

Scholarship and the Reformation: Sparking a Global Transformation of Education

The Protestant Reformation was birthed in the university through the labor of scholars. In turn, scholarship flourished as a result of the Reformation, sparking a global transformation of education. But the Protestant movement also encountered strong opposition from universities established by the Catholic Counter-Reformation.

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- I. Scholars played a key role in launching the Reformation.
 - A. John Wycliffe (1320-1384), scholar
 - B. Jan Hus (1372-1415), university professor
 - C. Martin Luther (1483-1546), university professor
 - D. Philip Melanchthon (1497-1560), university professor
 - E. William Tyndale (1494-1536), scholar
 - F. John Calvin (1509-1564), scholar
 - G. Jan Amos Comenius (1592-1670), father of modern education
- II. Scholarship flourished because of the Reformation.
 - A. Universities grew because of the Reformation.
 - B. More universities were founded.
 - C. New universities were established by the Protestants.

- D. Existing universities were reformed.
 - E. Universal compulsory education—primary and secondary education—promoted and spread by the Reformation.
 - F. Scholarship in many fields advanced because of the Reformation.
 - G. Teaching is a holy vocation.
 - H. Teaching methods were improved.
 - I. Education for clergy was improved.
 - J. Libraries were developed and expanded.
 - K. Bible translations impacted languages.
 - L. Limitations of education and the really bad news about the Reformation.
- III. Catholics used education to oppose the Reformation.
- IV. Lessons from the Reformation for academics today.

Suggested Readings:

- Bainton, Roland H. *Here I Stand; a Life of Martin Luther*. Mentor Book published by The New American Library, tenth printing 1961 ed. New York,: Abingdon Press, 1950.
- Harran, Marilyn J., and Wittenberg University. *Luther and Learning : The Wittenberg University Luther Symposium*. Selinsgrove N.J.: Susquehanna University Press, 1985.
- Montgomery, John Warwick. *In Defense of Martin Luther*. Milwaukee,: Northwestern Pub. House, 1970.
- Ridder-Symoens, Hilde de. *Universities in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1800*. A History of the University in Europe. Cambridge England ; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996.
- Spitz, Lewis William. *The Reformation : Education and History*. Variorum Collected Studies Series. 1 vols. Aldershot, Great Britain ; Brookfield, Vt., USA: Variorum, 1997.
- Strauss, Gerald. *Luther's House of Learning : Indoctrination of the Young in the German Reformation*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978.