

THE CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE AGES

- Most European people in the middle ages were very religious.
- The church had a great influence on the lives of people through public rituals and ceremonies.
- Religion was strong and of great importance in the beliefs and practise of the ordinary communities.
- The Pope had considerable power at his disposal and the ability to appoint archbishops, bishops, abbots and other clerical offices.
- The Pope had authority to reserve or forgive sins and to threaten excommunication to anyone who resisted the many taxes and fees that were levied upon clergy and church activities. Church benefits were essentially up for sale.
- The rich could afford to have their family members appointed to influential church positions and could ensure that church rules could be placed aside for the person who paid the right fee.
- The Bible was in Latin as the words themselves were powerful and had to be preserved.
- The Latin liturgy was considered to posses the same power as the Bible. They came from God and conveyed power to those who used them even if they were not understood.



This disparity between a desire for genuine religious life on the part of the simple people, and the decaying political games of the church hierarchy, became a source of great stress. The church was not providing what people anxious for salvation wanted.'

The essence of the reformation, Birkett,K 1998 Matthias Media, p31

Political context

- Germany as known today did not exist but there were German-speaking territories of the Holy Roman Empire.
- The emperor of the Holy Roman Empire was elected from the ranks of the powerful. The emperor had nominal control over most of Europe, as there was no central government.
- German cities and princes had a great deal of independence.
- As the church was both a political and religious body, the bishops had a great deal of power. They could be territorial rulers and as powerful as the princes.

Social context

- The German states were experiencing problems in relation to order and public peace.
- Country areas were plagued with feuds and bandits.
- There was no official legal system. Nobility believed they were above the law.
- German universities were flourishing.
- Number of jobs was not increasing at the same rate.
- Printing was invented.

TIME LINE

<p>Martin Luther</p>	<p>1450</p>	<p>1480</p>	<p>1500</p>	<p>1510</p>	<p>1520</p>	<p>1530</p>	<p>1540</p>
	<p>1483 born at Eiselben to Hans and Margaretha Luder. 1484 family moves to Mansfield, father works in copper mines.</p>	<p>1501 Enters university of Erfurt 1505 earns BA at Erfurt, begins law studies. Thunderstorm on July 2 vows to become a monk; enters order of Augustinian Hermits 1507 ordained and celebrates first mass 1509 becomes bachelor of Bible</p>	<p>1510 visits Rome 1511 transferred to Augustiniana house at Wittenberg 1512 becomes doctor of theology 1515 appointed district vicar over ten monasteries 1517 posts 95 Theses on indulgences 1518 October, appears before Cardinal Cajetan at Augsburg, but refuses to recant December, Frederick the wise protects Luther from being handed over to Rome 1519 debates professor John Eck at Leipzig and denies supreme authority of popes and councils</p>	<p>1520 Papal Bull Exsurge Domine gives Luther 60 days to recant or be excommunicated; burns papal bull and canon 1521 Excommunicated by the papal bull Decret Romanum Ponticem; at Diet of Worms in April, he refuses to recant writings, and edict condemns him as heretic and outlaw; he's kidnapped and hidden at Wartburg Castle; begins translating the New Testament 1522 March comes out of hiding and returns to Wittenberg 1524 Staupitz dies 1525 writes Against the Robbing and Murdering Hordes, criticising the Peasant's revolt; marries Katherine von Bora 1526 writes German Mass 1527 fights sickness and intense depression; writes A Mighty Fortress; 1529 publishes the Large Catechism and Small Catechism;</p>	<p>1530 Luther's father dies as outlaw cannot attend the Diet of Augsburg, held in attempt to end religious division in the empire; Melancthon presents Augsburg Confession, a statement of Lutheran beliefs 1531 mother, Margaretha dies 1532 given the Augustinian cloister in Wittenberg for his home 1534 publishes German Bible 1536 agrees to Wittenberg concord on the Lord's Supper, in attempt to resolve differences with other reformers, but Zwinglians do not accept it 1537 draws up Schmalkaldic Articles as his 'theological last will and testament'</p>	<p>1546 dies in Eiselben, February 18 1552 Katherine von Bora dies</p>	

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	1450		1500	1510	1520	1530	1540
<p>Other reformers</p>	<p>1484 Ulrich Zwingli born 1491 Henry VIII born 1497 Melancthon born</p>	<p>1505 John Knox born 1509 John Calvin born Henry VIII begins reign and marries Catherine of Aragon</p>	<p>1516 Erasmus published Greek New Testament 1518 Melancthon becomes Professor of Greek at Wittenberg 1519 Zwingli begins New Testament sermons; Swiss reformation is born</p>	<p>1521 religious unrest in Wittenberg; private masses abolished; Karlstadt serves communion in both elements, religious statues destroyed; Pope titles Henry VIII 'Defender of the Faith' for attacking Luther's view of the sacraments 1522 Zwingli's first Reformation debates 1523 first two Reformation martyrs burned at the stake in Belgium 1525 Anabaptist movement begins in Zurich, spreads to Germany 1526 Reformation spreads to Sweden and Denmark 1527 first Protestant university (Marburg) founded 1528 Bern, Switzerland becomes Protestant 1529 Name Protestant first used</p>	<p>1531 Zwingli killed in battle 1534 Henry VIII becomes the supreme head of Church of England 1535 Anabaptist uprising at Muster put down and Anabaptists executed 1536 first edition of Calvin's Institutes; William Tyndale, Bible translator, burned at stake; Denmark and Norway become Lutheran; Erasmus dies 1538 Calvin expelled from Geneva</p>	<p>1540 Society of Jesus (Jesuits) formed 1541 Calvin returns to Geneva from exile 1547 Henry VIII dies</p>	

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	1450	1480	1500	1510	1520	1530	1540
World events	<p>1452 Leonardo da Vinci born</p> <p>1453 Turks capture Constantinople</p> <p>1455 Gutenberg completes printing the Bible using movable type</p> <p>1470 Portuguese explorers discover Gold Coast of Africa</p> <p>1473 Copernicus born</p> <p>1478 Spanish Inquisition set up</p>	<p>1485 Treaty of Leipzig divides Saxony</p> <p>1492 Columbus' first voyage to the Americas</p> <p>1493 the pope divides the New World between Spain and Portugal</p> <p>1495 Leonardo da Vinci's 'Last Supper'</p> <p>1497 Vasco de Gama discovers west coast of India</p> <p>1499 Swiss gain independence</p>	<p>1502 Frederick, elector of Saxony founds the Wittenberg University</p> <p>1506 Pope Julius orders work on St Peter's dome</p> <p>De Vinci's Mona Lisa</p> <p>1508 Michelangelo begins painting Sistine Chapel ceiling</p>	<p>1510 first shipload of African slaves arrives in Hispaniola (Haiti)</p> <p>1513 Leo X (Giovanni Medici) pope; Balboa discovers the Pacific Ocean</p> <p>Albert of Brandenburg becomes elector and archbishop of Mainz</p> <p>1516 Thomas More publishes Utopia</p> <p>1517 Tetzel hired by Albert of Mainz to sell indulgences</p> <p>1519 Charles I of Spain is elected Holy Roman Emperor</p> <p>Charles V; Cortes enters Aztec capital, Tenochtitlan</p>	<p>1520 Suleiman I becomes sultan of the Ottoman Empire (Turks)</p> <p>1521 Pope Leo X dies, succeeded Hadrian VI</p> <p>1522 Magellan's expedition completes circumnavigation of the globe; German knights organise against the emperor; France attacks Charles V</p> <p>1523 Clement VII becomes pope</p> <p>1524 Peasant wars begin; Diet of Nuremberg fails to enforce Edict of Worms condemning Luther</p> <p>1525 Charles V defeats Francis I; Elector Frederick the Wise dies; France makes pact with Suleiman I</p> <p>1527 Imperial troops sack Rome; plague strikes Wittenberg</p> <p>1529 Turks lay siege to Vienna</p>	<p>1531 Schmalkaldic League, a body of German Protestant groups forms in self defence against Charles V</p> <p>1532 Diet of Regensburg and Peace of Nuremberg guarantee religious toleration in the face of Turkish threat</p> <p>1533 Ivan 'the Terrible' (age 3) ascends the Russian throne</p> <p>1534 Paul becomes pope</p> <p>1539 Frankfurt Truce declared between Catholic and Protestant territories</p>	<p>1540 Conferences at Hagenau and Worms fail to reconcile Protestants and Catholics</p> <p>1541 at Conference of Regensburg, Melancthon and Bucer reach agreement with Catholics on most doctrines, but Luther and Rome reject their work,</p> <p>1543 Copernicus writes that earth revolves around sun; John Eck dies</p> <p>1545 Ferdinand I and Suleiman I agree to truce; Council of Trent, for reform of Catholic Church, opens</p> <p>1555 Peace of Augsburg allows rulers to determine religion of their region</p>

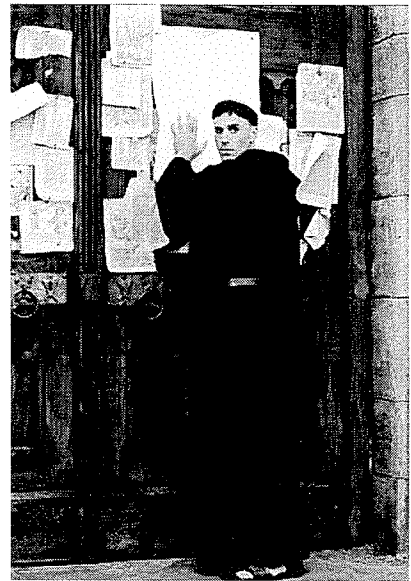
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MARTIN LUTHER

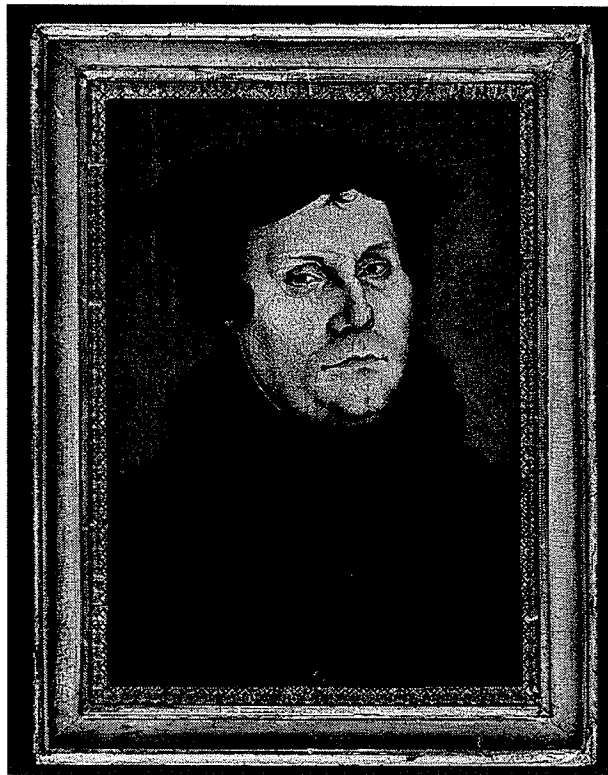
- 1483 Born at Eisleben to Hans and Margaretha Luder.
- 1484 Family moves to Mansfeld, father works in copper mines.
- 1501 Enters university of Erfurt
- 1505 Earns BA at Erfurt, begins law studies.
During thunderstorm on July 2 vows to become a monk; enters order of Augustinian Hermits
- 1507 Ordained and celebrates first mass
- 1509 Becomes bachelor of Bible
- 1510 Visits Rome for the first time and is somewhat disillusioned with some of the practices of the church and its priests
- 1511 Transferred to Augustinian house at Wittenberg
- 1512 Becomes Doctor of Theology
- 1515 Appointed district vicar over ten monasteries
- 1517 Posts 95 Theses on indulgences
- 1518 October, appears before Cardinal Cajetan at Augsburg, but refuses to recant
December, Frederick the wise protects Luther from being handed over to Rome
- 1519 Debates Professor John Eck at Leipzig and denies supreme authority of popes and councils
- 1520 Papal Bull Exurge Domine gives Luther 60 days to recant or be excommunicated; writes three seminal documents: To the Christian Nobility, On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church and The Freedom of the Christian, burns papal bull and canon
- 1521 Excommunicated by the papal bull Decet Romanum Ponticem; at Diet of Worms in April, he refuses to recant writings, and edict condemns him as heretic and outlaw; he's kidnapped and hidden at Wartburg Castle; begins translating the New Testament
- 1522 March comes out of hiding and returns to Wittenberg
- 1524 Debates Karlstadt on the Lord's Supper, Staupitz dies
- 1525 Writes Against the Heavenly Prophets; writes Against the Robbing and Murdering Hordes, criticising the Peasant's revolt; marries Katherine von Bora
- 1526 Writes German Mass; becomes a father to son Hans
- 1527 Fights sickness and intense depression; writes A Mighty Fortress; daughter Elizabeth born; writes against Zwingli's views on the Lord's Supper
- 1528 Grieves death of Elizabeth; visits churches



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- 1529 Attends Marburg Colloquy with Zwingli, but no agreement reached on the Lord's Supper; publishes the Large Catechism and Small Catechism; daughter Magdalena born
- 1530 Luther's father dies as outlaw cannot attend the Diet of Augsburg, held in attempt to end religious division in the empire; Melancthon presents Augsburg Confession, a statement of Lutheran beliefs
- 1531 Son, Martin born; mother, Margaretha dies
- 1532 Is given the Augustinian cloister in Wittenberg for his home
- 1533 Son, Paul born
- 1534 Publishes German Bible, daughter Margaret born
- 1536 Agrees to Wittenberg concord on the Lord's Supper, in attempt to resolve differences with other reformers, but Zwinglians do not accept it
- 1537 Draws up Schmalkaldic Articles as his 'theological last will and testament'
- 1542 Daughter Magdalena dies
- 1546 Dies in Eisleben, February 18
- 1552 Katherine von Bora dies



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