

## Martin Luther 1483 - 1546.

- \* leading figure in the protestant reformation
- \* caused the ~~the~~ split in the Catholic Church.
- \* 1518 → came up with his beliefs that would later aid the European reformation

Faith throws itself upon god  
grace alone, faith alone, scripture alone.  
justification through faith in Christ  
concept of the believer as righteous yet sinful.

3 Jan 1521 → beliefs expressed, excommunicated from the church.

1517 → nailed 95 theses on indulgences to the Wittenberg university door.

believed in only two of the 7 sacraments  
Eucharist + Baptism

\*

1545 → caused Roman Catholic Church to call council of church to re-evaluate themselves.

did not agree with transubstantiation → wine + bread  
= body + blood  
of  
Christ.

~~pope~~ now married  
priests

~~mon~~  
nuns and monks abandoned  
their monasteries

private confession abolished



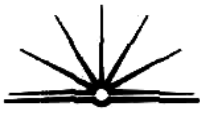
Martin Luther, 1483 - 1546 was a significant person in the rise of Christianity and his beliefs had a profound effect on the outcome of Christianity that still exist in the modern world. Luther was the leading figure in the European Reformation. He believed that Christian teachings had strayed from their traditions and that Christianity had become corrupt and were causing people to lose sight of God.

In 1517, Luther posted his 95 Theses of Indulgences on the door of the Wittenberg University. This document stated 95 things that were wrong with the sale of indulgences at the time. The foundation of these beliefs was the understanding that indulgences did not require a change of heart or mind, merely money. Through giving money to the church one was able to limit their time in purgatory but this did not acquire spiritual connection with God. Luther believed that your good works amounted to nothing



in the eyes of God.

In 1518, Luther came up with his key beliefs that were to lead the way for the Protestant Reformation, something that was to profoundly affect the future circumstances of Christianity. Luther decided that faith alone throws itself upon God, justification through faith in Christ, the concept of the believer as righteous yet sinful and faith alone, grace alone, scripture alone. Luther firmly believed that many things were wrong with the Church including private confession and transubstantiation. In private confession, one would express their sins and concerns to a priest or father, taking away from the connection with God. Luther strongly disagreed with transubstantiation, acknowledging the wine and bread to be the body and blood of Christ. In Luther's opinion, this was distracting the individual from the true meaning of God. In Luther's opinion faith alone,



grace alone and scripture alone was all that was needed.

Luther's views were brought forward to the Catholic Church and as a result he was excommunicated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 1521. This action on behalf of the Church encouraged others to follow in Luther's footsteps as he never strayed from what he believed in.

Luther had a profound effect on Christianity, one that is still apparent today. He not only, not by intention, caused the Protestant Reformation as he wanted to protest the state of the Church, but he was responsible for many changes in Catholic practices. Priests now married, ~~priests~~ <sup>priests</sup> and nuns abandoned their monasteries and private confession was abolished.

Luther's beliefs caused such controversy that in 1545, the ~~Protestant~~ Catholic Church called



a Council of Trent to re-evaluate themselves. Luther only believed in Baptism and Eucharist of the seven sacraments. Although the church persisted on keeping all seven, tradition was now acknowledged as equally important as the bible.

Martin Luther died in 1546 but his beliefs continue to shape the future of Christianity. He had an impactful and lasting effect on the outcome of Christianity with the Protestant Reformation. Luther did not only affect the Christian community but had an effect on the individual Christian.

Luther very resembled what God intended man to be, someone who stands up for what they believe in no matter the consequences. Luther saw many things wrong with the Christian Church and he expressed his beliefs accumulating many followers along the way. His beliefs and values continue to guide and shape Christianity to the present day.