURIOUS AND LICENTIOUS COURT IN EUROPE." (HALLEY'S)



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LUTHER BURNS HIS EXCOMMUNICATION LETTER



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WARTBURG CASTLE



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WARTBURG CASTLE



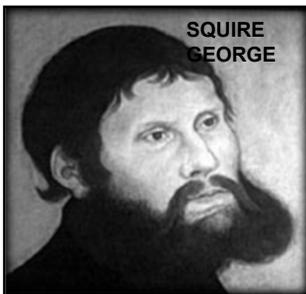
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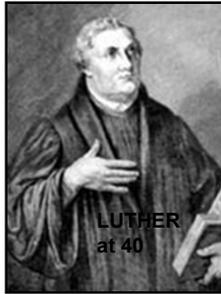
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TWO IMAGES OF LUTHER



SQUIRE GEORGE



LUTHER at 40

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LUTHER'S STUDY AT WARTBURG



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THE LUTHER BIBLE

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LUTHER'S STUDY AT WITTENBERG

Where Luther completed the translation of the Bible

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PROTESTANT TREE OF DENOMINATIONS

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BACKGROUND

FOUNDER – Martin Luther (1483-1546) founded the Lutheran Church when he split with the Catholic Church in 1517.

GOD – Is a Trinity. One God in three persons.

SCRIPTURES – Holy Bible is their only standard of belief

HISTORY – Luther was the son of a miner. Had strict upbringing. Was going to study law at Erfurt. A near-death experience and an interest in religion led him to enter a monastery.

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BACKGROUND

HISTORY – Luther was intelligent and vigorous in his studies. Ordained a priest after two years at the monastery. In 1512 he received his doctorate and began teaching at U. of Wittenberg.

Troubled by thoughts of sin and the forgiveness of it, he wondered if works were essential for atonement of sin.

On a trip to Rome, he saw corruption and insincerity among the priests and hierarchy.

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BACKGROUND

HISTORY – Tetzel, the Pope's salesman, sold indulgences in a nearby town. Members of Luther's congregation attended and brought back the news of the sale.

This sale of indulgences angered Luther and he spoke out against it.

On October 31, 1517 he posted his famous 95 Theses mainly condemning the papacy for requiring works for salvation.

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BACKGROUND

HISTORY – After a meeting in Augsburg, Luther refused to recant his position. He was excommunicated in January 1521.

Thus began the Protestant Reformation.

Luther translated the Bible (New Testament) into German in ten weeks at Wartburg Castle where he was hidden from his enemies. He eventually translated the entire Bible into German.

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BACKGROUND

ORGANIZATION – Similar to the Anglicans and American Lutherans are largely congregational. There are liberal, moderate and conservative elements in the Lutheran Church.

ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) is very liberal to moderate in approach. Recently allied with the Episcopal Church to share clergy and recognized each other's sacraments.

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BACKGROUND

ORGANIZATION (continued) –

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod is one of the most conservative.

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod is very strict

CREED – The Augsburg Confession (1530)

SALVATION – Is a gift of God – not of works. To live with Christ for eternity.

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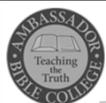
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BELIEFS

- Two sacraments (baptism and Lord's Supper) and five lesser ones considered "rites"
- Justification by faith and the grace of God
- Priesthood of believers
- The Holy Bible is the only standard of faith

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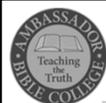
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BELIEFS

- The gospel is about Christ and His work of forgiveness
- Sin is disobedience to God
- Obey God out of a grateful response to a loving Father.

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SPECIAL BELIEFS

- Consubstantiation (Christ is present at Lord's Supper)
- Strong emphasis on faith, not works (Romans 1:17)
- Confirmation at age 14
- Ministers may marry

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SPECIAL BELIEFS

- Women may be ordained
- They believe they are the true religion
- There are Christians in other churches as well
- A saint is a name for a Christian

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DID MARTIN LUTHER KEEP THE SABBATH?

“Luther himself, while it is said believed in and practiced the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath, did not prescribe it in his articles of faith for his followers, in the copies that we now have access to. However, it has been said that in his original thesis, Luther advocated the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath,”

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DID MARTIN LUTHER KEEP THE SABBATH?

“but his colleagues objected on the ground that it was an unpopular doctrine which would have a tendency to repulse supporters of the Reformation who were not as pious as they should have been, but were of great assistance against the usurpations of the papacy.”
 “Luther in his works has written of his belief in the Sabbath as follows:

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DID MARTIN LUTHER KEEP THE SABBATH?

“The Sabbath was before the Law of Moses came, and has existed from the beginning of the world. Especially have the devout, who have preserved the true faith, met together and called upon God on this day.’ – *Luther’s works, XXXV, p. 330.* [A History of the True Church, Dugger and Dodd]

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SUMMARY OF LUTHERAN DOCTRINAL POSITION

- GRACE ALONE
- FAITH ALONE
- SCRIPTURES ALONE

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PROMINENT LOCATIONS

Lutherans are the largest Protestant body in the world with over 60 million members

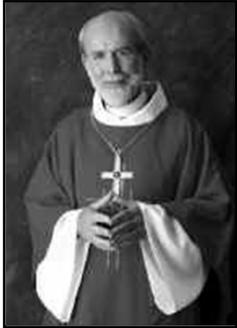
- Germany – 14 million
- United States – 8 million
- Sweden – 7.6 million
- Finland – 4.5 million
- Denmark – 4.5 million

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LUTHERANS

MARK S. HANSON
PRESIDING
BISHOP OF
THE ELCA



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LUTHERANS

WHAT AM I?

- 1. PRIESTHOOD OF BELIEVERS**
I Timothy 3; Titus 1 – Show qualifications for “priests”; Revelation 5:10; I Peter 2:9; Acts 8:31; Acts 15; – This issue gave the laity the “right” to read the scriptures
- 2. JUSTIFIED BY FAITH ALONE**
Romans 1:17; Ephesians 2:8; Galatians 2:16; James 2:17-19; Luther liked “alone” because he was fighting indulgences

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WHAT AM I?

- 3. CONSUBSTANTIATION**
Christ is there but not literally in the bread and wine. Exodus 12:14; I Corinthians 11:24; This yearly observance is a memorial
- 4. GOSPEL IS ABOUT CHRIST**
Mark 1:1, 14-15; Matthew 24:14; Acts 8:4-5; I Corinthians 15:1-4 – His message was about the Kingdom – however, Jesus is important too

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WHAT AM I?

- 5. OBEY GOD OUT OF A GRATEFUL RESPONSE TO A LOVING FATHER**
Luke 6:46; Philippians 2:12; II John 6; Matthew 7:24-29; I John 3:4; This would be a wonderful attitude, however, it isn't whether we want to or not that makes the law binding or not

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THE END

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