

# Week 8 Reformation I

## 1. Topic

Historical Background of the Reformation and Early Reformers

## 2. Objectives

- 1) Understand the problems of the medieval church
  - 2) Identify the historical background of the Reformation
  - 3) Learn the theology of key reformers
  - 4) Recognize the essence of the Reformation as the recovery of the Gospel
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## 3. Key Content

### 1) Background of the Reformation

- (1) Corruption and abuse of papal authority
  - (2) Clerical corruption (e.g., indulgences)
  - (3) Tradition elevated above Scripture
  - (4) Influence of Humanism and the Renaissance  
“Back to the sources” (Ad Fontes)
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### 2) Key Reformers

#### (1) Martin Luther(1483–1546)

- ① Posted the 95 Theses in 1517
- ② Emphasized justification by faith
- ③ Challenged papal authority

#### Key doctrines:

- ① Sola Fide (Faith alone)
  - ② Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)
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#### (2) Ulrich Zwingli(1484–1531)

- ① Led Reformation in Zurich
  - ② Emphasized Scripture-centered worship
  - ③ Symbolic view of the Lord’s Supper
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#### (3) John Calvin(1509–1564)

- ① Wrote *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
- ② Emphasized predestination
- ③ Led Reformation in Geneva

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### 3) Core Doctrines of the Reformation

- (1) Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)
- (2) Sola Fide (Faith alone)
- (3) Sola Gratia (Grace alone)
- (4) Solus Christus (Christ alone)
- (5) Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone)

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### 4) Significance of the Reformation

- (1) Restoration of the Gospel
- (2) Transformation of church authority
- (3) Establishment of Scripture-centered faith

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### 4. Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the most important lesson of the Reformation for today's Church?
- 2) How should "justification by faith" be applied today?
- 3) Is the Reformation a past event or an ongoing movement?

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### 5. Application

- 1) Restore a Scripture-centered life
- 2) Prioritize the Bible over tradition
- 3) Examine personal faith (form vs essence)