

The Protestant Reformation



**Presented on
October 7, 2017
Robert Walsh**



AGENDA

- **The Days of Paul**
- **After the Days of Paul**
- **Pre-Reformation Outbursts for Reform**
- **The Reformation Proper**
- **The Doctrines of the Reformation**
- **The Early Geographical Spread of the Reformation**
 - England, Poland, Ireland, France, Russia
- **The Children of the Reformers**
 - The Anabaptists
 - The Puritans
- **References**

The Days of Paul

Paul's Apostolic Warning of Apostasy

Paul's Apostolic Warning (1 of 4)

- Acts 20:26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.
- 27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.
- 28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
- 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.
- 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Paul's Apostolic Warning (2 of 4)

- Paul has taught the Ephesians ALL of the Gospel ... the full Pauline Gospel is known BEFORE the end of the Book of Acts
- Paul warns that after his departure from the Ephesian Elders that wolves will come in (from outside) and devour them and the saints.
- Paul even warns that wolves will come from among “them” (the Ephesians and their Elders especially)
- Ephesus is in the Province of Asia of Modern-Day Turkey. Paul spent a significant amount of his ministry in this area. Three years!
- Will they reject the Gospel which Paul taught?

Paul's Apostolic Warning (3 of 4)

- 2 Tim 1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.
- 14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.
- 15 This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

Paul's Apostolic Warning (4 of 4)

- Paul admonishes Timothy to hold fast to that which he was taught by Paul
- The Pauline Gospel which was committed to Paul is now committed to Timothy
- The Wolves prophesied about years before had come to roost and all in Asia had abandoned Paul's Gospel.

After The Days of Paul

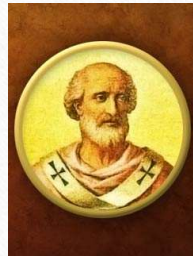
Little Represents Paul's Gospel

Little Represents Paul's Gospel (1 of 2)

- **Within a few generations Paul's Gospel is completely perverted.**
- **The distinction between Israel and the Body of Christ is blurred or completely gone.**
- **Clergy begin to appear, and "organizations" take control of the "organism" which Paul calls the Body of Christ.**
- **Local Pauline Assemblies become part of the "Organization" and cease to exist.**
- **For the most part, Paul's Gospel is Lost!**

Little Represents Paul's Gospel (2 of 2)

- Finally, Boniface III crowned “universal bishop” in 607 AD
- With Boniface III the “organization” is in place throughout the Roman world



- **The Great East-West Schism in 1054 AD, where:**
 - Rome rules the West (Roman Catholic Church)
 - Constantinople rules the East (Eastern Orthodox Church)

Pre-Reformation Outbursts for Reform

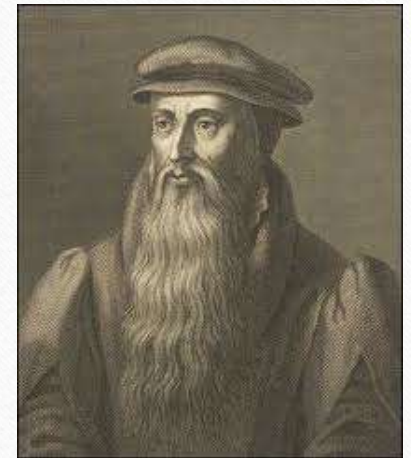
Voices crying in the wilderness

Pre-Reformation

- **Peter Waldo (12th Century) and the Waldensians**
- **John Wycliffe (14th Century) and the Lollards**
- **John (Jan) Hus (14th and 15th Centuries) and the Bohemian Brethren**

Peter Waldo and the Waldensians (1 of 2)

- **Peter Waldo (1140-1205 A.D.), probably a wealthy and educated clothing merchant.**
- **Apparently became a Christian upon hearing a sermon on the life of St. Alexis (5th Century “Saint”)**
- **Upon the study of Scripture came to disbelieve**
 - The Doctrine of Transubstantiation
 - The Doctrine of Purgatory
 - Papal authority (in a limited way perhaps)
 - Extreme wealth (his own – gave to his wife)

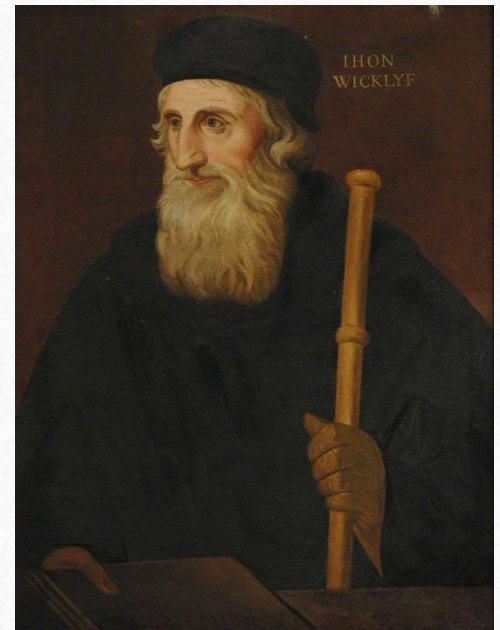


Peter Waldo and the Waldensians (2 of 2)

- **Waldensians existed before Peter Waldo**
- **Believed in the following doctrines (limited list):**
 - Efficacious atoning work of Christ
 - Justification in Christ alone
 - The Trinity
 - Christ as God the Son incarnate
 - No purgatory
- **Later identified themselves with the Calvinists of the Reformation**

John Wycliffe and the Lollards (1 of 2)

- **John Wycliffe (132x-1384 A.D.), theologian at Oxford.**
- **Upon the study of Scripture came to believe**
 - Sola Scriptura
 - Predestination
- **Disbelieved in**
 - Papal Authority
 - Church Infrastructure
 - Purgatory
 - Celibacy
 - Monasticism
 - Indulgences
 - Transubstantiation (held to Consubstantiation [Like the Lutherans of the 16th Century])

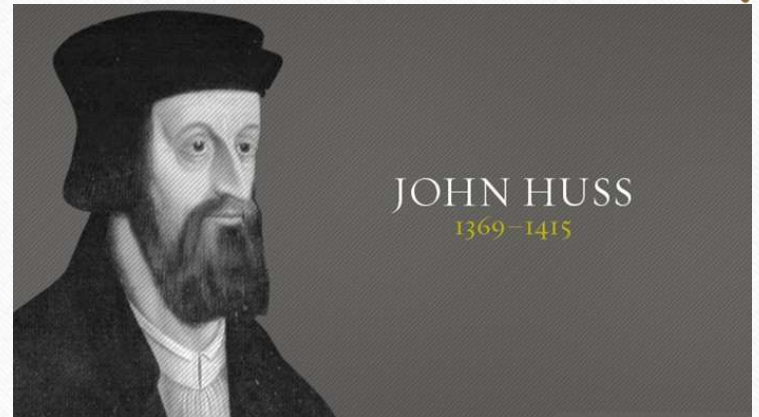


John Wycliffe and the Lollards (2 of 2)

- **Translated Bible from the Latin Vulgate into English (Middle English – that of Chaucer)**
- **Highly influenced Jon Hus**
- **Declared to be a heretic (1415) [31 years after his death (1384)]**
 - Body dug up, bones burned, and ashes thrown into the Swift River (1428)
- **Lollards of England identified with Wycliffe**
 - Educated people, but only in English [thus, not part of the Academic Elites]
 - Consubstantiation
 - No Baptismal regeneration
 - Confession was unscriptural
 - Disbelieved in saint worship

Jon Hus and the Bohemian Brethren (1 of 2)

- **John of Husinetz (shorten to Hus(s))(1369-1415 A.D.).**
- **Originally a Catholic-Czech Priest**
- **The impact of Wycliffe upon the Czech Church can not go understated**
- **The University of Prague given over to the doctrines of Wycliffe**
- **Hus held that**
 - Communion should consist of BOTH bread and wine for the congregation
 - Indulgences and simony are to be condemned
 - Purgatory is anti-Biblical
 - Confession was unbiblical
 - Religious rites, rituals, and image worship are to be rejected
 - The Bible teaches predestination
 - Popery is to be condemned
 - *“To rebel against an erring pope, is to obey Christ”*



Jon Hus and the Bohemian Brethren (2 of 2)

- **The outright murder of Hus by burning led to the great Bohemian Revolt (1415-1436 A.D.)**
- **The Bohemian Revolt held to all of the future Luther's claims**
 - Rejected masses for the dead
 - Rejected the veneration of relics
 - Rejected purgatory
 - Held to the Scriptures being the final authority over the hearts and minds of men
- **John Hus provided the foundation for the future Martin Luther**
 - A foundation that started with Wycliffe and the Waldensians

The Reformation Proper

The Greatest Movement of Western Civilization

The Reformation Proper (1 of 10)

- **Both the political and religious ground had been laid by the Pre-Reformers**
- **Christendom is now ready to be freed from the tyranny of Rome**
- **The Pre-Reforms in England (Wycliffe), France (Waldo), and the Slavic States (Hus) wash over into the rich German States of central Europe**

The Reformation Proper (2 of 10)

- A very talented law student (University of Erfurt) grows wearisome of life and looks for something more, much more!
- Believing he can find happiness and the answers to his heart in the Medieval Church, he quits law school and enters the cloister of the Augustinians (a very fortuitous choice), eventually receiving his Ph.D. (the equivalent thereof) in theology
- Seeking to find answers to his weary heart and mind, he dives into Scripture to find the answers to his *agony of soul*.
 - ***Who is this dear soul?***

The Reformation Proper (3 of 10)

- **Martin Luther finds the answer to his weary soul...**
 - Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, *The just shall live by faith.*
 - Angered by the flagrant abuses of Tetzel selling indulgences, Luther pens his 95 theses and nails them to the Church Door of Wittenberg (a common practice).
 - *All of Europe is set ablaze!*
 - The fire can not be quenched!
 - **The date is October 31, 1517 – a day that will live in glory!**
 - A Saturday by the Julian Calendar (Today it would have been a Wednesday [Gregorian Calendar])



The Reformation Proper (4 of 10)

- **The media through the printing press goes wild (for the good).**
 - Within weeks 10s of thousands of copies are made
 - Within months Luther's 95 theses are translated into other languages
- ***! All of Europe is set ablaze!***

The Reformation Proper (5 of 10)

- **A Chronology of Luther's Activities**

- Reformation begins with Luther's 95 Theses – October 31, 1517
- Defends his doctrine at Augsburg against Cardinal Cajetan – October 12, 1518
- Luther authors his Three Treatises – 1520
 - *To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation Respecting the Reformation of the Christian Estate* [August]
 - *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church* [September]
 - *A Treatise on Christian Liberty* [October]
- Luther Excommunicated by Papal Bull – 1520
 - The corrupt Pope Leo X (“Arise, Oh Lord...”)

The Reformation Proper (6 of 10)

- **Diet (Assembly) of Worms (Free German City) [1521]**
 - Luther is shown his writings and asked to recant
 - Luther asks for time and is granted 24 hours
 - The Greatest Moment in Western Civilization since the time of Paul”

“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 will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. (Here I stand, I can do no other.) May God help me. Amen”

The Reformation Proper (7 of 10)

- On the way back home, the Great Duke Fredrick (through the hand of Spalatin) kidnaps Luther and hides him in the Castle Wartburg for more than a year. – 1521
- Luther returns to Wittenberg and cleans up the mess made by his one-time friend Carlstadt – 1522
- Luther marries Katharina von Bora (former Catholic Nun) – 1525
- Luther publishes the Larger Catechism – 1529
- The Augsburg Confession written (by Phillip Melanchthon) but rejected by the Diet. The Princes of Germany stand by it. - 1530
- Luther wins the day !
- A Mighty Fortress is Written by Luther – 1533
- Luther presents his Articles of Faith to the League of Rulers and Theologians – 1537
- Luther dies - 1546

The Reformation Proper (8 of 10)

- **Whereas Luther was the match that started the fire, Calvin was the systematizer who solidified the Reformation flames for good.**
- **John Calvin (July 10, 1509, to May 27, 1564)**
- **Trained as a Lawyer**
- **Broke from the Roman church in 1530 and lived in Switzerland (Basil and Geneva)**
- **Wrote the Reformation Standard Systematic in 1536 entitled, “*The Institutes of the Christian Religion*”**
 - Became the Systematic Theology of the Reformation World whose influence reached the outer ends of the earth.
- **Married Idelette de Bure (a former Anabaptist) - 1540**



The Reformation Proper (9 of 10)

- Calvin systematized the theology that is sadly named after him, *Calvinism*.
 - Absolute sovereignty of God
 - Predestination
 - Trinity
 - Justification by Faith
 - Particular Redemption came later by Calvin's theological children
 - Knowability of God
 - Original sin and the fall of man
 - Denies the Pope
 - Baptism and the Lord's Super as the only two sacraments
 - Denied transubstantiation, consubstantiation, and held to something close to Zwingli's symbolic view
- **Died in 1564**



The Reformation Proper (10 of 10)


- **Players of the Reformation, irrespective of Generation (1st or 2nd or 3rd)**
 - Martin Luther (1st) [1483-1546]
 - John Calvin (2nd) [1509-1564]
 - Phillip Melancthon (1st) [1497-1560]
 - Heinrich Bullinger (Related to E.W. Bullinger) (2nd) [1504-1575]
 - Theodore Beza (3rd) [1519-1605]
 - Ulrich Zwingli (1st) [1484-1531]
 - Martin Bucer (1st) [1491-1551]
 - Thomas Cranmer (1st) [1489-1556]
 - Thomas Cromwell (1st) [1485-1540]
 - William Farel (1st) [1489-1565]
 - John Knox (2nd) [1513-1572]
 - Hugh Latimer (1st) [1487-1555]
 - George Spalatin (1st) [1484-1545]
 - William Tyndale (1st) [1494-1536]

The Early Geographical Spread of the Reformation

The Hallmark Distinctions

The Early Geographical Spread of the Reformation



 The Religious Divisions of Europe, ca. 1555. Prior to 1520, all of Europe was Roman Catholic.

The Doctrines of the Reformation

The Hallmark Distinctions

The Doctrines of the Reformation

- **The Doctrine of Scripture**
 - Hermeneutics, Sola Scriptura
- **The Nature of Salvation**
 - Grace Alone, Christ Alone
- **Practical Matters**
 - Marriage of Priests and Nuns
 - Baptism and Communion
- **The Relationship of the Church and State**

The Children of the Reformers

The Anabaptists and the Puritans

The Children of the Reformers (1 of 7)

- **The Anabaptists**
- **Also called the *Radical* Reformers**
- **They went much further abandoning the Papacy than did most of the Reformation Fathers.**
- **Persecuted by both Catholic and Protestant**
- **ANA – BAPTIST**
 - Again – Baptize => Baptize Again
 - A person should be baptized only when he / she makes a profession of faith
 - No infant baptism (paedo baptism)

The Children of the Reformers (2 of 7)

- **The Anabaptists generally believed in:**
 - “Believers’ Baptism”
 - Premillennialism
 - Pacifism
 - Some “charismatic” traits
 - Home churches

The Children of the Reformers (3 of 7)

- **Early Leaders of the Anabaptist Movement**

- Felix Manz [1498-1527] (Drowned)
- Thomas Muentzer [1489-1525] (Beheaded)
- Balthasar Hubmaier [1480-1528] (Burned, wife drowned)
- Hans Hut [1490-1527] (Brutally tortured and accidentally died from asphyxiation due to a prison fire)
- Menno Simons [1496-1561] (Died of natural causes)
- Jacob Hutter [1500-1536] (Tortured and burned in front of the “Golden Roof” - never recanted)
- Conrad Grebel [1498-1526] (Died of natural causes)

The Children of the Reformers (4 of 7)

- **Children of the Anabaptists**

- Mennonites after Menno Simons
- Hutterites after Jacob Hutter
- Amish, an offshoot of the Mennonites influenced by Jacob Ammann (hence Amish)

The Children of the Reformers (5 of 7)

- **The Puritans**

- People who wanted to “cleanse” the Church of England from the errors of Catholicism
- Adopted much of the theology of Calvin
- Many in England were Millennialist
- Persecuted by non-Puritans
- Spread from England, to Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Holland, and America
- The American Founding Fathers were highly influenced by the American Puritans
- Greatly influenced the Presbyterian Churches in America

The Children of the Reformers (6 of 7)

- **Prominent English Puritans**

- John Bunyan [1628-1688] (Author of *Pilgrim's Progress*)
- Oliver Cromwell [1599-1658] (Lord Protectorate, Anti-Royalist)
- Thomas Cartwright [1535-1603] (Systematized Early English Puritan Theology)
- John Owen [1616-1683] (A non-conformist, Author of "*The Death of Death in the Death of Christ*")
- Richard Baxter [1615-1691] (Interestingly, rejected Particular Redemption)
- John Milton [1608-1674] (Author of *Paradise Lost*)

The Children of the Reformers (7 of 7)

- **Prominent American Puritans**

- Increase Mather [1639-1723] (Supported the Salem Witch Trials)
- Cotton Mather [1663-1728] (Scientist, theologian, supporter of the Salem Witch Trials)
- Jonathan Edwards [1703-1758] (America's Greatest Theologian, Author of *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*, His work on the Will of Man is still required reading in most Universities, Leader of the First Great Awakening [1730-1750])

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