

**“I, a Poor, Stinking Bag of Dung’:
The Story of Martin Luther and the New Reformation”
www.newperceptions.tv**

□ **1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

- Roland Bainton: “The man who thus called upon a saint was later to repudiate the cult of the saints. He who vowed to become a monk was later to renounce monasticism. A loyal son of the Catholic Church, he was later to shatter the structure of medieval Catholicism. A devoted servant of the pope, he was later to identify the popes with Antichrist. For this young man was Martin Luther.” (*Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* 15)

□ **4 Takeaways/Legacies for the New Reformation**

- #1—Only _____.
 - Luther: “I was a good monk, and I kept the rule of my order so strictly that I may say that if ever a monk got to heaven by his monkery it was I. All my brothers in the monastery who knew me will bear me out. If I had kept on any longer, I should have killed myself with vigils, prayers, reading and other work.” (Bainton 34).
 - James Kittelson: “*Anfechtung* was what Luther later called this grinding sense of being utterly lost. By it he intended the idea of swarming attacks of doubt that could convince people that God’s love was not for them. Later he considered this sense of being irredeemably evil to be the work of Satan, who sought to make a Christian’s sins, doubts, and anxieties too much even for the grace of God. At such moments just the rustling of dried leaves in a forest sounded like the legions of hell coming to seize one’s soul.” (*Luther the Reformer: The Story of the Man and His Career* 56)
 - Derek Wilson: “Certainly Luther went through periods of black depression when he retreated into himself and spoke to no one. He never fully shrugged off this particular demon and to the end of his days would retire into a room by himself when problems weighed heavily upon him.” (59)
 - Luther: “I greatly longed to understand Paul’s Epistle to the Romans and nothing stood in the way but that one expression, ‘the justice of God,’ because I took it to mean that justice whereby God is just and deals justly in punishing the unjust. 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.” (Bainton 49)
 - Luther: “Then [one day] I grasped that the justice of God is that righteousness by which through grace and sheer mercy God justifies us through faith. Thereupon I felt myself to be reborn and to have gone through open doors into paradise. The whole Scripture took on a new meaning, and . . . now it became to me inexpressibly sweet in greater love. This passage of Paul [“the just shall live by faith’] became to me a gate to heaven.” (Bainton 49-50)
 - H. M. S. Richards once declared: “I have only one doctrine: I am a great _____—but I have a great _____.” And when asked “What is the Adventist message?” he replied, “_____ only.”
- #2—Only _____.
 - Luther: “The wounds of Jesus are safe enough for us.” (Kittelson 99)
 - Ellen White: “The lower you lie at the foot of the cross, the dearer and more exalted will be your conception of your Redeemer.” (*Review and Herald* 10-16-1888)

- Ellen White: “The theme that attracts the heart of the sinner is Christ and Him crucified. On the cross of Calvary Jesus stands revealed to the world in unparalleled love.” (*Maranatha* 99)
- #3—Only _____ .
 - Derek Wilson: “Within decades of Luther’s death . . . all Europe was awash with Bibles in contemporary languages. . . . This was the richest part of Martin Luther’s legacy. He bequeathed to the peoples of the world a collection of religious writings and invested them with supreme authority (or, as he would have said, recognized the supreme authority they manifestly possessed).” (363)
 - Luther: “God’s word cannot be without God’s people, and God’s people cannot be without God’s word. . . . For it is the word of God which builds the Church. . . . [W]here that is heard, where baptism, the sacrament of the altar [the Lord’s Supper], and the forgiveness of sins are administered there hold fast and conclude most certainly that there is the house of God and that there is the gate of heaven.” (Wilson 364)
 - Ellen White: “But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain ‘Thus saith the Lord’ in its support.” (*The Great Controversy* 595)
- #4—Only _____ .
 - Proverbs 4:18
 - Ellen White: “The Reformation did not, as many suppose, end with Luther. It is to be continued to the close of this world’s history. Luther had a great work to do in reflecting to others the light which God had permitted to shine upon him; yet he did not receive all the light which was to be given to the world. From that time to this, *new light* has been continually shining upon the Scriptures, and *new truths* have been constantly unfolding.” (*The Great Controversy* 148-149)
 - John 16:12-13

“We are all beggars.”

Jesus, sinner, Savior, Jesus, the cross, the Bible, the Holy Spirit