

2 Peter 1:16-21

- What is “the prophetic Word?”
- It is “more sure” than what?
- What are the implications of the Bible being God’s Word and not man’s opinion?



Lesson 10: The Church Responds to Reformation

The Birth of Protestantism

Luther in Germany

- On Ministry
 - Preach the Word!
- On Reform
 - Through out only that which contradicts
 - Slow to change what is not in direct violation of the NT
- On Interpretation
 - Championed a very literal hermeneutic



Reformed Worship

- **The Word of God takes center stage**
 - Preaching and Teaching the Scriptures
 - Rearrange the church to face the pulpit
- **The People Participate**
 - Services in German not Latin
 - Congregational participation (singing, reciting)
 - Weekly observance of the Lord's Supper

Reformed Society

- Monasteries and Nunneries almost cease to exist
- Every vocation “religious”
 - Living life to the glory of God
 - Being Salt and Light within society
 - A godly cobbler is not to put little crosses on his shoes, but to make the best shoes that he knows how.

Reformed Church Government

- No more Popes, Cardinals, and Bishops
- Luther needed a way to unify the reformation without descending into anarchy
 - “Temporarily” placed civil government as overseers
 - Christian magistrates and lords acting as lay leaders
 - The state ran church was born

Luther's Legacy

- **Not a Perfect Man**
 - Often coarse & crass
 - Clashed with others
- **But a Faithful man**
 - Translated the NT in German
 - Committed to the Scriptures



Zwingli in Switzerland

- 1484-1531
- Early student of Erasmus
- Educated in Basel
 - Thomas Wyttenbach
 - Anti-Indulgences
 - Salvation through faith alone in Christ alone
- Entered the Priesthood
 - Glarus (1506-1516)
 - Einsiedeln (1516-1518)
 - Zurich (1518-1531)



Reformed Worship

- Began preaching verse-by-verse through the New Testament
 - Did not follow the prescribed readings
 - Actually preached through whole books and explained them
- After the break from Rome (1522)
 - Centered around the preaching of the word
 - Bible readings, prayers, and a sermon
 - Did not observe the Lord's Supper weekly
 - Desired all worship to be dictated by the NT

Relationship with Luther

- One would think that the German and Swiss reformers would have been allies
 - Same view of Indulgences (Abhorrent)
 - Same view of the Pope (Antichrist)
 - Same Soteriology
 - By God's grace alone
 - Through faith alone
 - In Christ's life, death, and resurrection alone
 - As found in Holy Scripture alone
 - To the Glory of God alone
- The two did not see eye to eye

The Lord's Supper Debate

- Agreement that Transubstantiation is false
 - The Bread and Wine actually becomes Christ's body and blood with the blessing of the priest
- Luther opted for consubstantiation
 - The elements not transformed
 - But Christ's body and blood are over, under, around, and throughout the elements
 - "This is my body... This is my blood."
- Zwingli preferred a memorial view
 - A time of Remembrance
 - "Do this in remembrance of me"

The Baptism Debate

- Zwingli's view of Scripture's sufficiency became infectious
 - Some of his followers began to question infant baptism
 - A few families refused to bring their babies in for baptism
- Public Debate held in 17 January 1525
 - Zwingli spoke in favor of infant baptism
 - Conrad Grebel & Felix Mantz argued for believer's baptism

The Swiss Brethren & Anabaptists

- 21 January 1525 (4 days later) 16 men gathered at Felix Mantz' home
 - Conrad Grebel baptized a man named George Blaurock who then baptized the other 15.
 - They began meeting together, taking the Lord's supper together, become their own church
- Most were arrested, fined, banished, or left
 - Returned and arrested in the fall
 - Imprisoned and tried many times
 - March 1526 anyone "re"baptizing would be sentenced to death (by drowning)

Zwingli's Legacy

- **Not a Perfect Man**
 - Collided with Luther
 - Spearheaded the fight against anabaptists
 - Died (1531) in battle, not in the pulpit
- **But a Faithful Man**
 - Published the NT (1524) and OT (1530) into Swiss-German
 - Driven by the text of Scripture



Conclusion

- God used normal men who were faithful to His Word
- The Holy Word of God caused, supported, and sustained reformation