

ALP MAY 8 2025

Personalities of the Protestant & Catholic Reformations

The Reformation Era (1517-1648)

Caveats: We share human nature, but the past is a foreign country.
Getting the proper mix of generalizations and details.

Reform a constant theme of Christian History

The “Protestant” before Luther: Jan Hus (d.1415 Council of Constance)

Martin Luther (1483-1546): Monk & University (Wittenberg) Prof. The 95 Theses of 1517, Indulgences, his break with the Papacy (1517-21)
Leipzig Disputation (1519), “Here I Stand!” Luther’s Diet of Worms!

Hymns, Printing, Bible translated into German, English, etc.

Luther revives the tradition of St. Augustine (354-430). He is a member of the Augustinian Order, rival of the Dominicans.

Erasmus humanist reformer. Greek N. T., Break with Luther: Free Will

A second reformer: Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) Zurich. Beginning of a Swiss-type reform. Attempted alliance with Luther failed at the Colloquy of Marburg (1529): Disagreed over the Eucharist.

Fighting broke out between Swiss cantons, Zwingli killed (1531)

N. B. Biggest Swiss export was not cheese, but soldiers. Swiss Guard still at the Vatican.

Renaissance Popes: Julius II (1503-13), Leo X (1513-21), Clement VII (1523-34) Satirical attack “Julius Exclusus”)

Emperor Charles V, Holy Roman Empire, Peace of Augsburg (1555)

