

SEMINAR: INTRODUCTION

THE REFORMATION: A CLOSER LOOK AT SALVATION

1. **Why a Dispensational Reformation Seminar?**
 - a. 500 years since a Catholic monk nailed (glued) 95 theses to a door in Wittenburg
 - b. Why 10/31? Halloween-a Catholic holiday, where you could pay to see a hair / forgiveness
 - c. Luther: sick of church larceny, wrote 95 complaints sparking a debate – Bible / salvation
 - d. We are not Reformed; they were not dispensational – why would this interest us?
 - e. People today see the Reformation as 1) ancient history (ignorant) or 2) mistake (unsaved)
 - f. Not one person/not one place/not Tradition – the cause was our cause.

2. **Reformation: a revival** - people getting saved. *How?* Back to the Bible /salvation /Paul
 - a. A spark lit a fire for 100 years; a rock in the pond that ripples today; hack at religion
 - i. Rom 1:16-18 - Quotes about reading scripture.
 - b. *"After 500 years, Europe's Reformation scars have all but healed, study finds"*-Guardian
 - c. Half of Protestants think salvation requires works, half deny the Bible alone.
 - d. BBMAD right division has its strength in clarifying the gospel; believing every word; Paul.
 - e. Want a revival today? Same agenda. Get people saved. Give them a Bible they can believe.

3. **Reformation: a revolution** – illiteracy/nations/identity/science/tech/comm./religion/persecution
 - a. Church as a business. Silence those who stand on Bible. Renaissance/Inquisition. *Familiar?*
 - b. "Luther" is recognized: not so Erasmus, Hus, Zwingli, Menno, Coverdale, Tyndale, Waldo
 - c. These people were young: Tyndale (32), Luther (34) Melanchthon (33) Calvin (27)
 - d. It did not start overnight – Lollards were around for centuries (Waldensians, Hussites)
 - e. KJ Bibles are direct products of the Reformation. Chapter and verse. The Text. Rom 10:17
 - f. Tyndale – *"It is impossible to stablish the laye people in any truth except the scripture were plainly layde before their eyes in their mother tongue."*
 - g. Tyndale – *"I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life ere these many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plow to know more of the scripture than thou doest."*
 - h. Priest to plowboy. From fear, favor, fraud to faith (knowledge of Christ/scripture/gospel).
 - i. Bible required reading for each person – *"authority of scripture greater than any man"*

4. **The Reformation: a resistance** – the message was cleaning doctrinal house. Negative.
 - a. The five solas were formulated in the 20th century to summarize.
 - b. Sola = alone. → Adding something to what is right – makes it wrong. "Leave it alone."
 - c. Resistance = friction – people burned. *'Every stake that burned, sowed a field of heretics.'*
 - d. People will agree and add things to the Bible / salvation. Stop!
 - i. One job to cut additions away – *"nothing but... truth/blood/cross/Christ"*
 - e. Salvation is in Christ alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, to the glory of God alone, on the final authority of scripture alone.
 - f. No coincidence that this sounds Pauline – Gal 6:14, Eph 2:8-9, Titus 3:5, Rom 4:5
 - g. The need for looking again at salvation – clearly and plainly from God's word rightly divided.