

CHRIST GRACE FAITH SCRIPTURE



1455
Gutenberg Bible published.

1483
November 10: Luther born in Eisleben to Hans and Margarethe (pictured).

1492
Columbus sails to New World.

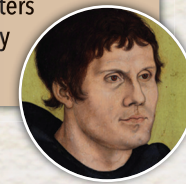
1455-1505

1502
Luther earns bachelor of arts from Erfurt University. University of Wittenberg founded.

1505
Luther earns master of arts and begins law studies.

July 2: Luther vows, "St. Anne, help me. I'll become a monk," in a thunderstorm.

July 16 or 17: Luther enters monastery in Erfurt.



1506
April 18: Pope Julius II lays the foundation for a new St. Peter's in Rome and authorizes sale of indulgences for construction.

1510-11
Luther travels to Rome on monastery business.

1511
April: Luther sent to Wittenberg (pictured).

1512
October 18: Luther earns doctor of theology degree.

1506-1516

1513
Luther begins first lectures on the Bible.

February 21: Pope Julius II dies; Leo X becomes pope.

1516
Luther lectures on Galatians.

1516
March 1: Erasmus publishes Greek New Testament in Basel.



1517
John Tetzel sells indulgences in Germany to pay for Archbishop Albert's debts and for construction of St. Peter's in Rome.

October 31: Luther posts 95 Theses, calling for debate on indulgences; no one wants to debate the issue.

1518
August 7: Luther summoned to Rome on suspicion of heresy; Frederick the Wise arranges for Luther's interview on German soil.



1517-1519

1518
October 12-14: Luther summoned to Augsburg to interview with Cardinal Cajetan and answer charges of heresy.

December 8: Frederick the Wise informs Cajetan he will not turn Luther over to Rome for trial.

1519
January 12: Emperor Maximilian dies; electors begin process to choose new emperor.

June/July: Leipzig debate.

October 22-23: Charles V (pictured), grandson of Maximilian, crowned emperor-elect.



1520
Luther publishes four Reformation pamphlets.

- *Treatise on Good Works*
- *The Address to the Christian Nobility*, calling for nobility to reform the church.
- *On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, challenging sacrament system of the Roman Church on the basis of the Bible.
- *On the Freedom of a Christian*, maintaining that Christians are free from sin and death by God's grace and willingly and freely love others.



1520

June 15: Leo signs bull threatening to excommunicate Luther and condemning 41 of his heresies.

October 10: Luther receives papal bull and given 60 days to recant or be declared a heretic and excommunicated.

December 10: Luther burns papal bull threatening him with excommunication.

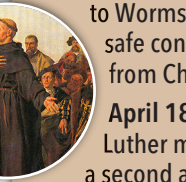


1521
January 3: Leo officially excommunicates Luther and condemns all who agree with him.

January 28: Charles convenes the Diet of Worms.

March 26: Luther summoned to Worms with safe conduct from Charles V.

April 18: Luther makes a second appearance before the Diet and responds, "I cannot and I will not recant! Here I stand!"



1521

May 4: Frederick the Wise (pictured), secretly abducts Luther and takes him to Wartburg Castle. There Luther begins his exile as Knight George.

May 26: The Edict of Worms is officially signed and printed; it condemns Luther and his followers of high treason and makes them subject to capture.

December: Luther begins translating the New Testament into German.

Disturbances and unrest begin in Wittenberg as Luther supporters attack Catholics.



1522
March 1: Luther leaves Wartburg Castle with a completed draft of his translation of the New Testament.

September 21: The September Testament, Luther's translation, is published in Wittenberg. Five thousand copies are sold in two months.

December: The December Testament, the second edition of Luther's translation, is published.

1522-1523

1523
March 6: The Diet of Nuremberg postpones enforcement of the Edict of Worms.

March: Luther publishes *On Temporal Authority: the Extent to which It Should Be Obeyed*, the earliest treatment of the two kingdoms.

July 1: Henry Voes and Johann Esch (pictured), the first Lutheran martyrs, are burned at the stake in Brussels.



1524
Fall: Peasants' Revolt begins. Erasmus publishes *Freedom of the Will*. First Lutheran hymnal is published.

1525
March 20: Peasants send Luther their list of grievances. He urges restraint and negotiation.

May 15: Peasants brutally defeated at Frankenhausen (pictured).

June 13: Luther and Katherine von Bora marry in Wittenberg.



1524-1527

1527
Anabaptists publish a confession opposing infant baptism. Sweden and Finland become Lutheran.

Planning begins for visitation of churches in Saxony.

May 6: Unpaid imperial troops sack Rome

Luther experiences physical illness and depression.

Luther composes "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."



1528
Visitation of Saxon churches conducted.

Johann Bugenhagen starts reform in the north.

1529
March 15: Second Diet of Speyer is convened to consider action against Turks.

April 20-29: At the Diet of Speyer Lutheran princes lodge an official protest against efforts to enforce the Edict of Worms.



1528-1529

1529
April: Luther publishes the Large Catechism.

May: Luther publishes the Small Catechism.

October 1-4: The Marburg Colloquy is sponsored by Philip of Hesse. Lutherans and Reformed agree on 14 articles but do not agree on the Lord's Supper and fail to achieve unity against anticipated Catholic opposition.



1530
January 30: Emperor-elect Charles issues summons for the Diet at Augsburg.

February: Charles crowned as Emperor by Pope Clement VII at Bologna.

April 15: Lutheran delegation to the Diet at Augsburg arrives at Coburg Castle. Luther remains at the castle while the others go on to Augsburg.



1530

1530
May 11: Philip Melancthon completes a draft of the *Augsburg Confession* and sends it to Luther at Coburg.

June 25: The *Augsburg Confession* is read to the Diet by Dr. Christian Beyer.

August 3: Roman Catholics read *A Confutation* (a refutation of the Lutheran confession) and require Lutherans to agree. Charles V gives Lutherans until April 15, 1531, to comply. Lutherans refuse.



1531
February: Smalcald League officially formed.

April 15: *Apology of the Augsburg Confession*, Melancthon's defense of the *Augsburg Confession*, is published.

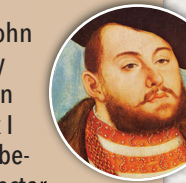
October 11: Swiss reformer Ulrich Zwingli is killed in battle with Roman Catholics.



1531-1533

1532
Elector John of Saxony dies; John Frederick I (pictured) becomes Elector.

1533
Archbishop Cranmer (England, pictured) rules Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine null and void.



1534
September: Pope Clement VII dies; Paul III becomes pope.

October: Luther publishes the entire Bible in German.

October 17: Persecution of Protestants in France begins.

November 3: English Parliament passes the Act of Supremacy, leaving the Roman Catholic Church and making Henry VIII head of the Church of England.



1534-1536

1535
June 24: Anabaptist rebellion at Munster ends; the city is recaptured and the leaders are executed.

Pope Paul III takes steps to call a general council to settle the religious divisions. He first chooses Mantua as site.

1536
March: John Calvin publishes the first edition of *Institutes of the Christian Religion*.

May 26: Luther and others sign the Wittenberg Concord, uniting churches on the Lord's Supper.



1537
The *Smalcald Articles*, Luther's last will and testament of his teachings, is presented as a response to proposed general council.

Melancthon drafts *Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope* in preparation for the proposed council.

Denmark and Norway become Lutheran.



1537-1539

1538
April 25: Pope Paul III indefinitely postpones council planned for Mantua.

December 17: Pope Paul III issues 1533 bull excommunicating Henry VIII (pictured).

1539
Luther entangled in Philip of Hesse's bigamy.



1540
Colloquies of Hagenau, Worms, and Regensburg attempt to resolve differences between Roman Catholics and Protestants, but fail to reach agreement.

1542
September 20: Magdalena, Luther and Katie's 12-year-old daughter, dies.



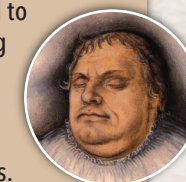
1540-1546

1543
January: Luther publishes *Of the Jews and Their Lies*.

1545
December 13: Pope Paul III convenes council at Trent.

1546
February 18: Luther dies in Eisleben; his body is returned to Wittenberg for burial.

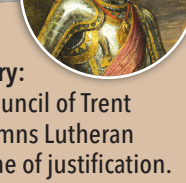
July 9: Smalcald War begins.



1547
January: The Council of Trent condemns Lutheran doctrine of justification.

April 24: Charles V (pictured) defeats Lutherans in the Battle of Mühlberg; he rewards Maurice with title of Elector for his help.

1548
May 15: Augsburg Interim proclaimed by Charles V; it is resisted by Lutherans.



1547-1553

1552
April 5: Maurice turns against Charles V and gains legal rights for Lutherans adhering to the *Augsburg Confession*.

December 20: Katherine (pictured), Luther's wife, dies in Torgau.

1553
July 9: Maurice, Elector of Saxony, dies of wounds.



1555
September: Catholics and Lutherans agree to the Peace of Augsburg, giving Lutherans legal status.

1556
August 8: Charles V abdicates and retires in Yuste, Spain.

1554-1588

1580
Book of Concord published on the anniversary of the *Augsburg Confession*; it settles several controversies that arise after Luther's death.

1588
English defeat Spanish Armada.

