

How the Gospel Was Unleashed Once Again

- I. Luther's early life
 - a. Born in 1483 in Eisleben
 - b. Attends schools, including University of Erfurt, where he graduates with a BA, MA, and works on a law degree.
 - c. July 2, 1505, caught in a Thunderstorm, prays to St. Anne, promises to become an Augustinian Monk
 - d. Ordained in 1507, starts lecturing on Psalms at University of Wittenberg in 1513
- II. Elector Frederick the Wise
 - a. Held a vast relic collection – over 19,000 relics by his death in 1525
 - b. One of 7 people responsible for choosing the Roman Emperor
 - c. Founded the University of Wittenberg in 1503 and build All Saints Church (Castle Church)
- III. Luther's early writings
 - a. Disputation against Scholastic Theology (1517)
 - b. 95 Theses (another Disputation) (October 31, 1517)
 - c. Heidelberg Disputation (1518: Augustinian Peers)
- IV. Elector Frederick protected Luther
 - a. Because he was one of his prize professors at the University he founded
 - b. Pope Leo owed him
 - c. Emperor had a lot of other things on his plate
- V. Following 95 Theses
 - a. Conversation with Cajetan at Augsburg, where Luther refuses to Recant.
 - b. Leipzig Debate, where Luther refuses to recant.
 - c. Luther given 60 days to recant and return to the mother church.

- d. After his grace period is up, Jan 3, 1521, papal bull arrives excommunicating him.
- e. Diet of Worms: "Here I stand"

VI. Wartburg

- a. Translates Greek New Testament into German in 3 months
- b. Monitors situation in Wittenberg
- c. Karlstadt leads reform movement too quickly in Wittenberg
- d. Luther returns secretly in December, 1521, and permanently in March 1522, preaches Invocavit sermons
- e. Luther was still under the ban, but was safe because of protection of Prince Frederick and the Emperor's hands being tied

VII. Luther went on to lead reform in a measured way

- a. Used his relationships with governing authorities to gradually move things ahead instead of appealing directly to the people
- b. For people who are not used to changes, didn't want to hurt their faith
- c. After other clergy started to marry he was under pressure to marry, and married Katarina Von Bora June 13, 1525 "to please his father and to spite the pope"

VIII. Reformation takes other directions from here.

- a. Wittenberg and some other cities, a magisterial reformation, meaning it was in concern with governing authorities.
- b. Other reformers, the "radical reformers," created a populist revolt to bring about reform.

Bibliography

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