



LUTHER AND THE GERMAN REFORMATION: PART I

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- OVERVIEW OF LUTHER'S BEGINNINGS, ORIGINS OF HIS REFORMATION VIEWS, & EVENTS LEADING TO THE DIET OF WORMS IN AD 1521
- MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)
 - BORN IN EISLEBEN GERMANY--NOV 10, 1483
 - ELDEST OF SEVEN; STRICT PEASANT HOUSEHOLD IN COAL MINER TOWN
 - AT AGE 14, SENT TO FRANCISCAN SCHOOL AT MAGDEBURG
 - AT AGE 18, ENTERS UNIVERSITY OF ERFURT
 - ERFURT EMPHASIZED “OCKHAMIST” SCHOLASTICISM

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- LUTHER'S EARLY YEARS (CONT)
 - COMPLETES M.A. AT ERFURT--MAY, 1505
 - SUBSEQUENTLY BEGAN STUDIES TO BECOME A LAWYER
 - JULY, 1505--STRUCK BY LIGHTNING
 - “HELP ME, ST ANNE, I WILL BECOME A MONK”
 - ENTERS AUGUSTINIAN MONESTARY IN ERFURT
 - RIGID FASTING, PRAYER, & VIGIL
 - TORMENTED BY FITS OF *ANFECHTUNGEN* AND DEEP FEELINGS OF UNASSURANCE
 - STAUPITZ, VICAR GENERAL--DIRECTS LUTHER TOWARD THEOLOGICAL STUDY & SECRETS OF GRACE

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- **LUTHER'S EARLY YEARS (CONT)**
 - **AUGUSTINIAN MONESTARY IN ERFURT (CONT)**
 - **LUTHER PROVES HIS SCHOLARSHIP:**
 - **STUDIES SCHOLASTIC THEOLOGIANS (OCCAM, BIEL, D'AILLY, GERSON)**
 - **KNOWN FOR DILIGENCE AND SCHOLARSHIP**
 - **LUTHER SUMMONED TO TEACH THEOLOGY AT WITTENBERG (1508)**
- **LUTHER AT WITTENBERG:**
 - **INITIAL DUTIES–LECTURING ON PHILOSOPHY, NAMELY ARISTOTLE**
 - **CONVEYS THEOLOGICAL VICE
PHILOSOPHICAL DESIRE**
 - **AWARDED DOCTORATE OF DIVINITY (1512)**

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- **LUTHER AT WITTENBERG (CONT):**
 - **BEGINS TEACHING THEOLOGY & PREACHING (1509)**
 - “ERE LONG, LARGE AUDIENCES PAID HIM THE TRIBUTE OF EAGER ATTENTION”
 - **SENT TO ROME (1510-1511)**
 - ENTHUSIASM FOR THE “HOLY CITY” TURNS COLD IN LIGHT OF ITS ABUSES
 - STILL PLAGUED BY *ANFECHTUNGEN*, ATTEMPTS TO ASCEND PILATE’S STAIRCASE ON HIS KNEES
 - **RETURNS TO WITTENBERG & BEGINS VISITATION OF OTHER AUGUSTINIAN MONESTARIES (1516)**

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□ LUTHER AT WITTENBERG (CONT):

- LIGHT BEGINS TO BREAK (1516-1517)

- LUTHER BEGINS DILIGENT STUDY OF AUGUSTINE

- LECTURES ON LETTER TO GALATIANS LEADS HIM TO ROMANS 1:17--"THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH"

- LUTHER'S TRANSFORMATION MANIFESTED IN HIS TEACHINGS & WRITINGS

□ THE OUTER CONFLICT:

- AFTER THE CRUSADES, INDULGENCES WERE LARGE SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR ROME

- IN LUTHER'S TIME, INDULGENCES SUBSIDIZED BUILDING OF ST PETER'S CATHEDRAL

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

- IN 1517, JOHN TETZEL COMES TO AREA OF WITTENBERG
 - MASTER INDULGENCE-HAWKER:
 - “INDULGENCES ENTITLED YOU TO ABSOLUTION BY PRIEST OF CHOICE”
 - “INDULGENCES ENTITLED YOU TO ‘MERITORIOUS WORKS OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH’”
 - INDULGENCES ENTITLED YOU TO RELEASE OF SOULS IN PURGATORY
 - WHEN INDULGENCE-HOLDERS CAME TO LUTHER EXPECTING ABSOLUTION, LUTHER WAS HORRIFIED AT THEIR TRIVIALIZATION OF REPENTANCE
- OCT 31, 1517 – LUTHER POSTS “95 THESES” ON DOOR OF CASTLE CHURCH OF WITTENBERG

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

- ESSENTIALS OF THE THESES:

- GENUINE REPENTANCE IS THE CHIEF CONDITION OF THE REMISSION OF SINS
- BELIEF THAT INDULGENCES CAN SECURE SALVATION OR RELEASE SOULS FROM PURGATORY IS A LIE
- PENANCE SHOULD ONLY BE PLACED ON THE LIVING
- ST PETER'S SHOULD BE REDUCED TO ASHES RATHER THAN BUILT BY "INDULGENCE EXTORTION"
- POPE WOULD DO BETTER TO APPOINT ONE GOOD PASTOR TO A CHURCH THAN GIVE INDULGENCES TO THEM ALL

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

- REACTION TO THE THESES:

- THESES REPRINTED & SPREAD THROUGHOUT GERMANY WITHIN WEEKS

- ATTEMPTS AT REPUDIATION TYPICALLY RIDICULOUS

- LEO X - “A DRUNKEN GERMAN HAS WRITTEN THESE THESES AND WHEN HE SOBERS UP, HE WILL TALK VERY DIFFERENTLY”

- ALTHOUGH NOT INITIALLY CONCERNED, LEO EVENTUALLY SUMMONS LUTHER TO ANSWER FOR “HERESY & CONTUMACY”

- ORIGINALLY SUMMONED TO ROME, ELECTOR FREDRICK OBTAINS HEARING IN AUGSBURG GERMANY

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

• LUTHER AT AUGSBURG:

– CALLED TO ACCOUNT BEFORE CARDINAL CAJETAN

- TWO PIECES OF HERESY: DENIAL THAT TREASURE OF INDULGENCES IS EQUAL TO MERIT OF CHRIST AND DECLARATION THAT ONE WHO COMES TO THE SACRAMENT MUST EXERCISE FAITH TO THE EXTENT OF THE GRACE BENEFITED

– LUTHER ATTEMPTS TO ARGUE FROM SCRIPTURE AND REFUSES TO RECANT

- “SO LONG AS THESE AUTHORITIES STAND, I CANNOT DO OTHERWISE”
- HOWEVER, ATTEMPTS TO BE CONCILIATORY:
 - NO MORE DISCUSSION OF INDULGENCES, IF SAME FOR THE OPPOSITION
 - APPEALED TO A GENERAL COUNCIL (1518)

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

- POST-AUGSBURG:

- “TRUCE” IS ONLY TEMPORARY

- DR ECK, CATHOLIC APOLOGIST, WRITES THESE AGAINST LUTHER’S POSITIONS

- LUTHER FEELS REQUIRED TO RESPOND (DISPUTE AT LEIPZIG, 1519)

- CARLSTADT VS ECK ON FREE WILL

- LUTHER VS ECK ON PRIMACY OF POPE, PURGATORY, PENANCE, & INDULGENCES

- LUTHER - “I AM A HUSSITE” AND ALL FOLLOWERS ARE HUSSITES WITHOUT KNOWING IT

- FURTHER POSITIONS OF LUTHER:

- FIVE TRACTS PUBLISHED IN 1520

- SERMON ON GOOD WORKS

- PAPACY AT ROME

- ADDRESS TO THE GERMAN NOBILITY

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- **THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):**
 - **FURTHER POSITIONS OF LUTHER (CONT):**
 - **FIVE TRACTS (CONT)**
 - **BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY OF THE CHURCH**
 - **FREEDOM OF THE CHRISTIAN MAN**
 - **EVENTS LEADING TO WORMS:**
 - **PAPAL BULL REACHES WITTENBERG--OCT, 1520**
 - **CONDEMNS 41 OF LUTHER'S PROPOSITIONS**
 - **SIXTY DAYS TO RECANT OR BE EXCOMMUNICATED**
 - **LUTHER BURNS THE BULL & OTHER PAPAL DECREES**
 - **DEC 10, 1520**
 - **LUTHER EXCOMMUNICATED--JAN 3, 1521**

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□ THE OUTER CONFLICT (CONT):

• EVENTS LEADING TO WORMS (CONT):

– JAN, 1521 - EMPEROR (CHARLES V) PRESIDES OVER DIET OF WORMS:

- LUTHER SHOULD BE CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR HIS CRIMES
- ELECTOR FREDRIC GRUDGINGLY CONSENTS
- LUTHER PROVIDED 'SAFE CONDUCT' PLEDGE

• LUTHER AT WORMS (APRIL, 1521):

– BOOKS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE HALL:

- "ARE THEY YOURS & WILL YOU RECANT?"
- LUTHER REQUESTS ONE DAY TO CONSIDER

– REFUSES TO RECANT UNLESS SCRIPTURAL PROOF OF ERRANCY OR 'PLAIN REASON' SHOWS THEM ERRANT:

- "HERE I STAND; I CAN DO NO OTHER"