

August 5th, 2015 – Martin Luther

Salvation Theatre showed the thrilling movie of Martin Luther. This biography is based on the true story of the 16th – century priest who led the Christian Reformation and opened up new possibilities in exploration of faith. The film begins with his vow to become a monk, and continues through his struggles to reconcile his desire for sanctification with his increasing abhorrence of the corruption and hypocrisy pervading the Church's hierarchy. He is ultimately charged with heresy and must confront the ruling cardinals and princes, urging them to make the Scriptures available to the common believer and lead the Church toward faith through justice and righteousness.

After the Illustrated Message of Wrunken on August 2nd who was martyred for reading the Bible in her language, the story of Luther confronts the reality of the Reformation he spearheaded. But is it applicable today or is it just history? Is the Western church being lulled into sitting mindlessly and comfortably in our churches, believing whatever is being spoken over the pulpit, or are we taking the Word of God ourselves and judging what is being said? II Timothy 4:3-4 says, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables." It's very clear that Luther knew the power of the religious system of the day who wanted to control how much the common person knew about the Bible. They saw themselves as the only ones who could interpret the Holy Bible. It kept the people in ignorance and it gave them power to control the masses. Hebrews 4:12 says; "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Let's read the Bible and grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to teach us as it says in I John 2:27.

