

The Sixteenth Century Reformation  
And  
The Twenty-first Century Church  
Galatians 2:16; 3:6

**Galatians 2:16; 3:6** God's answer to "How can sinners be made right with God?"

**Acts 17:30–31** Paul's message to the men in Athens addresses this question.

**Hebrews 9:27** And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death;

**Jeremiah 13:23** "Can the Ethiopian change his skin Or the leopard his spots? Then you also can do good Who are accustomed to doing evil.

**Psalms 130:3** If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Reasons the 21<sup>st</sup> century church needs to maintain the focus of the reformation

1. No sense of guilt. No concern about how a sinner can be made right with God.
2. New Perspective that elevates the place of works in salvation.
3. Pragmaticism
4. Easy believism
5. Universalism: all eventually make it into heaven.
6. Integrationism of human thought, philosophy with Theology.
7. Ecumenicalism **1 Corinthians 11:19** For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you.

Luther, "The article of justification is the master and prince, the lord, the ruler, and the judge over all kinds of doctrines; it preserves and governs all church doctrine and raises up our consciences before God. Without this article the world is utter death and darkness."

History preceding the Reformation.

**The Waldensians.** 12<sup>th</sup> century Named after Peter Waldo.

**John Wycliff** 14<sup>th</sup> century 1320–1384

**John Hus** Late 14<sup>th</sup> century early 15<sup>th</sup> century 1369 – July 6 1415

**Martin Luther** 15<sup>th</sup> century 16<sup>th</sup> century November 10, 1483 – February 18, 1546

**Romans 1:16–17**

"My Situation was that, although an impeccable monk, I stood before God as a sinner troubled in conscience, and I had no confidence that my merit would assuage him. Therefore I did not love a just and angry God, but rather hated and murmured against him. Yet, I clung to the dear Paul and had a great yearning to know what he meant."

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The sale of indulgences was the breaking point.

On October 31<sup>st</sup> 1517, Luther nailed his 95 Theses to a castle door in Wittenberg Germany.

In 1521, Luther was order to appear in the city of Worms to be tried for heresy.

***Sola Scriptura*** “*Sola Scriptura* affirmed that the Bible alone is the final, infallible authority for life and doctrine.” Al Mohler

“True Christianity and true gospel preaching depend on a firm commitment to the authority of Scripture.” Al Mohler

Luther was once quoted as saying in regards to the reformation, “I did nothing, the Word did everything.” This quote helps us understand that it was the Word of God that was the hero of the Reformation, not man.

**2 Timothy 3:16–17; 2 Peter 1:21, 2–4**

Jeremiah 22:25–32

Amos 4:12–13

“God has spoken to us in a reasonable way in language we can understand and has given us the gift of revelation which is His gracious disclosure of Himself.” Al Mohler

**Ephesians 3:8–12; 1 Timothy 3:14–15.** God’s purpose for His church.

At this dedication Luther declared, “It is the intention of this building that nothing less shall happen inside it except that our dear Lord shall speak to us through His Holy Word, and we in turn talk to Him through prayer and praise.”

“We can spare everything except the word.” This is called understanding the priority and indispensable nature of the ministry of the word of God.