

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 1  
CrossView Church

- 1) What was Martin Luther's "vow" in the summer of 1505? Why did he make it?
- 2) What were the popes of the Renaissance like according to Bainton?
- 3) What is your impression of how schools were run in Luther's time?
- 4) What was Hans Luther like? What did he do for a living?
- 5) What did Luther believe about elves and gnomes and mermaids etc.?
- 6) What was the one thing according to Bainton that differentiated Luther from the other youths of his time?
- 7) Read the top of page 13. How was God portrayed in Luther's day?
- 8) What was the dominant thought about those who 'took the cowl'? How were they treated in Heaven?
- 9) Read pgs 17-18. What was the monastic life about? What did it entail?
- 10) Why did Luther enter the monastery?
- 11) Read the last paragraph of page 20. How did Luther's monastic experience affect the rest of his life?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 2  
CrossView Church

- 1) What are your impressions of life in the Monastery? Would it have been an easy or hard life?
- 2) Why was it terrifying for Luther to perform the Mass? What were his reasons for his terror?
- 3) Why was Hans Luther still upset with his son?
- 4) What kind of monk was Luther? Why did he take his "calling" so seriously?
- 5) What are "the merits of the saints"? Is this a Biblical concept?
- 6) Read page 32-33. Why were the relics important to medieval Catholics?
- 7) What were the priests in Rome like and what did Luther expect them to be?
- 8) What were Luther's final feelings on his time at Rome and why?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 3  
CrossView Church

- 1) How did Dr. Johann Von Staupitz help Martin Luther?
- 2) What were Luther's problems with confession?
- 3) Why couldn't Luther just "lose himself in God" as the mystics prescribed?
- 4) What did Luther's pre-conversion understanding of God cause him to feel about God? Why?
- 5) Why did Von Staupitz tell Luther to become a Bible professor?
- 6) How did the Psalms, Romans and Galatians change the way Luther understood God?
- 7) Read the bottom of page 49. What does Luther mean here?
- 8) What did Luther come to understand about the Justice of God? How was God's Justice then a comfort to Luther?
- 9) What was Luther's answer to those who believed that the devil and God were fighting each other?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 4  
CrossView Church

- 1) Just after his conversion, what did Luther envisage as the reform the Catholic Church should make?
- 2) Was Luther a busy man? Why or why not?
- 3) What was your impression of Fredrick the Wise's collection of relics?
- 4) Why were indulgences withheld until the money was given? What were the 3 requirements for an indulgence?
- 5) What are your thoughts on how the Church did business in those days?
- 6) What is your impression of Albert of Brandenburg?
- 7) What feelings did you have as you read Tetzel's sermon?
- 8) What were Luther's arguments against the selling of indulgences and purgatory reduction?
- 9) Why did Luther believe that indulgences were harmful to the recipient?
- 10) Was it Luther's intention to start what became the Protestant Reformation?

## Here I Stand Questions

### Chapter 5

#### CrossView Church

- 1) What do you think about Luther's letter to Albert? How might it be an example of how we should address our elders?
- 2) What is the difference between "do penance" and "be repentant"?
- 3) Read page 76. What did Luther believe about excommunication?
- 4) How did Luther answer the claim that the Pope and councils are infallible?
- 5) How did God orchestrate secular events to protect Luther?
- 6) What was the Pope's counsel to Fredrick the Wise?
- 7) What did you take from Luther's confrontation with Cajetan?
- 8) Read Luther's statement on page 86. Can you see him now moving further and further from Roman Catholicism?
- 9) How precarious was Luther's position at this time?
- 10) How did Fredrick defend Luther? Why did he do so?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 6  
CrossView Church

- 1) How was the question of indulgences answered by the Pope (or Cajetan)?  
Why was it too little too late?
- 2) What are some reasons that Luther was still alive at this time and not burned at the stake?
- 3) What was the purpose of the golden rose?
- 4) What happened to Tetzel? Why?
- 5) Who did Luther think the Apostle Paul looked like? Haha!
- 6) Why was the theme of "Antichrist" actually comforting? Who did Luther believe the Antichrist was?
- 7) What were some of the things at the heart of the debate between Luther and Eck?
- 8) Why did Eck keep bringing up the point that Luther was being like Hus?
- 9) How were ecclesiastical disputes in the 16<sup>th</sup> century different than they are today?

## Here I Stand Questions

### Chapter 7

#### CrossView Church

- 1) Why was Luther called "The German Hercules"?
- 2) How was the Renaissance both beneficial and harmful to the Church and to the Reformation specifically?
- 3) What is Humanism? Do we see the results of the Renaissance humanistic philosophy today?
- 4) In what ways was Erasmus in agreement with Luther? How was he different than Luther?
- 5) How did Melanchthon change Luther's teaching after his death?
- 6) How was German nationalism starting to form during Luther's day? And why were the German nationalists in support of Luther?
- 7) How did Luther use German nationalistic sentiments to his favor?
- 8) Why did Luther repudiate violence as a means to promote the Gospel?

Here I Stand Questions  
CrossView Church  
Chapter 8

- 1) Why was Luther's tract titled "The Babylonian Captivity Of The Church" so devastating to Catholic doctrine? Why did Erasmus say the breach was irreparable?
- 2) How did Luther view the Clergy and the Laity?
- 3) What is the doctrine of Ex Opere Operato? Why is it not biblical?
- 4) What did you learn about the Mass in this chapter?
- 5) What does Bainton mean by "Luther's individualism"? pg. 133
- 6) How did Luther view Baptism?
- 7) Why did Staupitz resign?
- 8) What was your impression of the Pope's preface to his Bull?
- 9) How was the "disagreement" between Luther and Rome becoming more volatile?
- 10) What was Luther's view of violence for the Gospel?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 9  
CrossView Church

- 1) Read page 144. Does this signal the complete break of Luther with Rome?
- 2) Why did Luther appeal to Caesar? What was the relationship between Church and State at that time?
- 3) Look at the wood carving on page 149. How had things gotten that way?
- 4) What is a Papal Bull and why was one issued against Luther?
- 5) Why did many people reject the Pope's Bull? Why was Eck (as the Papal Nuncio - or Ecclesiastical Diplomat) especially rejected in his handling of it?
- 6) What was Luther's response to the Bull? What did you think of his letter?
- 7) How could Luther write with such seeming invective against the Papacy but not always anger toward the Pope himself?
- 8) What was the significance of Luther burning both the Bull and the Canon Law?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 10  
CrossView Church

- 1) What was the condition upon which Fredrick the Wise would act against Luther?
- 2) Read the top of page 167. What were the "two crimes" that Luther committed?
- 3) What was Aleander's objection to Luther being heard at Worms?
- 4) What does Luther's note to Staupitz say about his convictions?
- 5) Read the top of page 173. How do you see Providence at work here?
- 6) What is your impression of Luther's Stand at Worms?
- 7) What was Charles' response?
- 8) Was Luther's case at Worms a success or failure?

## Here I Stand Questions

### Chapter 11

#### CrossView Church

- 1) What did you think about the comparison after Worms of Luther with Christ?
- 2) Why did Luther have to be “kidnapped”?
- 3) Why was Luther downcast at the castle in Wartburg?
- 4) What does it mean when Luther said, “...it is much easier to fight against the incarnate Devil – that is, against men – than against spiritual wickedness in the heavenly places...”
- 5) What would it have been like to have physical maladies in the 16<sup>th</sup> century?
- 6) How was Luther being “weaned” from monastic life?
- 7) What were some of the big changes that the Reformation brought about at first, and why was Luther concerned about some of them?
- 8) Why were things moving slowly at Wittenburg?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 12  
CrossView Church

- 1) Why did Fredrick still have his collection of relics? How do we sometimes hold on to the things of our past life?
- 2) What was the general mood at Wittenberg at this time?
- 3) How was the Mass that Carlstadt said such a radical departure from what the people had previously experienced?
- 4) Why was iconography dismantled in the churches? What is your opinion of it?
- 5) Read the bottom of page 206-207. Can you see parallels today? How did Luther handle it?
- 6) Were things happening "too fast" as Fredrick claimed?
- 7) Does Luther want Fredrick to resist the Emperor? Why or why not?
- 8) Why was Luther's return to Wittenberg especially brave?
- 9) What was Luther's disguise as he returned on the road to Wittenberg?
- 10) Why did Luther come home?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 13  
CrossView Church

- 1) What was the most important question in Luther's mind? What was the most important thing in the world to him?
- 2) Why can't nature and history and philosophy reveal God? In what ways do they point to God? How can these things be disconcerting sometimes?
- 3) What is the struggle with believing in Christ?
- 4) Why did Luther rail against "reason"?
- 5) What were Luther's thoughts on the Sacraments? What are yours?
- 6) What did Luther mean when he said that one sin is needed as a medicine to cure another? Do you agree?
- 7) Are good works without faith damnable sins?
- 8) What is the true ground of goodness?
- 9) What are your impressions of Luther's theology?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 14  
CrossView Church

- 1) Read pages 234-235, what does this say about our "calling" in life?
- 2) Why do some workers tend to despise others?
- 3) What did Luther think of capitalism?
- 4) What was Luther's view of Government? How would he think about our government?
- 5) Read the second half of page 244. Why is Theocracy out of the question?
- 6) Why is Luther having to wrestle with these questions?
- 7) Read the second half of page 245. What would Luther have thought of something like the American Revolution?
- 8) What are your overall thoughts about Luther's theories about calling and government?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 15  
CrossView Church

- 1) Why were the supposed "reforms" made by the new Popes after Leo X still not enough for Luther? Why, as Erasmus said, was the breach "irreparable"?
- 2) Were you surprised that indulgences were still being offered at Wittenberg in 1522?
- 3) What was Frederick's attitude toward his relics at that point?
- 4) What was the purpose of Pope Hadrian's letter to Frederick?
- 5) How did Luther address Henry the VIII?
- 6) What were Erasmus and Luther debating about primarily?
- 7) What was Staupitz's last letter to Luther exhorting him to do?
- 8) On pgs. 261-263 Luther and Carlstadt disagree about many issues. Where do you fall on them?
- 9) Do you see in Muntzer a modern interpretation of "spirituality"?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 16  
CrossView Church

- 1) What were some of the main differences between the views of Zwingli and Luther?
- 2) What were some of the causes of the Peasant's War?
- 3) What was the Bund and why was it a symbol of the Peasant?
- 4) Why was Luther looked by the Catholics as a friend of the Peasants and a possible cause of the unrest?
- 5) Read pg. 282. What does Muntzer say about Luther?
- 6) What was Muntzer's end?
- 7) Was Luther wrong for his tract against the Peasants?
- 8) What do you make of the chaos at this time?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 17  
CrossView Church

- 1) Why didn't Luther want to marry at first?
- 2) What do you make of Luther's response to Spalatin?
- 3) What were the three reasons that Luther took a wife?
- 4) How did marriage change Luther?
- 5) Even though their marriage did not start with love, how did it become a loving marriage?
- 6) What did you think of Luther's Table Talk quotes? Which were your favorites?
- 7) What do you think of Luther's vulgarity?
- 8) What did Luther believe about arranged marriages?
- 9) How is marriage a school for character?
- 10) What was Luther's relationship like with his children?

**Here I Stand Questions**  
**Chapter 18**  
**CrossView Church**

- 1) **How was the Reformation disseminated across Germany? How are cartoons used today? Are they still effective?**
- 2) What is your opinion of tracts in general?
- 3) How was the devil invoked on both sides? Read his tract on page 317.
- 4) What was Luther's dilemma with how the Church was structured?
- 5) What were some of the problems discussed on page 320 that the Church faced at this time?
- 6) Who were "The Visitors"? Should we appoint "Visitors" for our church?
- 7) Was Luther for or against the death penalty for "heretics"?
- 8) What was the Marburg Colloquy about?
- 9) Was the Marburg Colloquy a success?
- 10) Read the last paragraph on page 329. What do you think about it?
- 11) Why was the Augsburg confession the death of the Holy Roman Empire?

## Here I Stand Questions

### Chapter 19

#### CrossView Church

- 1) Why did Luther believe it was so important that the Bible was in the vernacular and in the hands of the people?
- 2) What were some of the linguistic problems that Luther faced in his translating? Do we have these same issues today?
- 3) Do you wish modern bibles were illustrated?
- 4) Is the Bible more like a photograph of what took place, a realistic master painting of what took place, an abstract painting of what took place, or a crayon drawing by a child of what took place?
- 5) What do you make of Luther's "value" judgments on books of the Bible?
- 6) Why is it important that a Bible translation is done by a committee instead of an individual?
- 7) What did Luther think about the importance of his catechism?
- 8) How did Luther change the Liturgy of the church from Catholicism?
- 9) What was Luther's opinion of music? How did he change music in the church?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 20  
CrossView Church

- 1) Why did the Reformation make the pulpit higher than the altar?
- 2) Should we have 3 different sermons on Sunday?
- 3) What do you think of Luther's advice to the downcast preacher on page 361?
- 4) How does Luther address the Wittenbergers and their lack of charity?
- 5) How does Luther exhort his hearers in his sermon on Mary and the Baby?
- 6) Why was Luther's preaching style compelling?
- 7) What were some of the lessons Luther was teaching in the life of Jonah? How did they help you?
- 8) What is your overall impression of Luther as a preacher?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 21  
CrossView Church

- 1) What was Luther's opinion of his "Dark night of the soul"? Did he believe that it did him good? Why?
- 2) How did Luther talk with the Devil?
- 3) What was Luther's advice to those who felt despondent because of the devil?
- 4) Why is a child's faith to be commended?
- 5) Where, according to Luther, is our greatest balm to be found?
- 6) What did you think of Luther's sermon on Abraham and Isaac?
- 7) Why did Luther write "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"?
- 8) How do our darkest times feel when we are in them before the benefit of hindsight?

Here I Stand Questions  
Chapter 22  
CrossView Church

- 1) What was Luther like in the last years of his life?
- 2) Why did Luther at times condone the sword against the Anabaptists?
- 3) What was Luther's attitude toward the Jews? Can you see how this attitude was carried into the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Germany?
- 4) How did Luther's Bible influence the German language?
- 5) Why does Bainton say that Luther "did the work of more than five men"?
- 6) What was Luther's view of God?
- 7) What are your overall impressions of Martin Luther?
- 8) How has the world-wide Church been impacted by Luther's life and work?