



## SAVED TO SERVE

Pastor Andrew Henriques

[www.prophecyagain.com](http://www.prophecyagain.com)

G.C. PT.7: 5 REASONS LUTHER LEFT POPERY & GAVE LOUD CRY.  
SDAS MUST LEAVE APOSTASY & GIVE LOUD CRY

1. Let us study the seventh chapter in *The Great Controversy*, entitled "Luther's Separation From Rome."

2. This chapter shows us the abominations that Luther found within the Roman Catholic Church that led him to separate from the Papacy. Those same abominations are still present within the Papacy; therefore, we should not unite with the Papacy. Additionally, this chapter is to help us to lead people from Popery (Babylon) and from any local church where the leadership is in apostasy.

3. As Martin Luther separated from the Roman Catholic Church, what is the Lord calling us to separate from? Revelation 18:1-4.  
2 Corinthians 6:14-17

4. What was the mission of Martin Luther? \_\_\_\_\_

Foremost among those who were called **to lead the church from the darkness of popery into the light of a purer faith, stood Martin Luther**. Zealous, ardent, and devoted, knowing no fear but the fear of God, and acknowledging no foundation for religious faith but the Holy Scriptures, Luther was the man for his time; **through him God accomplished a great work for the reformation of the church and the enlightenment of the world.** {GC 120.1}

5. What is our mission based on Scripture? Revelation 14:6-12; Revelation 18:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Among which group will the experiences of Luther be repeated in these last days? \_\_\_\_\_

Opposition is the lot of all whom God employs to present truths specially applicable to their time. **There was a present truth in the days of Luther,--a truth at that time of special importance; there is a present truth for the church today.** He who does all things according to the counsel of His will has been pleased to place men under various circumstances and to enjoin upon them duties peculiar to the times in which they live and the conditions under which they are placed. If they would prize the light given them, broader views of truth would be opened before them. **But truth is no more desired by the majority today than it was by the papists who opposed Luther. There is the same disposition to accept the theories and traditions of men instead of the word of God as in former ages. Those who present the truth for this time should not expect to be received with greater favor than were earlier reformers.** The great controversy between truth and error, between Christ and Satan, is to increase in intensity to the close of this world's history. {GC 143.3} See also John 15:19,20 and Luke 6:26...**The spirit of the world is no more in harmony with the spirit of Christ today than in earlier times, and those who preach the word of God in its purity will be received with no greater favor now than then.** The forms of opposition to the truth may change, the enmity may be less open because it is more subtle; but the same antagonism still exists and will be manifested to the end of time. {GC 144.1}

7. What did Luther's father pray? \_\_\_\_\_

Luther's parents bestowed great care upon the education and training of their children. They endeavored to instruct them in the knowledge of God and the practice of Christian virtues. **The father's prayer often ascended in the hearing of his son that the child might remember the name of the Lord and one day aid in the advancement of His truth.** Every advantage for moral or intellectual culture which their life of toil permitted them to enjoy was eagerly improved by these parents. Their efforts were earnest and persevering to prepare their children for a life of piety and usefulness. With their firmness and strength of character they sometimes exercised too great severity; but the Reformer himself, though conscious that in some respects they had erred, found in their discipline more to approve than to condemn. {GC 121.1}

8. How did Luther's father feel when he learned that Luther entered a monastery? \_\_\_\_\_

Luther's father was a man of strong and active mind and great force of character, honest, resolute, and straightforward. He was true to his convictions of duty, let the consequences be what they might. His sterling good sense led him to regard the monastic system with distrust. **He was highly displeased when Luther, without his consent, entered a monastery; and it was two years before the father was reconciled to his son, and even then his opinions remained the same.** {GC 120.3}

9. Note: The father's prayer for his son should be seen in the light of Jesus' prayer and desire for us. The displeasure of the father towards his son's choice should also be seen in the light of how Jesus feels when we stray from His will. Children and young people should also consider how their parents feel when they disregard the parents' wish for them to serve the Lord and to advance His truth.

10. At what age was Luther when he entered the university of Erfurt? What did he press forward towards? What did he thirst for? What did he ask the Lord for? \_\_\_\_\_

Yet under so many and so great discouragements **Luther pressed resolutely forward toward the high standard of moral and intellectual excellence which attracted his soul. He thirsted for knowledge,** and the earnest and practical character of his mind led him to desire the solid and useful rather than the showy and superficial. {GC 121.3} **When, at the age of eighteen,** he entered the University of Erfurt, his situation was more favorable and his prospects were brighter than in his earlier years. {GC 121.4} **While one day examining the books in the library of the university, Luther discovered a Latin Bible. Such a book he had never before seen. He was ignorant even of its existence...** Now, for the first time, he looked upon the whole of God's word. With mingled awe and wonder he turned the sacred pages; with quickened pulse and throbbing heart he read for himself the words of life, pausing now and then to exclaim: **"O that God would give me such a book for myself!"** Angels of heaven were by his side, and rays of light from the throne of God revealed the treasures of truth to his understanding. **He had ever feared to offend God, but now the deep conviction of his condition as a sinner took hold upon him as never before.** {GC 122.2}

11. Note: Luther's first step in the journey that led to his separation from the Papacy was when he found and read portions of the Bible. He was convicted of sin and felt the guilt of being a sinner. He began to apply the counsel of the Roman Catholic Church of how to rid the heart of the guilt of sin. However, he received no peace. Since the Papacy could not give him peace from the guilt of sin, he began the journey to separate from the Papacy.

12. What did Luther do to obtain pardon and peace? \_\_\_\_\_  
He had found a Bible chained to the convent wall, and to this he often repaired. **As his convictions of sin deepened, he sought by his own works to obtain pardon and peace. He led a most rigorous life, endeavoring by fasting, vigils, and scourgings to subdue the evils of his nature, from which the monastic life had brought no release.** He shrank from no sacrifice by which he might attain to that purity of heart which would enable him to stand approved before God. **"I was indeed a pious monk,"** he afterward said, "and followed the rules of my order more strictly than I can express. {GC 123.2}

13. What words did Luther hear while climbing "Pilate's staircase?" \_\_\_\_\_  
By a recent decretal an indulgence had been promised by the pope to all who should ascend upon their knees **"Pilate's staircase,"** said to have been descended by our Saviour on leaving the Roman judgment hall and to have been miraculously conveyed from Jerusalem to Rome. **Luther was one day devoutly climbing these steps, when suddenly a voice like thunder seemed to say to him: "The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17.** He sprang to his feet and hastened from the place in shame and horror. That text never lost its power upon his soul. From that time he saw more clearly than ever before the fallacy of trusting to human works for salvation, and the necessity of constant faith in the merits of Christ. His eyes had been opened, and were never again to be closed, to the delusions of the papacy. **When he turned his face from Rome he had turned away also in heart, and from that time the separation grew wider, until he severed all connection with the papal church.** {GC 125.1}

14. What must we do before the Lord can pardon us and declare us just or righteous? 1 John 1:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Read also Romans 5:1.

15. Note: After the Lord justifies us, He desires to give us power to sin no more. See Galatians 2:16-20; John 5:14; John 8:10,11. The other issue that led Luther to take one more step to separate from the Papacy was that the church did not teach victory over sin.

A salvation that could be bought with money was more easily obtained than that which requires **repentance, faith, and diligent effort to resist and overcome sin.** {GC 128.1}

16. What led to Luther taking the third step on his journey to separate from the Papacy? What did Luther experience when he visited Rome? \_\_\_\_\_

At last he beheld in the distance the seven-hilled city. With deep emotion he prostrated himself upon the earth, exclaiming: "Holy Rome, I salute thee!"-- **He entered the city, visited the churches, listened to the marvelous tales repeated by priests and monks, and performed all the ceremonies required. Everywhere he looked upon scenes that filled him with astonishment and horror. He saw that iniquity existed among all classes of the clergy. He heard indecent jokes from prelates, and was filled with horror at their awful profanity, even during mass.** As he mingled with the monks and citizens he met dissipation, debauchery. **Turn where he would, in the place of sanctity he found profanation. "No one can imagine," he wrote, "what sins and infamous actions are committed in Rome; they must be seen and heard to be believed. Thus they are in the habit of saying, 'If there is a hell, Rome is built over it: it is an abyss whence issues every kind of sin.'"** {GC 124.3}

17. What led to Luther taking the third step on his journey to separate from the Papacy? \_\_\_\_\_  
**He wrote thus of the universities: "I am much afraid that the universities will prove to be the great gates of hell, unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, and engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount.** Every institution in which men are not unceasingly occupied with the word of God must become corrupt."--{GC 140.5}

18. What led to Luther taking the fourth step on his journey to separate from the Papacy? \_\_\_\_\_  
**The doctrine of indulgences...** The Roman Church had made merchandise of the grace of God. The tables of the money-changers (Matthew 21:12) were set up beside her altars, and the air resounded with the shouts of buyers and sellers. Under the plea of raising funds for the erection of St. Peter's Church at Rome, indulgences for sin were publicly offered for sale by the authority of the pope. By the price of crime a temple was to be built up for God's worship--the cornerstone laid with the wages of iniquity! **But the very means adopted for Rome's aggrandizement provoked the deadliest blow to her power and greatness. It was this that aroused the most determined and successful of the enemies of popery, and led to the battle which shook the papal throne and jostled the triple crown upon the pontiff's head.** {GC 128.2} {GC 127.1}

19. Note: The following news reports show that the Papacy has not changed. The Lord is calling for modern-day Martin Luthers to protest against this abomination and lead people to His marvelous light of truth.

"Pope Francis has announced he is widely expanding **the traditional indulgences** available to Catholics during his upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy..." <http://ncronline.org/news/vatican/francis-announces-wide-indulgences-mercy-year-grants-lefebvrites-faculties>

**A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy."** [https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_letters/documents/papa-francesco\\_bolla\\_20150411\\_misericordiae-vultus.html](https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco_bolla_20150411_misericordiae-vultus.html)

20. How did Luther make his protest effectual? \_\_\_\_\_

As Tetzel continued his traffic and his impious pretensions, **Luther determined upon a more effectual protest against these crying abuses.** An occasion soon offered. The castle church of Wittenberg possessed many relics, which on certain holy days were exhibited to the people, and full remission of sins was granted to all who then visited the church and made confession. Accordingly on these days the people in great numbers resorted thither. One of the most important of these occasions, the festival of All Saints, was approaching. **On the preceding day, Luther, joining the crowds that were already making their way to the church, posted on its door a paper containing ninety-five propositions against the doctrine of indulgences.** He declared his willingness to defend these theses next day at the university, against all who should see fit to attack them. {GC 129.2}

21. What was the immediate effect of Luther's 95 Theses? \_\_\_\_\_

**His propositions attracted universal attention. They were read and reread, and repeated in every direction. Great excitement was created in the university and in the whole city.** By these theses it was shown that the power to grant the pardon of sin, and to remit its penalty, had never been committed to the pope or to any other man. The whole scheme was a farce,--an artifice to extort money by playing upon the superstitions of the people,--a device of Satan to destroy the souls of all who should trust to its lying pretensions. It was also clearly shown that the gospel of Christ is the most valuable treasure of the church, and that the grace of God, therein revealed, is freely bestowed upon all who seek it by repentance and faith. **Luther's theses challenged discussion; but no one dared accept the challenge. The questions which he proposed had in a few days spread through all Germany, and in a few weeks they had sounded throughout Christendom.** {GC 130.1} **The Reformer's writings and his doctrine were extending to every nation in Christendom.** {GC 139.3}

22. Note: How Luther went viral...Five centuries before Facebook and the Arab spring, social media helped bring about the Reformation" **The protesters' message spreads virally through social networks,** making it impossible to suppress and highlighting the extent of public support for revolution. **The combination of improved publishing technology and social networks is a catalyst for social change where previous efforts had failed."** <http://www.economist.com/node/21541719>

23. What were the words and reactions from church leaders? \_\_\_\_\_

**The Reformer had bitter accusers to meet. Some charged him with acting hastily and from impulse. Others accused him of presumption, declaring that he was not directed of God, but was acting from pride and forwardness.** "Who does not know," he responded, **"that a man rarely puts forth any new idea without having some appearance of pride, and without being accused of exciting quarrels?"** . . . Why were Christ and all the martyrs put to death? Because they seemed to be proud contemners of the wisdom of the time, and because they advanced novelties without having first humbly taken counsel of the oracles of the ancient opinions." {GC 130.3}

24. Why did many dignitaries of church and state reject Luther and his writings? \_\_\_\_\_

Many dignitaries, of both church and state, were convicted of the truthfulness of his theses; **but they soon saw that the acceptance of these truths would involve great changes. To enlighten and reform the people would be virtually to undermine the authority of Rome, to stop thousands of streams now flowing into her treasury,** and thus greatly to curtail the extravagance and luxury of the papal leaders. Furthermore, to teach the people to think and act as responsible beings, looking to Christ alone for salvation, **would overthrow the pontiff's throne and eventually destroy their own authority. For this reason they refused the knowledge tendered them of God and arrayed themselves against Christ and the truth by their opposition to the man whom He had sent to enlighten them.** {GC 131.2}

25. Who did the Lord providentially send to unite with Luther and to push forward the Reformation? \_\_\_\_\_

**At this time, when Luther so much needed the sympathy and counsel of a true friend, God's providence sent Melancthon to Wittenberg.** Young in years, modest and diffident in his manners, Melancthon's sound judgment, extensive knowledge, and winning eloquence, combined with the purity and uprightness of his character, won universal admiration and esteem. The brilliancy of his talents was not more marked than his gentleness of disposition. He soon became an earnest disciple of the gospel, **and Luther's most trusted friend and valued supporter; his gentleness, caution, and exactness serving as a complement to Luther's courage and energy. Their union in the work added strength to the Reformation and was a source of great encouragement to Luther.** {GC 134.2}

26. What title did the Pope bear? \_\_\_\_\_

In an appeal to the emperor and nobility of Germany in behalf of the reformation of Christianity, Luther wrote concerning the pope: "It is a horrible thing to behold the man who styles himself Christ's vicegerent, displaying a magnificence that no emperor can equal. Is this being like the poor Jesus, or the humble Peter? **He is, say they, the lord of the world!** But Christ, whose vicar he boasts of being, has said, 'My kingdom is not of this world.' Can the dominions of a vicar extend beyond those of his superior?"--{GC 140.4}

"Pope Francis: Read Robert Hugh Benson's Lord of the World to understand me" <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/the-times/pope-francis-read-robert-hugh-bensons-lord-of-the-world-to-understand-me/news-story/a39fd3ae3806b94d923b81b51c9ec19a>

"The book that highlights the dangerous potential of secularist ideology" "Moynihan also provides a link to **Fr Robert Barron's blog about Benson's famous book.** Barron writes that **it is the story "of the cataclysmic struggle between a radically secularist society and the one credible alternative to it, namely the Catholic Church."** Some people bridle at this claim, yet **it is significant that innumerable converts cite it as the single most important reason for their conversion to the Church."** "Essentially the novel imagines a socialist and humanist world where religion has been either suppressed or ignored." <http://www.catholicerald.co.uk/commentandblogs/2014/01/03/the-book-that-highlights-the-dangerous-potential-of-secularist-ideology/>

27. What title did Luther give to the Pope based on the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

When the papal bull reached Luther, he said: "I despise and attack it, as impious, false. . . . It is Christ Himself who is condemned therein. . . . I rejoice in having to bear such ills for the best of causes. **Already I feel greater liberty in my heart; for at last I know that the pope is antichrist, and that his throne is that of Satan himself.**"- {GC 141.3}

Oh, how much pain it has caused me, though I had the Scriptures on my side, to justify it to myself that **I should dare to make a stand alone against the pope, and hold him forth as antichrist!** What have the tribulations of my heart not been! How many times have I not asked myself with bitterness that question which was so frequent on the lips of the papists: **'Art thou alone wise? Can everyone else be mistaken? How will it be, if, after all, it is thyself who art wrong, and who art involving in thy error so many souls, who will then be eternally damned?'** 'Twas so I fought with myself and with Satan, till Christ, by His own infallible word, fortified my heart against these doubts."--Martyn, pages 372, 373. {GC 143.1}

26. However, how did Luther feel many times? What did he do for support? \_\_\_\_\_

Said Luther, a few years after the opening of the Reformation: "God does not guide me, He pushes me forward. He carries me away. I am not master of myself. I desire to live in repose; but I am thrown into the midst of tumults and revolutions."-- He was now about to be urged into the contest. {GC 126.3}

**Luther trembled as he looked upon himself--one man opposed to the mightiest powers of earth. He sometimes doubted whether he had indeed been led of God to set himself against the authority of the church.** "Who was I," he writes, "to oppose the majesty of the pope, before whom ... the kings of the earth and the whole world trembled? ... **No one can know what my heart suffered during these first two years, and into what despondency, I may say into what despair, I was sunk.**"— But he was not left to become utterly disheartened. **When human support failed, he looked to God alone and learned that he could lean in perfect safety upon that all-powerful arm.** {GC 132.1}

29. Describe Luther's courage? \_\_\_\_\_

His language was: **He who desires to proclaim the word of Christ to the world, must expect death at every moment.**"-{GC 134.3}

**One day a stranger, with a pistol hidden under his cloak, approached the Reformer and inquired why he went thus alone. "I am in God's hands," answered Luther. "He is my strength and my shield. What can man do unto me?"-- Upon hearing these words, the stranger turned pale and fled away as from the presence of the angels of heaven.** {GC 140.1}

30. What gave Luther such strength? \_\_\_\_\_

The fear of the Lord dwelt in the heart of Luther, enabling him to maintain his steadfastness of purpose and leading him to deep humility before God. He had an abiding sense of his dependence upon divine aid, and he did not fail to begin each day with prayer, while his heart was continually breathing a petition for guidance and support. **"To pray well," he often said, "is the better half of study."**-- {GC 122.1}