



Martin Luther (1483-1546)

The founder of the Lutheran church.

1392

The University at Erfurt on the Gera River was founded. Erfurt is the capital of the state of Thuringia and Martin Luther later studied there.

10 Nov 1483

Martin Luther (1483-1546), leader of the Protestant Reformation, was born in Eisleben, Germany. He was a monk in the Catholic Church until 1517, when he founded the Lutheran Church.

1502

Lucas Cranch, German painter, began his career in Vienna. In 1521 he painted the famous portrait of Martin Luther.

1507

Johannes Oporinus (1507-1568) was born and became a scholar-printer issueing more than 800 publications including the Koran and writings by Luther.

1507

Martin Luther was ordained.

1510

Martin Luther became professor of theology at the University of Wittenberg.

31 Oct 1517

Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Thesis to the door of the Wittenberg Palace All Saints' Church. This event signaled the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in Germany and Protestantism in general.

1518

Luther was summoned to the Diet of Augsburg where he refused to recant.

1518

Ulrich Zwingli, a Swiss clergyman, supported Martin Luther's Reformation.

1519

The first Altenburger sermon by Luther and Karl von Miltitz.



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1519

Martin Luther disputed with Johann Eck in the Leipzig Disputation and questioned the infallibility of the Pope.

10 Dec 1520

Martin Luther publicly burned the papal edict demanding that he recant, or face excommunication.

1520

The Pope threatens to excommunicate Luther from the Catholic Church.

3 Jan 1521

Pope Leo X excommunicated Martin Luther from the Roman Catholic Church.

17 Apr 1521

Under the protection of Frederick the Wise, elector of Saxony, Luther first appeared before Charles V and the Imperial Diet. Martin Luther was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church.

18 Apr 1521

Martin Luther confronted the emperor Charles V in the Diet of Worms and refused to retract his views which led to his excommunication.

21 Apr 1521

Martin Luther was called before an Imperial Diet in Worms. He was already accused of heresy and excommunicated by the Pope. Here he was absolved of all charges.

8 May 1521

Emperor Charles V and the Diet issued the Edict of Worms. It banned Luther's work and enjoined his detention but was not able to be enforced.

1521

The 'Diet of Worms' and Luther refuses to back down.

1521

Edict of Worms outlaws Martin Luther and his followers.



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1522

Martin Luther preaches his 'Invocavit'.

1522

Martin Luther completed his translation of the New Testament into German and returned to Wittenberg. His supporter, Ulrich Zwingli, condemned Lenten fasting and celibacy.

1524

Martin Luther and Johann Walther produced jointly a German hymnal called 'Geistliche Lieder'.

1525

Martin Luther got married and served chicken to his guests.

1525

Luther wrote 'Against the Murderous and Thieving Hordes of Peasants'.

15 Oct 1529

Ottoman armies under Suleiman ended their siege of Vienna and head back to Belgrade. The Ottomans siege of Vienna was a key battle of world history. The Ottoman Empire reached its peak with the Turks settled in Buda on the left bank of the Danube after failing in their siege of Vienna.

21 Oct 1529

Henry VIII of England was named Defender of the Faith by the Pope after defending the seven sacraments against Luther.

1529

The Turks began the siege of Vienna.

1529

Luther published two hymns: 'Away in a Manger' and 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God'.

1530

Martin Luther and Philip Melanchthon drew up the Augsburg Confessions and presented them unsuccessfully to the German Diet at Augsburg convened by Charles V.



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1543

Luther wrote a pamphlet titled: 'On the Jews and Their Lies'. The founder of the Protestant movement, Martin Luther, despised Jews and it has been said that he helped to set the stage for the Holocaust.

18 Feb 1546

Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died.