Martin Luther
Launched the Protestant
Reformation
Germany, 1517

Martin Luther grew up in Germany. He went to the Erfurt University to study law.

When Luther was 22 years old, he was struck by lightning and survived.

Immediately afterward he decided to become a Catholic priest.

Oct 26-2:10 PM

At age 29, Martin Luther became a professor of religion at the University of Wittenburg.

MARTIN LUTHER
Faith in Christ and the Gospel

During that time, Luther made an intellectual break with the Catholic Church.

He became concerned about the salvation of the individual -- and the soul of the individual.
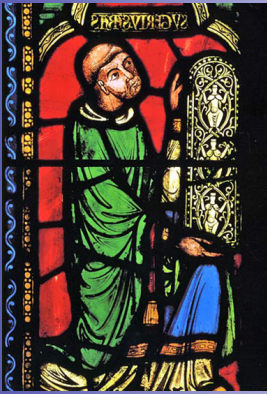
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Martin Luther drew some serious conclusions:

1. Salvation was not something you could earn, or purchase.

Baptism
Confirmation
Holy Eucharist
Anointing of the Sick
Reconciliation
Marriage
Holy Orders

2. Salvation was not even something you could receive from the Church or its sacraments.

Oct 26-2:27 PM

Salvation was simply a gift from God -- to those who had faith. This is called _"Justification by Faith"_

Sep 21-6:22 PM

The 95 Theses

In 1517, Martin Luther nailed his **95 Theses** onto the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg.

The **95 Theses** was a list of reforms that the Catholic Church should make.

1. For starters, Luther wanted an end to indulgences. (People actually paid money to have their sins forgiven.)

The Sale of Indulgences, woodcut, circa 1530

2. The Bible -- not the Church -- should be the ultimate authority on all Christian matters.

Sep 21-4:18 PM

Oct 26-2:36 PM

3. The Bible should be translated into the vernacular (local language) so that everyone can read it.

German   Polish   French

4. Church services should be held in the vernacular so that everyone can understand it.

The Catholic Church refused all of these reforms.

In 1521, Pope Leo X declared Martin Luther guilty of **heresy** and **excommunicated** him.

Guess which Renaissance artist painted this portrait of Pope Leo X?
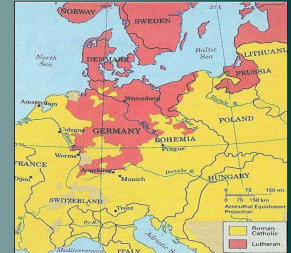
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Oct 27-5:56 PM

Luther was commanded to appear at the Diet of Worms (a meeting of nobles and clergymen). Luther would NOT recant his beliefs. He said, "My conscience is captive to the Word of God."

Martin Luther Before the Diet of Worms, painting by Anton von Werner

Sep 21-5:22 PM

Martin Luther was the world's first **Protestant.** New Protestant Churches sprung up: Lutheran, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Puritan, Baptist, and Methodist.
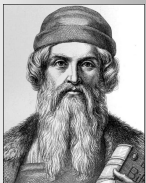
PREDICT: What invention made it possible for the Reformation to spread so fast?
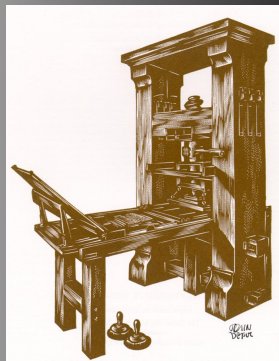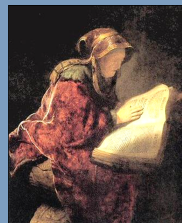
Oct 27-6:26 PM

The Printing Press

Johannes Gutenberg had perfected the printing press in 1450.

Sep 21-5:51 PM

The very first book Gutenberg printed was the Bible. The Bible was translated into the vernacular (local language) of the common folks.

Folks learned to read:

Before the printing press, only those who read Latin could read the Bible. Now that the Bible was available, people wanted to read it.

Sep 21-6:15 PM

Luther at the Diet of Worms
4:45

Martin Luther Parody Song
3:14

Horrible Histories - Martin Luther
2:31

95 Thesis Rap (Tomorrow)
3:43

St. Peter's Basilica - Rome, Italy

Oct 28-8:22 AM

Dec 19-10:14 AM