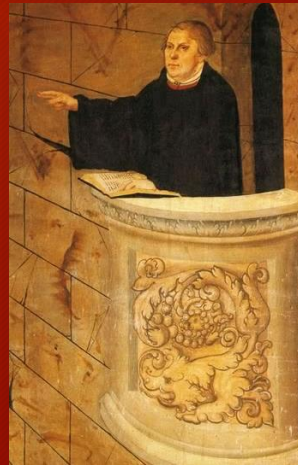
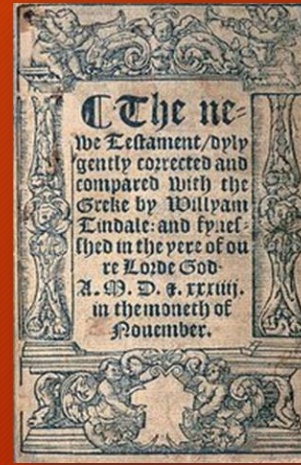
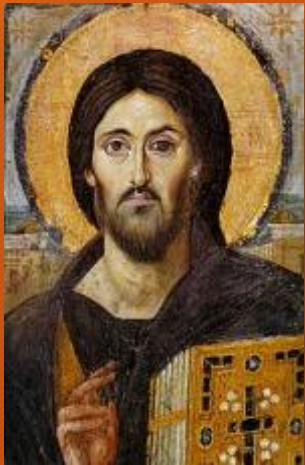


Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Significant changes to the way Christians practiced their faith in the early sixteenth century



Spiritual Formation in the Middle Ages



Medieval Spirituality: *Moriendi*

➤ Fear, Death, and Confusion

- Plagues → God's judgment on corruption in the papacy (Avignon, Schism)
- “Habits formed by prior acts” prepared one for *memento mori* (facing Christ at death)
- Bells rang as a priest rushed to give last communion to a dying person
- **Penance → Purgatory → Indulgences**



Spiritual Formation in the Middle Ages



Medieval Spirituality: Meritorious Mothers

➤ Mother Church: Ecclesiastical and Sacramental

- saving grace through the Church alone
- seven sacraments, annual taking of Eucharist
- heavy dependence on clergy



➤ Mother Mary: Liturgical and Devotional

- feasts for saints, Mary, events in Christ's life
- pilgrimages, relics, prayers to saints, images



Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

- 1) Increasing Calls for Reform in the Church
- 2) Strong Rejection of many Roman Catholic practices and authority (e.g. Pope = 'antichrist')
 - Luther's 95 theses primarily opposed penance, indulgences, and the spiritual misery they caused
- 3) Insistence on Justification *Sola Fide!*
 - not 'merit' or the church, but *Sola Christus*



Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

4) Changes to Eucharist:

- Replaced “Altar” with “Table”
- Rejected the “re-sacrifice” of Christ
- Rejected *transubstantiation*
- Called for receiving Lord’s Supper “in both kinds” (not just the “host”)
- Called for more frequent celebration



Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

5) “Priesthood of All Believers”

- no need for a mediating priest (or saints) for prayer, confession, and access to God’s grace → *Sola Gratia*
- Spiritual work not restricted to monks or “professionals,” but any field - especially family and home



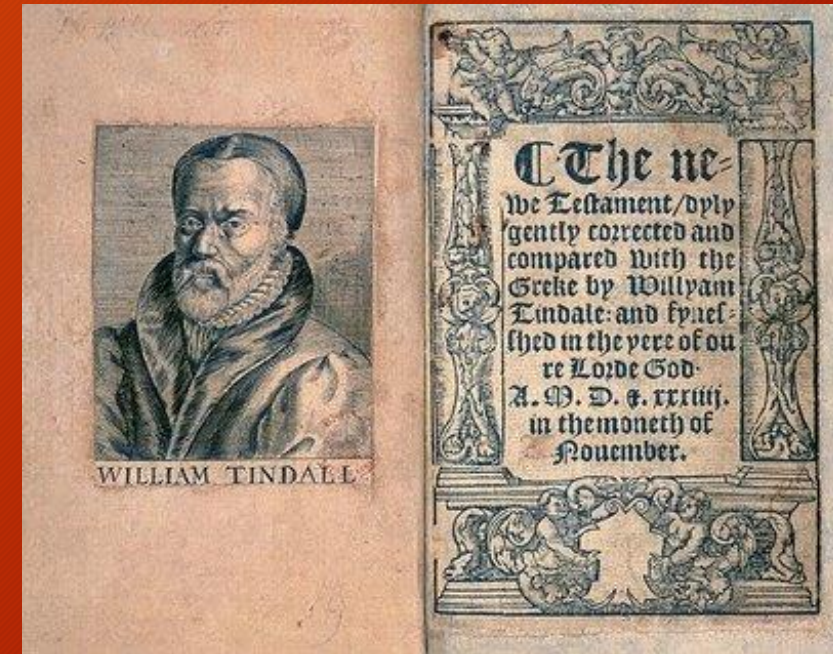
Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

6) Shift from only “experiencing” the faith (often visually) to *knowing* the faith—in order to rightly experience the faith

- Revamped catechisms to teach faith in church, school, and home
- Getting the Bible into the hands of the people - *Sola Scriptura*
- Vernacular translations (Wycliffe, Tyndale, Luther)



Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

7) Emphasis on Preaching Scripture

- Sermons from the Bible - not church doctrines or saints' lives
- Moved pulpit from side to center
- Made sermon central in the service
- Established “schools” and handbooks for training in theology, preaching
- publication of biblical commentaries



Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Changes to Spiritual Life

8) True Faith Impacts Culture and Society

- Not privatized or segmented; faith affects every part of life
- Everything should be done *Soli Deo Gloria!*

Soli Deo Gloria

Martin Luther



Every occupation has its own honor before God. Ordinary work is a divine vocation or calling. In our daily work no matter how important or mundane we serve God by serving the neighbor and we also participate in God's on-going providence for the human race.

AZ QUOTES

Reformation of Spiritual Formation



Reformational Spiritual Formation Today

- 1) Heart → Gathered Worship: Preaching, Lord's Supper, Prayer, Song
- 2) Soul → Personal Spiritual Practices: Prayer, Scripture, Sabbath
- 3) Mind → Knowing God and His Word: catechism and confessions
- 4) Strength → Impacting God's World: active and engaged faith