#8 Luther’s 95 Thesis and Diet of Worms
1415 Council of Constance
“would die with gladness... in the truth of the gospel.”
“In a hundred years God will raise up a man whose calls for reforms cannot be suppressed.”
Reformation Day

Because theology nerds need a holiday, too!
Reformation Day
Because theology nerds need a holiday, too!
Pulpit and tomb of Martin Luther in Castle Church, Wittenberg
BE AWARE THAT SOME SCHOLARS (i.e. Peter Marshall from the University of Warwick) question whether this event occurred as claimed. Instead of nailing Luther may have mailed the thesis to his archbishop.
BACKGROUND ON THE MONK WITH A MESSAGE
WHY DID LUTHER ATTACH THIS NOTICE to THE CHURCH DOOR?

* Bulletin board

* Stimulate discussion

* Not fully reasoned arguments but sentences....

Sent copy with cover letter to Archbishop Albert
Sale of indulgences
I need money to build this.
Community Chest

GET OUT
OF JAIL FREE

THIS CARD MAY BE KEPT UNTIL NEEDED, OR SOLD
Castle Church, Wittenberg, Germany

20,000 relics by Frederick the Wise
I’ll show you part of the cloud from the ascension!
People bought them out of town, returned to Wittenburg, showed Luther.
Luther taught here:

Disturbed that some were using indulgence certificates as licenses to sin!
AMORE ET STUDIO ELUCIDANDAE
ut erat in suis, fuisse disputationis Viti
nenbergensis, Praesidio R. P. Martini Lutheri, Arntii et S. Theologiae Magistro, cuiu
demque ibidem lectori Ordinario. Quare petit ut qui non pos
tur uestri praeterea nobissem diffe
tur, agant id litteris abs

Quod uestri praeterea nobissem dicere

Non tamens foliis intexit interiori, intimo interior nulla est, nisi
foris operatur varias carnis mortificationes.

Vix Papa non ullius poculis, ullius potius, ullius praestitit num
quaerit quod est tuum uel canonum ipsum.

Nulli profisius remittit deus culpam, quin simul cum subjiciat
multum in omnibus faceret eum uicit.

Inde bene nobis factum spiritu sanctus in Papa; excipit in su
is de mortuis tempore mortis, et neceffitas.

Inde et male factum speciosa totius, qui mortuus praestitit
Canones praestitit in purgatorio referunt.

Zizania illa de mutanda poena Canonica in poenæ purgatio
rimentur certe dormientibus Episcopis feminatis.

Olim poena canonicis non posse, sed ante absolutionem impo
tebantur, tamen etiam uerae contritionis,

DISPUTATIO DE VIRTUE INDULGEN.

xiiij Morituru, per mortem omnium solutu, et legibus canonum morti
tui tum sunt habentur ore carmi relaxalemus.

xiiij Imperfecta fiant fides charitatis mortui, necessario secum fier
e magistrum timorem, titui maior, quia minor fuerit ipsa.

xv Exterius malorum & horribilis eft, fe folii (ut aliis taceant) facere po
nam pugnotorii, cum fiet proximus desperationis horribilis.

xvij Videntur, infernus, pugnotorium, celum differt; sic depe
dratio, prope desperationi, secundas differt.

xvij Neceffarium uidentur animabat in pugnotorium sicut minuor hon
orace, imma ueritatis.

xviii Nesciunt uidentur ullis, aut rationibus, aut scripturis, qui fine
extra satum meritis feci augendae charitatis.

xc Nec hoc probat eft, uidentur, qui fint de tua beatitudine certe
et securi, saltem os, licet nos certissimi simus.

xx Igis Papa per remissionem plenaria omnium penitentiae, non simplici
iter omnium intellegit, sed a fepiro minimo impossibitis.

xxi Errat itaque indulgentiae praecedentes, qui dicunt per Pas
dignatas, hominum ab omnium pecunia soli et salutari.

xxii Quin nullam remittit animabat in pugnotorium, qua in hac ut
i se differt secundum Canones foliuc.

xxiij Si remissionem omni omnium pecunia poterit dati, certe
etiam non nisi perfclifimis, et pacificissimi.

xxiiij Falli ob id necesse est, maiorum parte populi; per indifferen
tiam magnificam poenæ solau lectione promissionem.

xxv Quae posse habet, Papa ipu pugnotorii gnaliere talis habet
sibi Episcopus, et curare in sua dioecese, et parochii ipsiales.

Optime facit Papa, qui non posse habet (quae nullam habet)
se per modum fulfillit, et animabat remissionem.

Hominum praeclaram, qui uulmi, ut siue nuncum in canam nii
mieris, uelolare dicant animam.

Certi enim in canam nittente, augeri quaelibet et aquai
ctiones polle; fulfillit et ecclesie est et arbitrio de folius.

Quis fecit si omnes animas in pugnotorium uelint reditum, facit de
fante Sessorino, et pacific hastam narratur.

Nullus lectus est de ueritate sine contritionis; multo minus

a ii
“Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when he said *Penitentian agite* “Do Penance” [actually in the Greek means “Change your mind] willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance.”
Pope “does not intend to remit and cannot remit any penalties other than those which he has imposed either by his own authority or by the canons of church law.”
LUTHER REFERS TO POPE OVER 30X
Latin, not German!
WHAT WAS RESULT OF POSTING?

I DON'T ALWAYS NAIL THINGS TO CHURCH DOORS

BUT WHEN I DO, STUFF STARTS TO HAPPEN.
RESULT?

Someone had 95 thesis translated, printed, and widely distributed. Within month just about all of Germany had read them and then spread to rest of Europe.
LUTHER DEMONSTRATES COURAGE AT THE DIET OF WORMS
A rare photo of Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms
WHAT LED UP TO THE DIET OF WORMS?

**Diet** is Latin = formal assembly, council
“Luther is a drunk German. He’ll recant when he’s sober.”
After 3 years I issued a papal bull against Luther...
Bull = Latin ‘bulla’ = SEAL
Copy of Leo’s Papal Bull in book form with seal
In collection at Museum of Bible, Washington
PSALM 74....
Here are 41 errors by Luther
No one may “read, speak, preach, praise, consider, publish, or defend” any of Luther’s writings. They have 41 specific errors! All his writings should be burned publicly by everyone who doesn’t want to be burned himself.
“A wild boar has invaded the Lord’s vineyard.”
Many German towns burned the works of Luther in public ceremonies. But on Dec. 10 Wittenberg had its own burning...
Holy Roman Emperor (Charles V) sends invitation: “Come under safe conduct to answer in regard to your writings.”
Emperor Charles V guaranteed safe passage. Decided to submit; 2 wk journey by 2 wheel Saxon cart.

Supporters cheered along side of road. Arriving in Worms met by 2000 supporters.
Location where Diet held April 16, 1521
HIER STAND
VOR KÄISER UND REICH
MARTIN LUTHER
1521
“Did you write all these?”
“They are all mine!”
“Do you defend them?”
“Give me time to think.”
Following afternoon Diet reconvened with larger crowd

“DO YOU RECANT?”
“Since then your majesty and your lordships desire a simple reply. I will answer without horns or teeth. Unless I am convinced by Scripture and by plain reason I do not believe in the authority of either popes or councils by themselves, for it is plain that they have often erred and contradicted each other in those Scriptures that I have presented. **For my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything for it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience, God help me.**”
“Here I stand. I can do no other.
Hier stehe ich. Ich kann nicht anders.
STIRRING DEMONSTRATION OF COURAGE
“A humble Bible teacher and pastor dared to say NO to the assembled forces of early modern Europe, to the entire panoply of church and state, and to cite his own little conscience (surely a negligible phenomenon to the majority of his listeners) as the reason for his absolute, unannounced, unhedged rebellion.”
What happened when Luther left Worms?

III. LUTHER DEMONSTRATES COURAGE AT THE CASTLE OF WARTBURG
Frederick the Wise has soldiers guard Luther leaving town. Five men attack his wagon. Blindfold & take him to abandoned castle.
It was a cold and windy day when we climbed up and stood here.....
WHAT DID LUTHER DO WHILE CONFINED TO THE CASTLE? Spent time in this room....
Das rechte Bild ist eine historische Abbildung, die ein Mann in einem Raum zeigt, der mit Büchern beschwert ist. Die linke Seite zeigt ein altes Textbild mit lateinischen Buchstaben und Zeichen, die neben dem Bild nicht zu lesen sind. Das Bild scheint ein lutherisches Gesichtspunkt zu zeigen, aber ohne mehr Text zu lesen, ist es schwierig, eine genaue Aussage zu machen.
Luther completed the translation in c.2.5 months

1,000 pp printed daily secretly on 3 presses in Johannes Lufft’s workshop
The Light Shines In The Darkness
PRAY FOR GOD TO CONTINUE TO RAISE UP LEADERS IN OUR GENERATION
NEXT WEEK: The French Revolution