



SERMON NOTES

Week 3 October 9, 2022

“The Reformation”

Romans 1:17; Psalm 46; Revelation 3:14-19

I. Martin Luther

- A. As time went on, the Church seemed to be getting _____ away from what Christ intended.
- B. Luther’s theology was influenced by Romans 1:17, which states that you don’t _____ salvation.
- C. Luther becomes disillusioned about the Church on his trip to _____.

II. The Reformation

- A. In 1515, Pope Leo X authorized the sale of _____.
- B. In 1517, Luther drafted the 95 _____: 95 protests against the church in his day.
- C. Luther’s sermons capture the _____ of the Reformation:
 - We are justified by God’s grace.
 - We receive that justification by faith alone.
 - The will of God is revealed in Scripture.
 - Scripture alone, stands above anything the Church can say.
 - The priesthood of all believers.

III. Lessons from the Reformation

- A. Christians and the church are in constant need of _____.
- B. We are called to _____ and offer our lives to Christ.
- C. When the Church is not welcoming and loving all people it is in need of _____.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *October 10-15, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther changed history forever. His hammer, nail and list of 95 beliefs rocked the most powerful empire of his day. What did he believe that was so explosive? How did Martin Luther ultimately change the way we think about God?

Monday: Galatians 2:15-21

After struggling with his faith, Luther discovered he could not earn salvation. When Paul wrote “we KNOW that a person isn’t made righteous by the works of the Law,” he wasn’t speaking hypothetically. He’d once been sure his own religious credentials were enough to earn God’s favor (cf. Philippians 3:3-7), only to realize even that kind of holiness fell far short. What’s your experience? What has helped you realize your need for God’s redeeming love and grace?

Tuesday: 1 Peter 2:4-10

One of Luther’s projects that re-shaped the world was translating the Bible into German. Since God called all Christians to be priests, he believed they should be able to read the Bible for themselves. Today there is a wide range of English translations of the Bible, and we can access them through tools like www.biblegateway.com. Yet we often don’t read our Bibles much. How will you deepen your understanding and application of the Bible in your own life?

Wednesday: Psalm 46:1-11

All through his life, Luther battled against anxiety and depression. During those difficult seasons he found strength and comfort in Psalm 46. Luther based one of his greatest, most enduring hymns on Psalm 46, “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” Where do you find comfort in the difficult seasons of life?

Thursday: Revelation 2:1-5

In 1510, Luther visited Rome and noted that the Priests were incompetent. No doubt even those Roman priests wouldn’t have said their goal was to be incompetent and ignorant. But over time, matters that once seemed important can become routine, especially if we forget why we are doing them. Is there any part of your faith journey (e.g. worship, prayer, Bible reading, communion) that once mattered a lot, but now feels routine, or even abandoned?

Friday: Ezekiel 34:1-8

A big reason Luther posted his 95 Theses in 1517 was the sale of “indulgences.” The pope would “pardon” some or all of a person’s time in purgatory (itself an extra-Biblical idea), and sell the pardons to finance various projects. When, or on what kinds of issues, should we honor and defer to leaders even if we disagree with them? When is it worth saying, like Luther later did, “Here I stand. I can do no other”?

MOVING FORWARD

Martin Luther reformed the Church of the 16th century. The lesson we learn from this part of church history is that Christians and the Church are in constant need of reform. We have this tendency to stray from the path God has set out before us. It’s what happened in the early church, it happened in the Renaissance period and it happens in our churches today. As Christians, we are called to repent and offer ourselves to Christ. As the church, we need to make sure we are welcoming and loving to all people. If that’s not happening, reform is needed.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) further, B) earn, C) Rome. IIA) indulgences, B) Theses. IIC) theology. IIIA) reformation, B) repent, C) reform.