

Reformation Day October 31st 1517 V1

**"And upon this rock I will build My Church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18**

**October 31, 1517, was the day Martin Luther,
a Roman Catholic monk and language scholar,
was shown by God the truth of His Word
and nailed his famous Ninety-Five Theses
on the door of the church in Wittenberg.
These were intended to spark a debate,
to stir up deep soul-searching among his fellow brothers in the church.
His Ninety-Five Theses sparked far more than a debate.
It was a great fire that swept throughout Europe and beyond,
bringing the freedom of Gospel light to a darkened world.**

What is Reformation Day?

- 1. It is the day the light of the Gospel broke forth out of darkness.
One of Luther's Ninety-Five Theses simply declares,
"The Church's true treasure is the Gospel of Jesus Christ."
That alone is the meaning of Reformation Day. Sola Christus.
The church had lost sight of the Gospel because
it had long ago papered over the pages of God's Word
with layer upon layer of man-made tradition.
Teaching error in place of pure Biblical Gospel Truth.
Mere tradition always brings about systems of works,
of earning ones' way back to God.**
- 2. It was the day that began the Protestant Reformation;
that led Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox,
and many other Reformers to help the church
to find its way back to God's Word as the only supreme authority
for faith and life - leading the church back
to the glorious doctrines of justification by grace alone,
through faith alone, in Christ alone.
The 5 Sola's.
1. By Grace alone (Sola Gratia)
3. Through Faith alone (Sola Fide)
4. In Christ alone (Sola Christus)
5. According to Scripture alone (Sola Scriptura)
6. For God's Glory alone (Sola Deo Gloria)**
- 3. It was the day that kindled the fires of missionary endeavours,
(the Great Commission of Matthew 28v19,20).
and led to hymn writing and congregational singing,
and asserted the centrality of preaching Christ centred sermons
to the blessing of the people of God.**
- 4. It is the day that we celebrate the theological, ecclesiastical,
and cultural transformation of that pure Gospel message
which is intended by the Lord Jesus Christ to bring to sinful men
and stir up their hearts to seek Him afresh and aright.**

5. It is a day that celebrates the temporal and ultimate eternal victory against all the dark forces of evil unleashed to blind the minds of people and lead them captive.

Reformation Day asserts that Christ shall build His Church, "and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"!

Martin Luther wrote:

**"And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us:"**

6. It is a Day of Remembrance.

The preacher Charles Haddon Spurgeon said: -

**"Remember how your fathers, in times gone by, defended God's truth,
and blush, ye cowards, who are afraid to maintain it today!**

**Remember that our Bible is a blood-stained book;
the blood of martyrs is on the Bible,
the blood of translators and confessors.**

**The pool of holy baptism, in which many of you have been baptised,
is a blood-stained pool: many have had to die
for the vindication of that baptism
which is "the answer of a good conscience toward God."**

**The doctrines which we preach to you are doctrines that have been
baptised in blood, swords have been drawn to slay the confessors of them;
and there is not a truth which has not been sealed by them at the stake,
or the block, or far away on the lofty mountains,
where they have been slain by hundreds ...**

Let the blood of martyrs, and let the voices of confessors, speak to you.

**Remember how they held fast the truth, how they preserved it,
and faithfully handed it down to us from generation to generation;
and by their noble example, I beseech you, be steadfast and faithful,
valiantly following them firmly in their steps,
acquitting yourselves like men, like men of God, I implore you!**

**Shall we not have some champions, in these times, who will deal sternly
with heresies for the love of the truth, men who will stand like rocks
in the centre of the sea, so that, when all others shake,
they stand invulnerable and invincible?**

**Thou who art tossed about by every wind of doctrine, farewell;
I own thee not till God shall give thee grace to stand firm for His truth,
and not to be ashamed of Him nor of His words in this evil generation."**

**5. It is a day of unique dedication and commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ;
the proclamation of the true gospel, and
"contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).**

Why contend for the faith? Why must we do this?

"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." Jude 4

**"For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
And, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal."
~ Martin Luther**

**Christ and His gospel will always be hated by a sin-loving world.
His true servants will also be hated and persecuted.**

**But His Church shall surely be built by His truth unchanging,
and His Sovereign power irresistible!**

**"The body they may kill
God's truth abideth still
His Kingdom is forever!"
~ Martin Luther**

The Lord Jesus Christ is King, and lo ... our King cometh in glorious power!

**Our God is revealed to us in His inspired Word as
being Sovereign in Creation, Providence, and Redemption (Salvation).**

**We, at EDT, thank the Lord for The Reformation,
and preach Jesus Christ - crucified, risen and ascended,
waiting to return on Judgement Day.**

The Truth shall set you free.