

- Split western church.
- Forced catholic to clear doctrines  
Wittenburg
- New exp. of Chris.
- changed role of relig (political)
- mass production techniques tract
- new rituals.
- bible eng



Martin Luther was a Catholic monk in the 16<sup>th</sup> century who introduced new theological realizations that changed Christianity forever. Through his actions Luther acted as a catalyst and caused the Western church to split, forced the Catholics to clarify their beliefs, created a new expression of Christianity, changed the role of religion within society and he introduced mass marketing techniques unlike ever before. Through Luther's actions he caused a dramatic change in Christianity that is still visible today.

Luther's theological studies at Wittenburg in the 16<sup>th</sup> century led him to theological discoveries that disagreed with the current Catholic church that ~~the~~ led the Roman empire. Luther's disagreement with the power and authority of the Pope, and the undermining of Jesus' sacrifice through the sale of indulgences caused



Luther to protest. In Luther's 95 theses these theological disagreements were illustrated. Through word of mouth and pamphlets Luther's point of view was spread and eventually split the Western Empire. Countries such as Germany and England adopted Protestant Christianity (such as Lutherans and Anglicans) and countries such as Italy and Ireland remained Catholic. Through Luther's actions he created not only an Empire to split into various denominations but he 'created' a new sect of Christianity that called Protestants that followed the teachings of the early Christians Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. ~~It~~ Luther caused the creation of a new denomination that is still vital to Christianity today.

Previous to Luther's theological discoveries

the Catholic Ecclesiastical structure had tried to clear up their doctrines and create cohesion. However it had failed. Luther acted as a catalyst and forced the Catholic church to create a unified structure <sup>(at Trent)</sup> under the Pope, of which all beliefs and ethics were the same. The Catholics were now forced to identify their beliefs and the rituals they undertook. The revival of the Catholic church also cleared up debatable matters such as only one in seven churches having a priest permanently at their church, and ethical issues such as priests no longer being able to have relationships with prostitutes. The actions of Luther in challenging the base doctrines caused them to simplify their beliefs under a common system. Luther helped preserve the Catholic sect of Christianity and contributed to its

long term survival to today.

Luther's beliefs of faith alone, Christ alone, caused him to create a new sect of Christianity known as protestants. Jesus Christ was the cornerstone of the reformation caused by Luther. Luther clarified that it wasn't by works, but by faith that people were saved. This caused a change in the rituals of the protestants in several ways. The selling of indulgences was no longer permitted, as it was through faith that man was saved. The seven catholic sacraments were reduced to two, this being baptism and communion - the two most significant religious traditions to protestants. In conjunction with this ministers (also known as priests) were now allowed to marry, as encouraged by the sacred text of The Holy Bible. The authority and



structure of the church was no longer under the Pope (the Pope was believed to be the messenger of god), it was under god alone. Luthers theological discoveries revealed that Christs death was sufficient enough that 'ordinary' human beings could have a relationship with God. Luthers theological discoveries caused him to have a create effect on the key religious characteristics of Christianity. Through his actions he created Protestantism, which is still surviving today.

Through Luthers belief that individuals could have a relationship with god this led him to translate the Holy Bible from Latin into a common language. This action of Luther translating the bible into German minimized the authority of the Pope, because they

no longer had reliance on him to interpret the Bible. This ~~is~~ this proved the significance and large effect of Luther, as individuals within Christianity could have a closer intimate relationship with God independent from the Pope. This had great effect on the scriptures of Christianity.

Through Luther's actions the Catholics were revived. Numerous groups such as the Jesuits evangelised to large amounts of people, encouraging the Catholics. Luther's actions encouraged the Catholics to stand up for what they believe in and become more passionate. This is vital to the Catholics survival in history.

Through the use of tracts ~~by~~ by Luther allowed the rapid spread of his thoughts and his protests to the Catholics interpretation



of the bible. Through the use of pamphlets Luther was able to evangelise and spread Protestantism rapidly. This greatly impacted the rate of the reformation and ~~be~~ the duration of how long it would take. This had a great effect on Christianity as it innovated the revolution, and is still used today by Modern Catholic and Protestant churches to spread their religion and be evangelical.

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Martin Luther is a very significant figure in the History of the Christian church. He had a large effect and his significance is shown through his contribution still being visible today. Through his theological discoveries Luther was able to act as a catalyst of the reformation of the church in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The western church of the Catholics was split with the protestants, with new rituals,





beliefs and ethics in comparison to the Catholics. Luther's theological discoveries had a great impact, ~~and is still~~ and he helped preserve Christianity today.

\* Luther's actions caused the <sup>role of</sup> religion within society to change. Due to the Pope's authoritarian role and the belief that he was the messenger of god, political leaders such as kings and queens took great advice from him. The religious change caused by Luther caused a great social change to take place. Political leaders were no longer demanded to submit to the Pope, as due to Luther's theological realizations they were only answerable to god. Luther had a great effect on Christianity because the national change that took place effected the role of the reformed churches role in society in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.