

# The Story Of Christianity

1. The Fall of Jerusalem – The Church Moves Out
2. Council of Nicaea – The Trinity Affirmed
3. Augustine – Father of the West
4. Council of Chalcedon – Who and What is Jesus
5. Eastern Orthodoxy -- a Visceral Approach
6. Charlemagne -- Latin Christianity
- 7. Protestant Reformation -- Faith Alone**
8. Protestant Reformation – Theological Genius

# What's in this Session?

## **You will learn ...**

- 1) Key Events and People before the Reformation**
- 2) The Life of Martin Luther**
- 3) Key Theological Developments of the Protestant Reformation**

# Problems for the Papacy

- Pope Boniface VIII replaced Celestine V and claimed power over all Europe's kings and lords: *Unam Sanctum*.
- Boniface died after being kidnapped by the king of France.



*Pope Boniface VIII*



# Problems for the Papacy

- The next pope fled to Avignon, a village on the French border.
- For more than 70 years, the popes lived it up in Avignon.





# The Black Plague

- Papal struggles weren't the only problems in the fourteenth century.
- The Black Plague or "bubonic plague" struck Europe in 1347, probably spreading from a flea on a rat.



*A priest blessing monks who have the Plague*

# Would the Real Pope Please Stand Up?

- When Pope Gregory XI died(1378), cardinals appointed an Italian pope to appease the citizens of Rome and he moved the papacy back to Rome.
- A little over a year later 13 French Cardinals elected Clement VII pope (French) who set up his papacy in Avignon.





# Reform before the Reformation

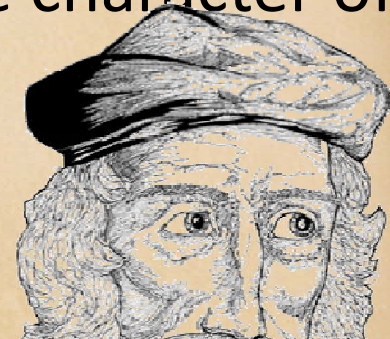
John Wycliffe: Jesus is the true head of the Church, not the pope. Clergy should not own land. The Bible is the final authority for Christian life





# Reform before the Reformation

**John Wycliffe:** He exalted preaching, he insisted upon the circulation of the Scriptures among the laity (first eminent scholar to do this in hundreds of years), he demanded purity and fidelity of the clergy, he denied infallibility to the papal utterances and went so far as to declare that the papacy is not essential to the being of the church. He defined the church as the congregation of the elect, he showed the unscriptural and under reasonable character of the doctrine of transubstantiation.



# Jan Huss the Unhushable

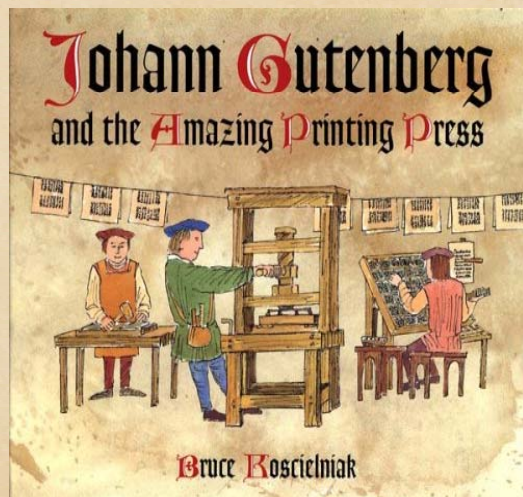
- Jan Huss embraced Wycliffe's teaching and began to preach them from a pulpit in Prague.
- In 1415, the Council of Constance had Hus burned alive at the stake for his teachings—then had Wycliffe's bones unearthed and burned!





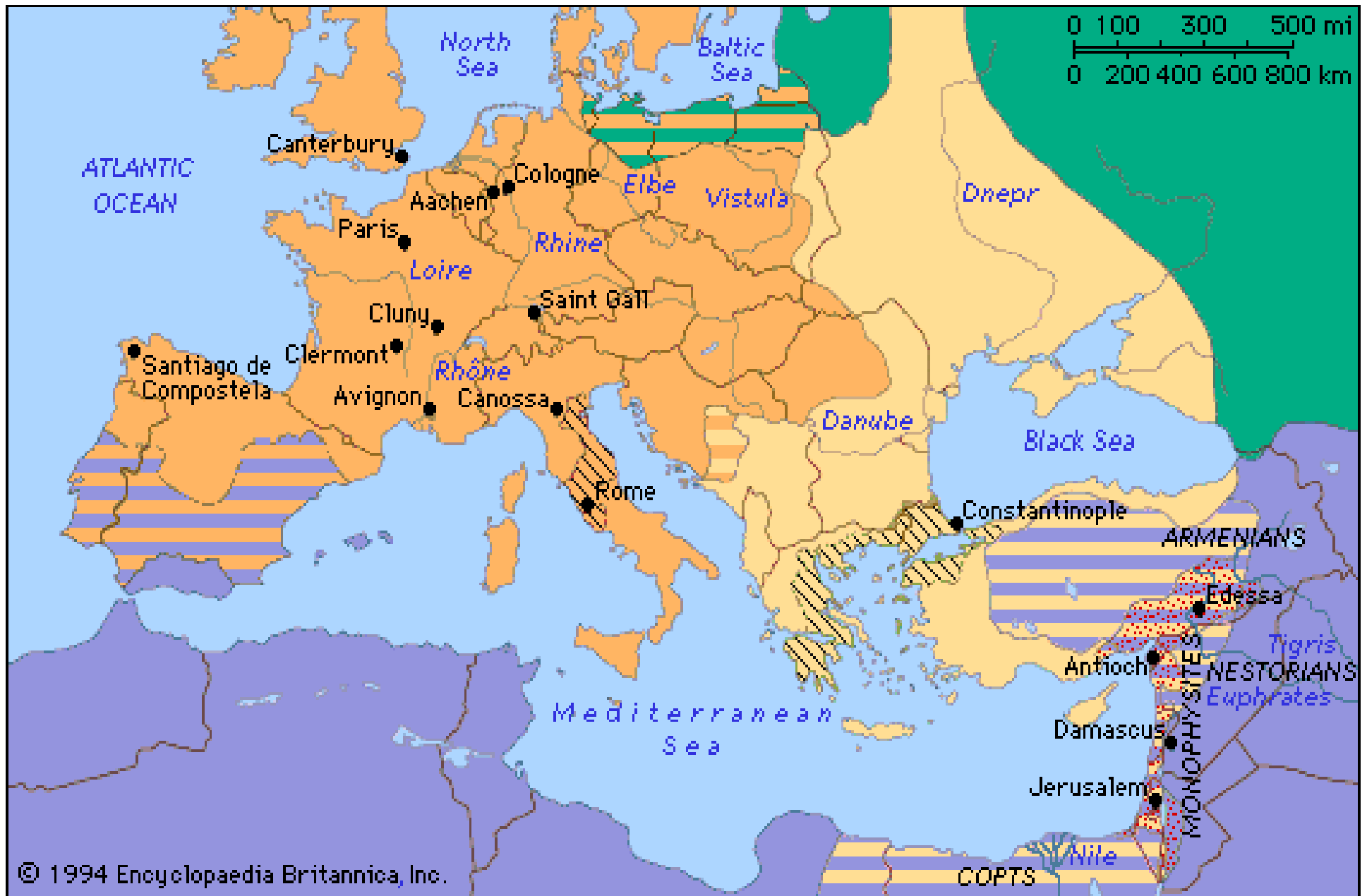
# 16<sup>th</sup> Century: Changing Times

- Recent discovery of the New World by Columbus
- Explosion of Renaissance learning
- Beginnings of the modern economy
- Ottoman empire pressing into Eastern Europe
- Invention of Gutenberg's printing press
- Widespread church corruption


















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|--|--|--|
|  Roman Catholic   |  Pagan  |  Frankish States              |
|  Eastern Orthodox |  Papal States   |  Eastern independent churches |
|  Islām            |  Byzantine Empire (Latin Empire after Fourth Crusade) |  Present political boundaries |







# Martin Luther: Geography



1483 - 1546



# Martin Luther: Early Years



- Born in Eisleben (Germany) in 1483
- From a blue-collar family
- Studied in university to be a lawyer
- Troubled conscience











## View of Eisenach for the Wartburg





# Childhood School of Luther- Eisenach









**Eurfurt Augustinian Monastery Church**









# Luther Travels to Rome 1510-1511 AD



# Professor Luther



- Luther's monastic spiritual advisor (Staupitz) counseled him to study the Scriptures devotionally and academically
- Became a theology instructor at the University of Wittenberg
- But his conscience still troubled him as he "beat importunately" on a range of scriptural texts

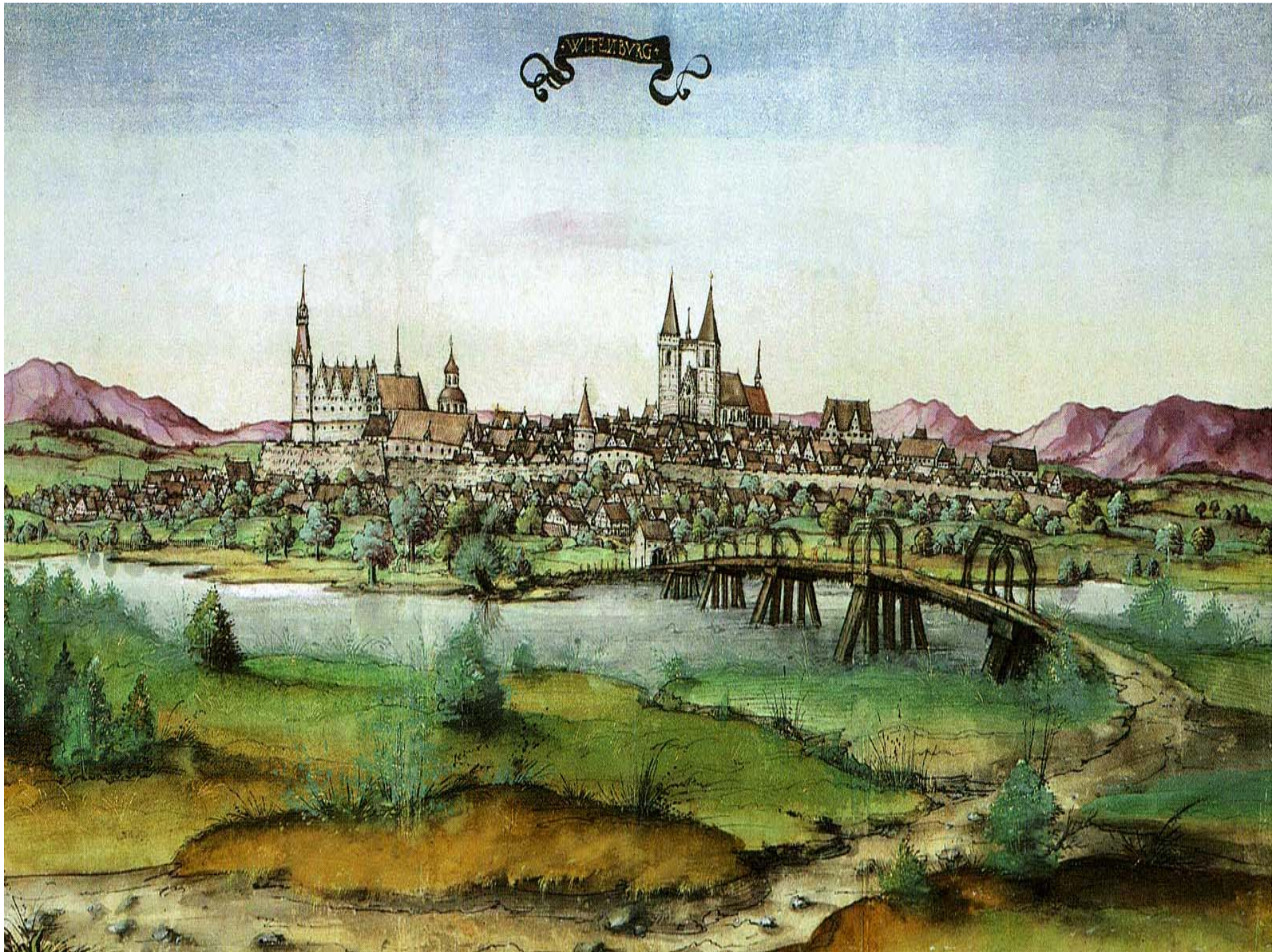


# Wittenberg, Germany





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# Wittenberg, Germany

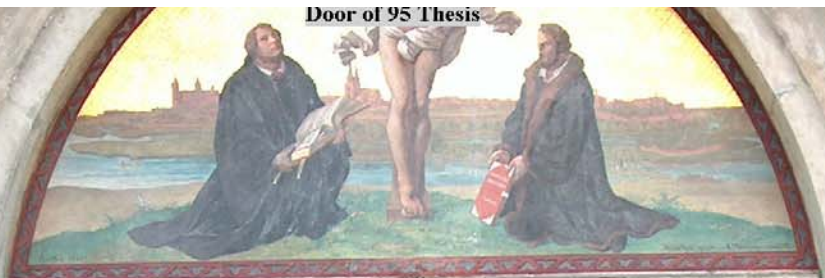




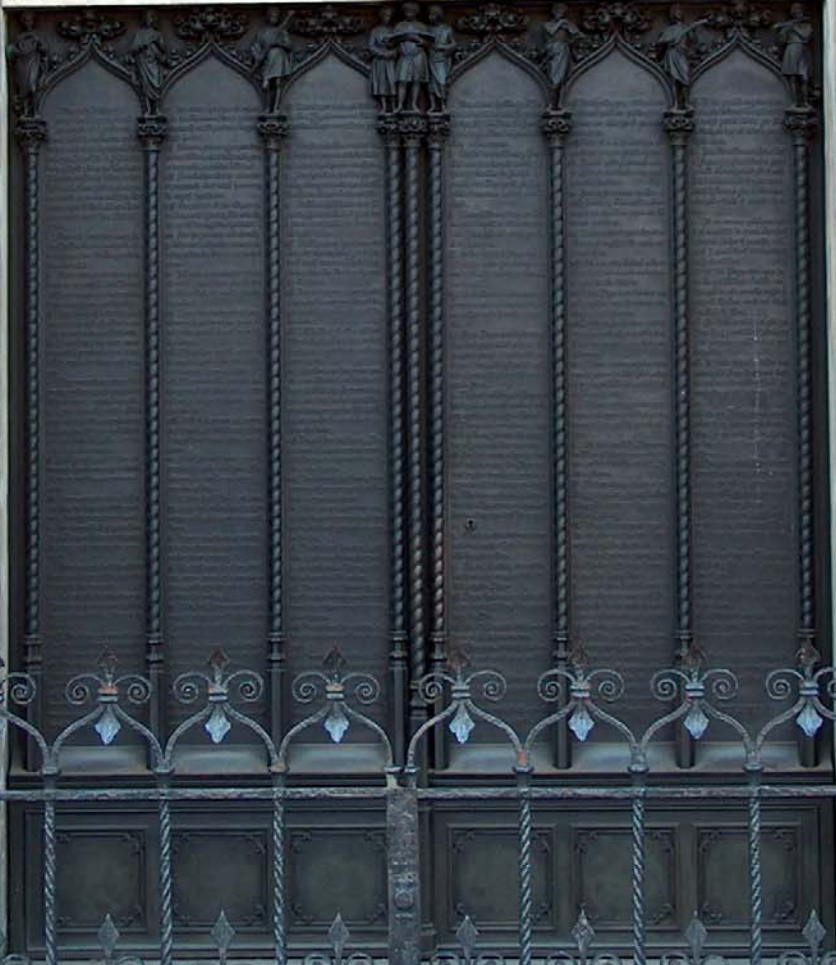




Door of 95 Thesis



FRIDERICVS GVILLVSTIVS REX PORTAVIT  
M OCTOBR D XXXI INDVLTENTIS ROMANIS  
REFORMATIONIS SACROBYM PR AENATIAS  
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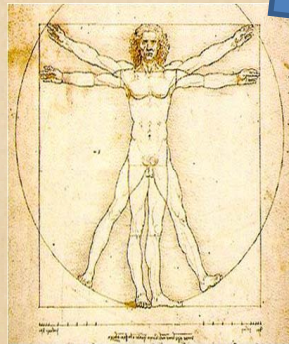
# Luther's Evangelical Breakthrough

- Meditation on Romans 1:17 “**For in it [the gospel] the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘The righteous shall live by faith.’”**
- Began to understand the righteousness of faith is a gift of God by faith: “**the righteousness of God is revealed by the gospel, namely, the passive righteousness with which merciful God justifies us by faith, as it is written, ‘He who through faith is righteous shall live.’”**

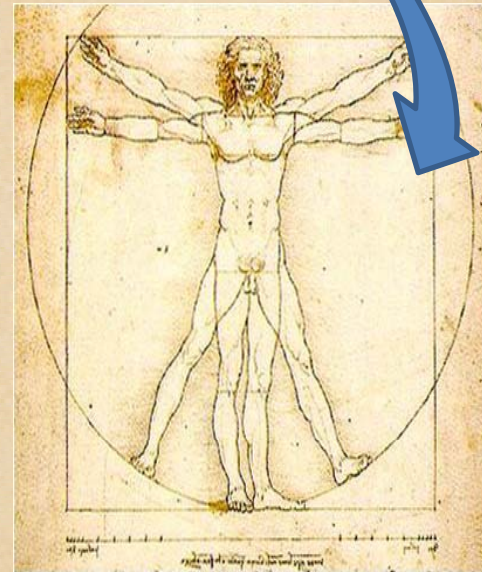




# The Position of the Church



# The Position of Faith





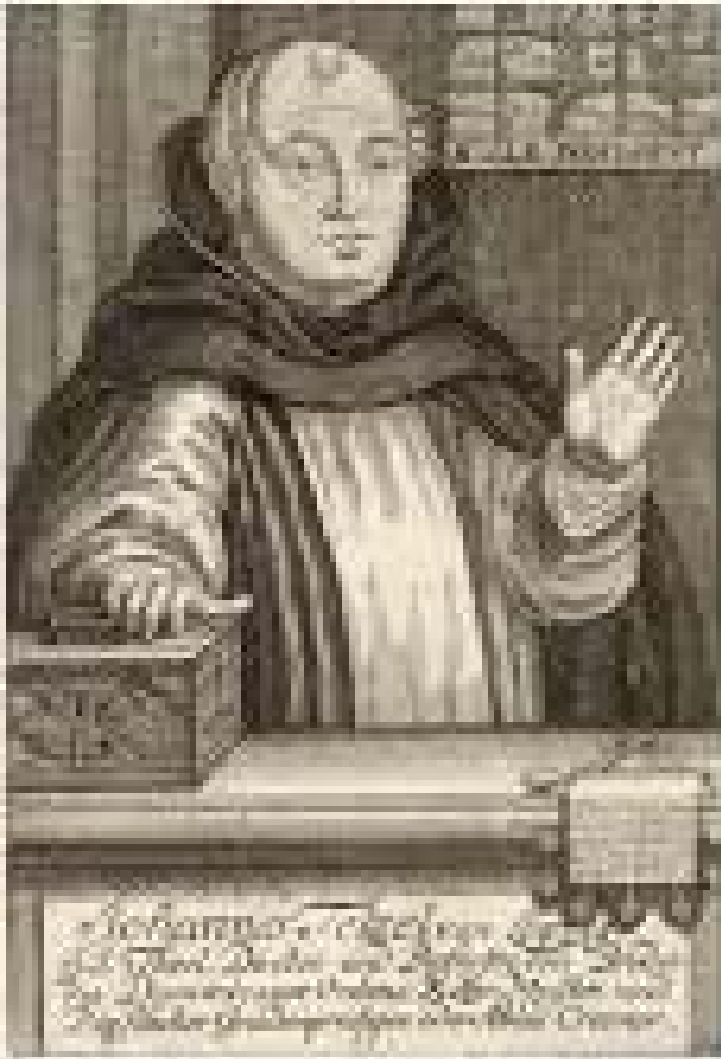
# Martin Luther and Indulgences

- In 1517, Pope Leo X allowed alms to be given to the Church in exchange for indulgences.
- It was believed that indulgences released Christians from the temporal punishments for their sins.



*Pope Leo X*

# Martin Luther and Johann Tetzel

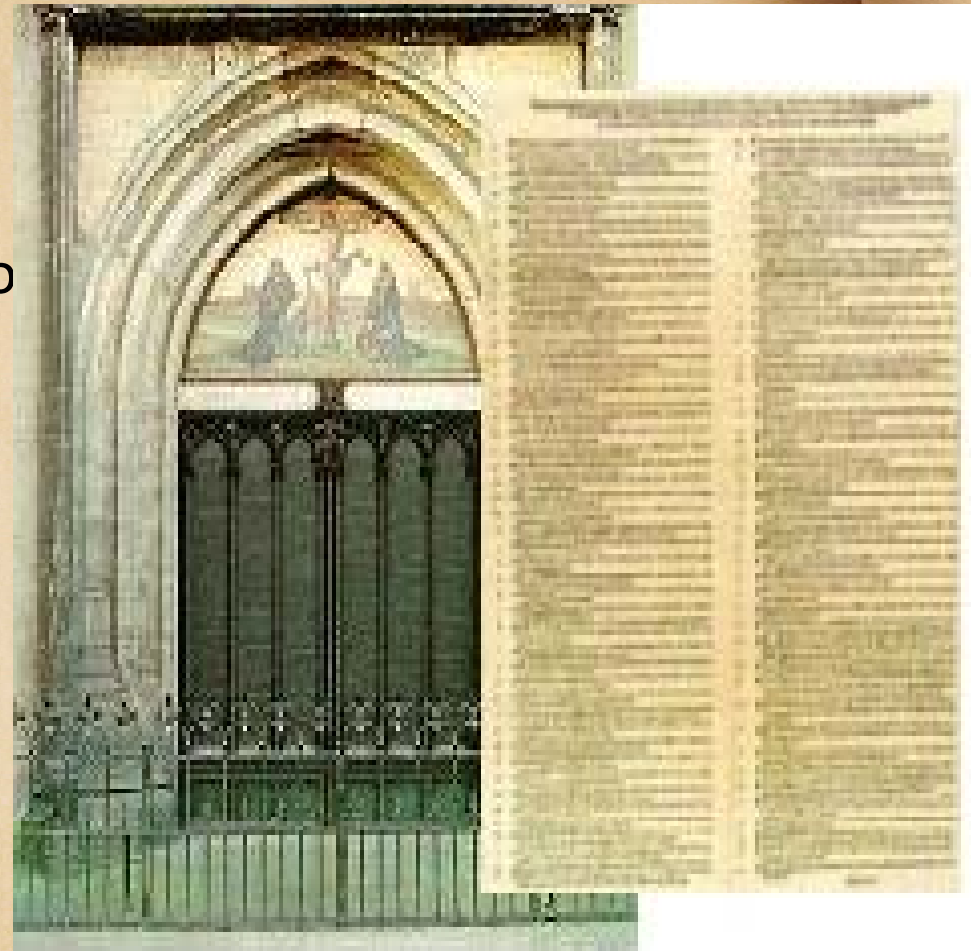






# The (In)Famous 95 Theses

- Posted October 31, 1517
- Intended to start an theological discussion among academics
- Posted on the church doo (the community bulletin board) in Latin (not the common language of the people)
- Luther's students translated them into German, had copies printed, and widely distributed them





# Martin Luther and Leipzig

## 1519



# Luther: The “Wild Boar”

- In 1520 Luther laid his axe at the root of the Roman Catholic church by publishing 5 major books exposing various corruptions\*
  - *Treatise on Good Works*
  - *The Papacy of Rome*
  - *Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation*
  - *Babylonian Captivity of the Church*
  - *The Freedom of the Christian*
- In 1520 Luther also published many other less substantial writings
- In total his literary output against church corruption was prolific in 1520

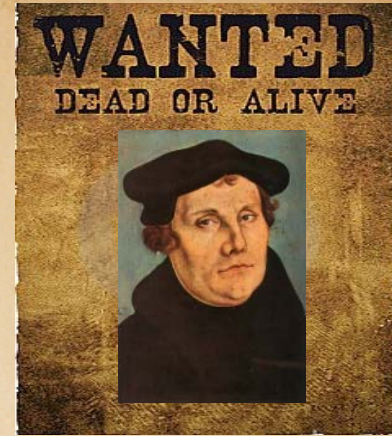


\* See page 161 in Turning Points for details regarding the content of these books



# A Wanted Man

- In June 1520 the pope issued the papal bull (written mandate) *Exsurge Domine* (Latin: Rise up O Lord!)
  - It called Luther “the wild boar from the forest” whose tongue was a “fire”
  - It accused Luther of seeking to destroy the church
- Luther was now a criminal in the sight of the church and the civil magistrate
- Luther publically burned a copy of the papal bull thereby becoming a fugitive from the emperor and the pope
- In 1521 Luther secured a “safe conduct” pass to his hearing before the emperor Charles V in Worms (in Germany)



# Luther's Trial: The Diet of Worms





# Three Parties at the Trial



1. The Accused:  
Martin Luther



2. The Holy Roman  
Emperor: Charles V



3. The Church: Italian  
Church Officials

# Diet of Worms

- Date: April 18, 1521





# Diet of Worms

**“Therefore I ask by the mercy of God, may your most serene majesty, most illustrious lordships, or anyone at all who is able, either high or low, bear witness, expose my errors, overthrowing them by the writings of the prophets and the evangelists. Once I have been taught I shall be quite ready to renounce every error, and I shall be the first to cast my books in the fire.”**

- Luther was asked to be more clear and answer the question: “Will you recant or not?”
- Luther replied, **“Since then your serene majesty and your lordships seek a simple answer, I will give it in this manner, neither horned nor toothed...”**

# The Birth of Protestant



**“...Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. Here I stand. God help me!”**



# Official Response to Luther

- Charles V wrote, **“It is certain that a single friar errs in his opinion which is against all of Christendom and according to which all of Christianity will be and will always have been in error both in the past thousand years and even more in the present.”**
- Charles V thought it would be shameful if in his age **“not only heresy but suspicion of heresy or decrease of the Christian religion should through our negligence dwell after us in the heart of men and our successors to our perpetual dishonor.”**



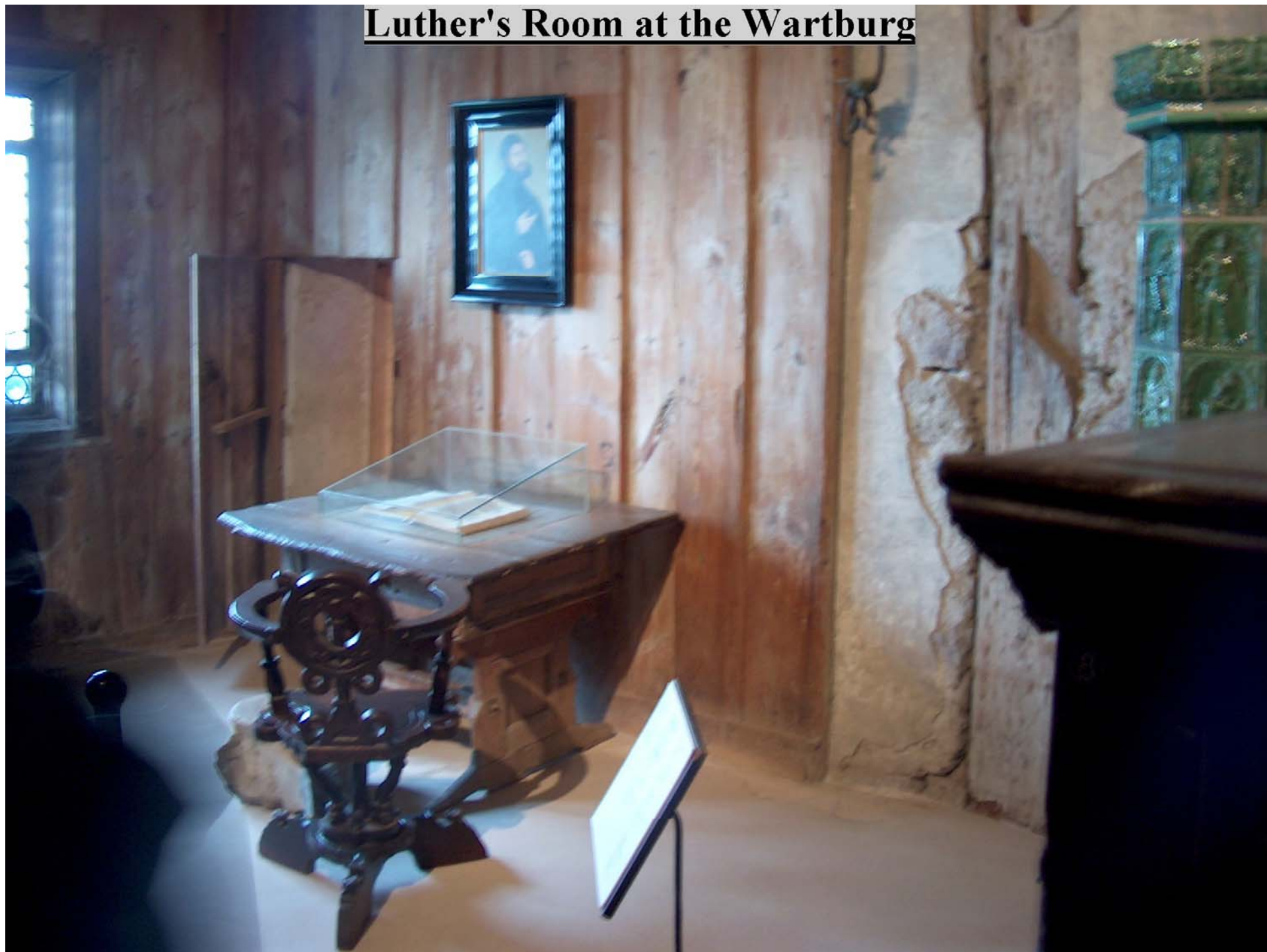
# Wartburg Castle

The Castle at Wartburg





## Luther's Room at the Wartburg



# Timeline of the German Reformation

- 1501-1505 At Erfurt University
- 1505- Joins Augustinian Monastery
- 1510- Trip to Rome
- 1511- Assigned to Wittenberg
- 1512- Becomes Doctor of Theology
- 1517- Indulgences and 95 Theses
- 1520- Given 60 Days to Recant
- 1521- Diet of Worms
- 1522-23 Abolition of the Full Mass and the Reforms begin