

Ephesians 1:15-23
"Hope, Inheritance, & Power"

Intro: The 504 anniversary of the Reformation

-A very edifying and encouraging study: The study of the remarkable conversion of Martin Luther.

-Luther's testimony on joining the monastery: "If ever a monk could obtain heaven by his monkish works, I should certainly have been entitled to it. Of this all the friars who have known me can testify. If I had continued much longer, I should have carried my mortification even to death by means of my watchings, prayers, reading, and other labors."

-The counsel of John Staupitz to Luther: "Look at the wounds of Jesus Christ, to the blood that He shed for you. It is there that the grace of God will appear to you. Instead of torturing yourself on account of your sins, throw yourself into the Redeemer's arms. Trust in Him - in the righteousness of His life - in the atonement of His death."

-Martin Luther's great little book on prayer: "A Simple Way to Pray."

*We should pray that our fellow Christians would _____ in their
_____ of God and of the _____ that He has for them.

-'The God of our Lord Jesus Christ': A reminder that Jesus Christ is truly God and truly man.

-Two possibilities: 'A spirit of wisdom and revelation' and 'the Spirit of wisdom and revelation.'

-The word 'heart' in Scripture: Oftentimes refers to the totality of one's inner being.

-The new creation in Christ: Can be likened to the newborn baby that sees with limited eyesight at first.

-The 'call' referred to in verse 18: The effectual call of God.

-The word 'hope!': Oftentimes refers to an unseen, future reality.

-The believer's greatest inheritance: God Himself.

-The Christian life: An empowered life with God Himself supplying the empowering.

-The Lord Jesus Christ: Already reigns from on high and King of kings and Lord of lords.

-Personal Application: