

Luther and the Reformation – Video Guide

Directions: Summarize notes to answer the following questions. The episode from Rick Steves' Europe can be found on the class website or by following the link. <https://www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/video/tv-show/tv-specials/luther>

BACKGROUND: In 1517, the German monk Martin Luther collected 95 points to stoke discussion about the corruption of the medieval Church. He then nailed his famous “95 Theses” to the door of his hometown church in Wittenberg. With that small, symbolic act, Luther unleashed a storm of changing, kicking off the most important religious event of the last millennium – the Protestant Reformation.

1. Why is it problematic that the Bible was only printed in Latin in the 16th century? (16:30)
2. Why was Luther’s message able to be spread much further than the similar preaching of Jan Hus two centuries earlier? (22:15)
3. Explain/Define the following terms. (23:30)
 - a. Purgatory

 - b. Indulgence
4. Luther was very worried about attaining salvation (reaching heaven). From his biblical studies, what did he decide was needed to reach heaven? (24:30)
5. What was the significance of Luther’s booklets being written in German, including illustrations? (26:00)

6. How did Luther respond when the pope declared him a heretic and demanded he recant (take back) his statements about the Church and pope? (28:00)

7. Describe Calvin's belief in predestination/predetermination. (35:20)

8. Starting in the mid-16th century, the Church began the Counter-Reformation, what were their strategies to counter the Reformation? (40:45)

9. While both are Christian, what are the key difference between Protestants and Catholics? (47:30)

10. What was Luther's later life like? (49:15)