



The Day that Transformed the World

By Mr. Alexander S. Brown, Minister

On September 4th, 1517 Martin Luther with fear and trembling nailed his list of 97 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. After years of study, Luther had become convinced that the dogma of the Roman Catholic Church concerning salvation was wrong. As a devout monk Luther did not take this step lightly, but after diligent study of the Biblical text, especially the books of Romans and Galatians, he had become convinced that man did not cooperate with God in his salvation – that man was not saved by grace *and* works – but that salvation was an act of God alone. He became convinced that justification was by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. And on September 4th he resolved that he must publicly make his discoveries known and post these 97 points of contention with the accepted dogma, no matter what the consequences.



October 31, 1517: Martin Luther posts his 95 Theses—the spark that ignited the Protestant Reformation.

Luther expected that this list would ignite a wildfire of debate, and that the Church would be rocked to its very foundations. However, nobody paid much attention to it. As Justo Gonzalez notes, “It seemed that the notion that the gospel was entirely other than was commonly thought, which Luther took to be of paramount importance, was received with little more than a great yawn.” There was no great debate; there were no cries of indignation from the scholastic theologians, or cries of liberty from the people who had suffered for so long

under a “gospel” that told them they must work for their salvation. Beyond the walls of the university, nobody much cared about Luther’s list.

However, Luther made a second list. And with this list he turned the world upside down.

On October 31st, 1517 this insignificant German monk hammered his (now infamous) list of 95 Theses to that same door in Wittenberg. This list would ignite a fire that would sweep across Europe, and then across the world. As Martin Luther’s hammer drove the nail that held the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, its banging was like a trumpet blast announcing that the reign of the Roman Catholic Church, and all her abuses, had come to an end.

The differences between the two documents were that the first, which contained many of the doctrines upon which the Reformation would be built, was received as an academic document. Those who came and read the notices on the Castle Church door wrote the 97 Theses off as an academic discussion for those in the Ivory Tower of the universities and seminaries.

(Continued on the next page)

October Calendar

Sunday

Sunday School • 9:30 AM

*“The Gospel of Grace:
Paul’s letter to the Galatians”*

Morning Worship • 10:30 AM

“Mark: A Confrontation with Christ”

Evening Worship • 6:00 PM

“Jeremiah: Judgment and Restoration”

(Nursery, Children’s Church available)

Wednesday

Midweek Prayer Meeting • 6:30 PM

| | | |
|-----|---------------|---|
| Sun | 10/2 | Communion; Baptism, AM Worship |
| Tue | 10/4 | “Beyond the Pages” Ladies Book Club (6:00 PM, Bolin home) |
| Sat | 10/8 | Men’s Monthly Breakfast & Bible Study (8-10:00 AM, Brown home) |
| Sat | 10/8 | GIPC Work Day (10:30 AM until...) |
| Tue | 10/11, 18, 25 | Ladies Bible Study (6:30 PM, Brown home) |
| Fri | 10/14 | GIPC Shower for James Campbell Brown (7:00 PM, Taylor home) |
| Sat | 10/15 | New Member’s Class (see pg. 2) |
| Tue | 10/18 | Savannah River Presby. Quarterly Mtg. (Augusta) |
| Fri | 10/21 | SSCS Jubilee (at GIPC) |
| Thu | 10/27 | Stated Session Meeting (6:00 PM) |

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The Day that Transformed the World

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But the 95 Theses dealt not in theological principles, but in practical applications. Whereas the 97 Theses provided the theological underpinnings of Reformation theology, it was the 95 Theses that dealt with the outworking of that – how it affected the man-in-the-pew.

The 95 Theses attacked the sale of indulgences and the notion that a person could buy their way into heaven, or buy fewer days for their loved ones in purgatory. It was here that, in a sense, the rubber-hit-the-road with the Roman Catholic Church's dogma of justification by grace and works. It was here that people felt most acutely the slavery such a doctrine put them under. There could never be enough money given, nor ever enough indulgences bought to assure them of their salvation, or the salvation of those they loved. They could never be sure their works were good enough. As Luther's 95 Theses were copied and spread throughout Germany, and then Europe, those who read them saw their chains of slavery breaking, and the Reformation took hold.

For that reason October is the month of Reformation, as we remember how the Lord used one broken and sinful man to lead the Church in the rediscovery of the Biblical doctrine of justification by grace alone. For many, October 31st is the day for Trick-or-Treating, or dressing in costumes to celebrate Halloween. But for us the day holds a far greater significance than just candy and costumes – it is the anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation which turned the world upside down. ♦



New Members Class

Want to know more about GIPC, and what it means to be a member of our church and our denomination?

On Saturday, October 15th, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. we will be having a New Members Class at the church. This is a no-pressure class for those who are interested in becoming members of Golden Isles and will cover our Membership Vows—looking at what they mean and why they are important.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Alexander Brown or Dorothy Garvin (638-2563, or email: office@gipc-pca.org).

Women In the Church (WIC)

New Officers Named

The new officers for WIC were announced at the Fall Kickoff Dinner: Diane Bowen, President; Sara Brown, Vice-President; Connie Reed, Secretary; Renee Shepherd, Treasurer; India Huddleston, At Large.

Fall Bible Study

The Fall Bible Study for women will begin Tuesday, September 29th, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sara Brown. The topic is *Counterfeit Gods*, by Tim Keller.

“Beyond the Pages” Book Group (1st Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.)

The book club will meet on Tuesday, October 4th at the home of Sharon Bolin to discuss “The Art of Racing in the Rain,” by Garth Stein. If you enjoy reading and discussing books, please come!

“Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth”

16th Annual World Missions Emphasis—November 11-13, 2011

Building & Grounds



Church Work Day

Saturday, October the 8th, is the next scheduled Church Work Day. Plan to meet at the church by 10:30 a.m. (after the Men's Breakfast). Work will involve outside and inside sprucing up and minor repairs.

Men of GIPC

“2nd Saturday” Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (October 8, 8:00 a.m.)

The men of the church will gather at the Brown home on Saturday the 8th for fellowship and Bible study (620 Neptune Way).

Significant Sessional Actions

- Approved Standing Rules for the Session of GIPC.
- Approved Baptism for James Campbell Brown, 2 October 2011.
- Approved the observation of Covenant College Sunday, 16 October 2011.
- Approved request by Saint Simons Christian School to use the GIPC facility to hold their Jubilee on 21 October 2011.
- Approved Vacation for Mr. Brown, 15-21 November 2011.
- Approved Rev. Chris 'Buck' Rogers (RUF Mercer) to take the services on Sunday 20 November 2011.
- Approved Chaplain (COL) Stephen Leonard (USA Ret.) to take the services on Sunday 27 November 2011.

Connect with us!

Church Office

Phone: 912.638.2563

E-mail: office@gipc-pca.org

48 Hampton Point Drive

Saint Simons Island, GA 31522

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Sermons, bulletins, and monthly newsletters are available on the web:

www.gipc-pca.org

OCTOBER

"Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day."
 (Psalm 119:97)

Family Worship

Old Testament Reading

| Date | Book | Chapter | ✓ |
|------|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <i>I Kings</i> | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | | 4,5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | | 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | | 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | | 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | | 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | | 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | | 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | | 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | | 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | | 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | | 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | <i>II Kings</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 | | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 | | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 | | 11,12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | | 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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"Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day."
 (Psalm 119:97)

Family Worship

New Testament Reading

| Date | Book | Chapter | ✓ |
|------|-------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Ephesians</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | <i>Philippians</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | <i>Colossians</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | <i>I Thessalonians</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | <i>II Thessalonians</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | <i>I Timothy</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 | | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 | | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | <i>II Timothy</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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 (Psalm 119:97)

Private

Old Testament Reading

| Date | Book | Chapter | ✓ |
|------|----------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Ezekiel</i> | 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | | 35 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | | 36 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | | 37 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | | 38 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | | 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | | 40 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | | 41 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | | 42 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | | 43 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | | 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | | 45 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | | 46 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | | 47 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | | 48 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | <i>Daniel</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 | | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 | <i>Hosea</i> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 | | 3,4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | | 5,6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

OCTOBER

"Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day."
 (Psalm 119:97)

Private

Psalms

| Date | Book | Chapter | ✓ |
|------|---------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Psalms</i> | 83,84 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | | 85 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | | 86 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | | 87,88 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | | 89 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | | 90 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | | 91 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | | 92,93 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | | 94 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | | 95,96 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | | 97,98 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | | 99-101 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | | 102 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | | 103 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | | 104 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | | 105 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | | 106 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | | 107 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | | 108,109 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | | 110,111 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | | 112,113 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | | 114,115 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | | 116 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | | 117,118 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | | 119:1-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | | v. 25-48 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 | | v. 49-72 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 | | v. 73-96 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | | v. 97-120 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 | | v. 121-144 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | | v. 145-176 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Week beginning OCTOBER 2

Proverbs 3:5-7

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

Week beginning OCTOBER 9

John 14:2-3; 15:5

In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Week beginning OCTOBER 16

Psalms 20:6-8

Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving might of His right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

Week beginning OCTOBER 23

Psalms 23:1,2

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Week beginning OCTOBER 30

Psalms 23:3,4

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.