

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

RLJ-2074

JOHN S. TORELL

JULY 5, 2026

PART 5: GOD'S TIMING UNFOLDING

GOD'S HAND IN HISTORY

Martin Luther was born 543 years ago in 1483. He was a German monk, theologian, professor, and the central figure of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. He is best known for challenging the teachings and practices of medieval Roman Catholicism, especially the sale of indulgences.

He is nicknamed *The Father of the Reformation* and *God's Trumpet* for restoring the biblical foundation of Christianity and sounding the alarm against the corruption of Romanism.

William Tyndale was born eleven years later in 1494. He is called *The Father of the English Bible* for his role in translating the Bible into English from Hebrew and Greek and his part in the English Reformation. His work heavily influenced later English translations, especially the King James Version.

While mankind cannot gaze into the future, we are able to investigate the past thanks to the written records that have been preserved throughout history. These documents serve as windows into the lives, thoughts, and events of Luther and Tyndale, revealing the guiding hand of God working through them. The past speaks clearly through the testimonies of those who recorded it.

GOD'S OMNISCIENCE

The Bible plainly reveals that the physical world in which we live was carefully planned by the Godhead before creation began. Every detail – including the crucifixion of Jesus – was ordained before the foundation of the universe.

“But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.” (1 Peter 1:19-20)

God the Father loved the Son of God (Jesus) before the creation.

“Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.” (John 17:24)

The souls of humanity were designed in eternity past.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and



without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.”
(Ephesians 1:3-5)

GOD’S UNFOLDING PLAN

Martin Luther born in 1483 and William Tyndale eleven years later in 1494. This small difference in time made it possible for Luther to be involved with the reformation by the time Tyndale started his translation work.

God put the design of a movable metal type printing press into the soul of Johannes Gutenberg (1393-1468) who possessed the necessary skills to execute the idea. The printing press was fully refined by 1450, long before Luther and Tyndale needed their Bibles printed. The invention spread across Europe, allowing books to be printed and distributed in large quantities as demand grew among the common people.

Luther and Tyndale independently translated the Bible into German and English, and through Gutenberg’s invention, their translations were multiplied and carried throughout Europe, placing the mass-produced Word of God into the hands of ordinary men and women for the first time in history.

No one alive at the time could have predicted the impact these two men would have on a worldwide scale.

1. The British Empire rose in the early 1700s to shape world politics, language, trade, and culture.
2. The United States of America came into being in 1776 and this former British colony would eventually surpass Great Britain after World War 1 to lead the world in technology, military capability, and cultural influence.
3. A powerful missionary movement would arise within the British Empire, later spreading to the United States, and together these nations would carry the Gospel to Africa, India, China, and many other lands.
4. Luther’s Bible in German was the foundation for Swedish, Danish and Norwegian translations and laid the groundwork of the Lutheran churches in these respective nations.
5. Revivals broke out in Sweden and Norway during the late 19th century which resulted in thousands of Norwegians and Swedes volunteering for mission work.
6. Swedish Baptists traveled to Russia and laid the groundwork for the Baptist churches which sprang up.
7. Swedish Pentecostals followed the Baptists and spread the Pentecostal message in Russia.
8. Two Swedish Pentecostal missionaries went to Brazil and laid the foundation for the massive Pentecostal movement in Brazil.

Before the foundation of the world, the Godhead knew that Satan would succeed in neutralizing the church born of Jesus Christ. More than eleven centuries passed before

the Godhead intervened and sent Martin Luther and William Tyndale to ignite the Reformation and make the Bible accessible to the common people through translations in German and English.