**Here I Stand--****The Protest that Saved**

**the Church and Changed Your World**

The Reformation is a fascinating story of God using unlikely people to protect His Church and spread His Word. As we see God's faithfulness and the Reformers' courage, humility and love for God and His Word, our lives will be changed. What happened at the Reformation? What were the key principles of the Reformation? How did it change the world? What lessons can we learn for today.

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# What Happened at the Protestant Reformation?

## A corrupt Church which was neglecting the Bible.

## Martin Luther (1483-1546), Augustinian monk and university professor, desperate to find peace with God.

## Through his agonizing search for forgiveness and aided by his rigorous research, he came to realize that justification is by faith.

## October 31, 1517 posts his 95 Theses.

## April 18, 1521 Luther refuses to recant before the Diet of Worms.

# What were the Key Principles of the Reformation? The Five Solas.

## *Sola fide*—by faith alone. We are saved by trusting Jesus, Ephesians 2:8

## *Sola gratia*—by grace alone. We can’t deserve salvation; we receive it only by grace. Ephesians 1:7-8; 2:8

## *Solus Christus*—through Christ alone. The Church cannot determine whether we are forgiven or not—only Christ can. Acts 4:12; Colossians 1:15-23

## *Sola Scriptura*—by Scripture alone. The Bible is the only authoritative source of truth about how to know God. 2 Timothy 3:16

## *Sola Deo Gloria*—Glory to God alone. We live only for God’s glory. 1 Corinthians 10:31

**How did the Protestant Reformation Change the World?**

## The Reformation changed our understanding of salvation.

## The Reformation changed our view of the Bible.

## The Reformation changed our view of the Church.

## The Reformation changed our style of worship.

## The Reformation launched a fresh vision for evangelism and missions.

## The Reformation shaped many languages through Bible translations.

## The Reformation sparked a global transformation of education

## The Reformation changed our view of what is sacred and secular.

## The Reformation transformed our view of work.

## The Reformation changed our view of money.

## The Reformation empowered the individual.

## The Reformation encouraged freedom of religion.

## The Reformation provided a foundation for democracy and civil liberty.

## The Reformation brought economic development with free enterprise.

## The Reformation made marriage and the family central to the culture.

## The Reformation lifted the status of women.

## The Reformation brought an explosion of scientific exploration.

**“Always Reforming”—Why We Need Reformation Today.**

## The spiritual darkness of Europe today calls for a new Reformation which spreads the Gospel throughout Europe as we re-evangelize the Continent.

## The weakness of the Church across Europe today calls for a new Reformation—a revitalization and strengthening of the biblical Church in our day.

**Lessons from the Reformation**

## Three Reformational Strategies

### Apply the Gospel to the whole of life and culture.

### Tell others about Jesus—the Reformation was a missional movement.

### Make education a priority for the Church.

## Reaffirmation of Three Reformational Truths

### Reaffirm that Jesus is the only way—*Solus Christus.*

### Reaffirm the ministry (priesthood) of every believer.

### Reaffirm our identity as evangelicals—the Reformation is not over.

## Personal Reformation Resolution

### Ground our lives on the inerrant Word of God—*Sola Scriptura*

### Soak our lives in prayer.

### Keep focused on Christ.

**Reformation Resources**

**Books**

Bainton, Roland H. *Here I Stand; a Life of Martin Luther*. New York: Abingdon Press, 1950.

My favorite biography of Luther.

Metaxas, Eric. *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World*. New York: Viking Press, 2017.

Reeves, Michael, and Mark Dever. *The Unquenchable Flame: Discovering the Heart of the Reformation*. Nashville, Tenn.: B & H Academic, 2010.

Reeves, Michael. *Why the Reformation Still Matters*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2016.

Sproul, R. C., and Stephen J. Nichols. *The Legacy of Luther*. Orlando, Florida: Reformation Trust, 2016.

**Children’s Books**

Leigh, Susan K., and Dave Hill. *Luther, the Graphic Novel: Echoes of the Hammer*. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Pub. House, 2011. This is an excellent re-telling of the story of the Reformation for children. (I gave it to Jack, my oldest grandson, for Christmas last year.)

**Magazines**

“Luther Leads the Way., *Christian History Magazine* Issue 115. Excellent articles on Luther and the Reformation. Available at [www.christianhistoryinstitute.org](http://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org). $5.00

“The People’s Reformation,” *Christian History Magazine*, Issue 118. Excellent articles. Available at [www.christianhistoryinstitute.org](http://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org). $5.00

“Calvin, Councils and Confessions,” *Christian History Magazine, 120.* Available at [www.christianhistoryinstitute.org](http://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org). $5.00

“The Catholic Reformation,” *Christian History Magazine, 122,* Available at [www.christianhistoryinstitute.org](http://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org). $5.00

**Videos**

“Martin Luther,” Classic 1953 black-and-white movie on Luther’s life starring Niall MacGinnis. 105 minutes. This is the movie I have seen more than any other. I still love it.

“Luther,” 2013 movie starring Joseph Fiennes. 123 minutes. This is the best modern movie about Luther.