send their children to, what are effectively, anti-Christian brainwashing institutions.

84. Theological seminaries have generally been infiltrated by liberal theologians and those who hold to historic evolution. The undermining of Biblical Christianity in many denominations is like a cancer working throughout the body.

85. “Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord? Therefore the wrath of the Lord is upon you.” 2 Chronicles 19:2.

86. We need to face the moral challenges of our day, including the symptoms of moral depravity: deception in the news media, degenerate entertainment, dishonesty in business and decadence in government.

87. Even more importantly we must recognise the root causes: ineffective churches, insipid preaching, irresponsible leaders, a rejection of God’s Law as the foundation for our families, churches and nation, neglect of the Bible, prayerlessness, self-sufficiency, confusion, compromise, cowardice and, at the very core, a lack of wholehearted love for God.

88. All too many churches are entertaining their members instead of educating them with God’s Word. They are comforting their members instead of challenging them in confronting sin. “Righteousness and Justice are the foundation of Your Throne; love and faithfulness go before You.” Psalm 89:14.

89. When we repent of our personal guilt in violating God’s Law, we are guilty when we disobey one of God’s Instructions, the result is forgiveness, freedom, healing and restoration. However, when repenting for false, or psychological, guilt we will never find freedom and forgiveness - because the devil is a hard taskmaster. We must know the Bible to recognise deception in the world and we must understand history in order to expose those who attempt to manipulate God’s people through guilt manipulation.

90. “Where there is no vision, a people perish…” Proverbs 29:18. We need a positive and practical vision from the Word of God for our whole lives, for our Churches, for our nations and for the world.

91. We must give our highest priority to loving, worshipping, serving, obeying, and honouring God. We need a Biblical vision of righteousness, justice, love and compassion. “The Lord loves righteousness and justice…” Psalm 33:5.

92. “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21.

93. The Reformation Society encourages further study and discussion on the Reformation doctrines and actions needed for Reformation Today. Please contact us at our Facebook page: Reformation500 to post your comments and suggestions.

94. Churches, ministries and individuals who wholeheartedly support these 95 Theses for Reformation Today are encouraged to email info@frontline.org.za to register their endorsement, or to write to: The Reformation Society P.O. Box 74 Newlands 7725 Cape Town South Africa. www.ReformationSA.org.

95. Join the Christian Action Network

For more information:
info@christianaction.org.za

This initiative is part of Coalition on Reformation 500, a worldwide coalition of Churches, centred on the Reformation 500 event at Wittenberg, 31 October 2017, to mark the 500th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther nailing the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church.

Email: missions@frontline.org.za
Web: www.Reformation500.org
www.livingstoneFellowship.co.za

Inspiried by, and based upon, Dr. Martin Luther’s historic 95 Theses published 31 October 1517, which launched the Protestant Reformation. We offer these 95 Theses for Reformation Today to stimulate prayerful reflection, study of God’s Word, discussion in the Church and positive action for Reformation Today:

1. One Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, commanded us to: “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near” (Matthew 4:17). The whole life of a believer must be one of repentance.

2. This cannot be interpreted as a token of commitment, nor a technical salvation that is all theory and no experience.

3. Biblical repentance involves conviction: a change of mind; contrition: a change of heart; and conversion: a change of life. It is not enough to confess our sin, we also need to reject sin, to loathe it and to forsake it. Repentance involves a change of mind, a change of heart, a change of habits and a change of behaviour.

4. “Now, therefore, says the Lord, turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. So rend your heart and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness…” Joel 2:12-13.

5. This was the message of the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost: “Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:38.

6. This was the message of the early Church: “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so the times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Acts 1:19.

7. The heart of the Gospel is a changed life in Christ.

8. God is a Holy God and His righteous standards are seen in His Law. Man is sinful and we need to repent from our wickedness and trust in Christ.

9. This repentance and faith is to be evident in obedience to Christ, and a willingness to sacrifice and to suffer persecution for Christ. To those who turn to Him in repentance and faith, God promises great blessings, rewards and eternal life.

10. Before He returned to Heaven, our Lord Jesus Christ commanded His followers: “But repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name to all nations…” Luke 24:47.

11. This repentation is by the grace of God, Plan to Reformer, or to write to: The Reformation Society P.O. Box 74 Newlands 7725 Cape Town South Africa. www.ReformationSA.org.

12. Biblical Salvation always involves a change of behaviour. “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.” Isaiah 55:7.

13. Those who teach that as long as you believe you are saved, regardless of how you behave, are false teachers. The Scripture makes clear that just as repentance without faith is not true repentance, so faith without repentance is not true faith. For repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin. Belief always affects behaviour.

14. “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works is dead. But someone will say, you have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works and I will show you my faith by my works…” as for the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:17-26.

15. The Scripture warns us not to harden our hearts (Psalm 95:8). Blessed is the man who always fears the Lord, but who hardens his heart falls into trouble (Proverbs 28:14).

16. “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the Kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were cleansed, you were sanctified, you were justified by the Name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.” 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

17. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and He saves those who, when exasperated, are broken in pieces (Isaiah 63:9). The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart (Psalm 51:17). The Lord promises to heal and give the responsive and humble heart (2 Kings 18:18).

18. “Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart, and a new spirit. For why should you die...?” Ezekiel 18:31.

19. Those who claim that we can accept Jesus as Saviour, without submitting to Christ’s standards, will not be saved (1 John 2:1). The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart (Psalm 51:17). It would not have been sufficient for Moses to have proclaimed to the Hebrews, who were slaves in Egypt, that they should accept that in Yahweh they had perfect freedom, whilst leaving them in bondage and under the yoke of slavery in Egypt.

20. Nothing less than deliverance from Egypt, freedom from the bondage of slavery, would have been adequate. God’s eternal purposes required the people of Israel to survive the Passover, leave Egypt, cross the Red Sea and be established as a free people in the Promised Land.

21. Sin is serious. Yet we are far too tolerant of sin. “God now commands all men everywhere to repent.” Acts 17:30.

22. Sin is more defiling than dirt, more dangerous than an unexploded bomb, more life threatening than a deadly disease, more insidious than a virus. “Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.” Isaiah 55:6.

23. “The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.” Psalm 19:7. The Law of God removes the unexploded bomb in the soul. The Lord promises the end of sin and show the nature of sin. Failure to use the Law is almost certain to result in false hope, the introduction of a false standard of Christian experience, and to fill the church with false converts. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10).

24. They will never accept grace until they tremble before a just and holy Law. The Law of the Lord is the schoolmaster that leads us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith alone (Galatians 3:24). Salvation is by the grace of God alone, received by faith alone.

25. Scripture alone is our ultimate authority. “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

26. Christ alone is the Head of the Church. Christ is the only Mediator between God and man. Truth conquers. Not all the world’s religions, not all the traditions and fadatory beliefs create the church, which is Christ alone. “God now commands all men everywhere to repent.” Acts 17:30.

27. “We are to deny self, not indulge self. For many people experience guilt manipulation. ‘Thou shalt not commit adultery; thou shalt not kill; thou shalt not steal; thou shalt not bear false witness; thou shalt not covet;’ But the commandment is not written ‘for yourselves’ but ‘for your neighbours.’ Why do you this? Because you are not only a unique individual but also a member of a community in which your actions affect others.” The Ten Commandments (the Sabbath; dishonouring our parents; taking innocent life; stealing; bearing false witness; coveting) are instructions to the community. The Law of God is the Basis of the Social Community. This was the message of the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost: “Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:38.

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29. Christians must be aware of those churches that try to look and sound just like the world, but are much more like the world. Many churches in the Great Commission is virtually ignored as social issues, health and wealth, flashy entertainment and an emphasis on selfish and materialistic concerns. While many continue to promote the Ten Commandments, the faith is not a matter of choice, for the most part, but many of the church leaders display a lack of the fear of God and proclaim a different gospel and a different Jesus from that revealed in Holy Scripture.

30. Many popular preachers today are telling people what they want to hear, instead of what they need to hear. The Word of Faith, "Name it and Claim it", "Gab it and Grab it", Health and Wealth Prosperity preachers may be popular, but they are false teachers. They are effectively inoculating people against true Christianity. We need to be like the Bereans who were more noble than the others in that they searched the Scriptures daily, to see if the things that the apostles said were true (Acts 17:11).

31. A mature Christian is a discerning person. We cannot love God with all our hearts if we do not hate the world without God: studying His Word, the Bible, Christians should test themselves to see whether they be in the faith. Has there been a genuine change in your way of thinking? Have you experienced a change in your inner man? Do you love God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind? Do you love to study God's Word? Do you love to pray? Do you hate sin?

32. We are commanded to contend for the faith, once delivered to the saints (Jude 3). Our Lord Jesus Christ is our example and He fought a good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith. He is the example of what we are to do. In the Biblical Faith in a Sovereign God, but faith in faith. It is actually now the common pattern. Much of the Word of Faith message emphasizes more the worldly goods and benefits that come from following God than the joy of knowing Him. Anyone who go beyond the Scriptures and presumptuously proclaim that they are offering more resembles magic than Biblical faith. Much of the Word of Faith philosophy is based on a false understanding of the nature of God, His will, and the Bible. It is a deceptive philosophy that is being accepted by many without a careful examination of its conclusions and application.

36. The Scripture warns us: “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’, shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Actions flow from thought patterns. What we think, and what we think influences what we become and what we will become. As stated in the earlier chapter, our Lord Jesus said that an evil and idolatrous generation seeks for signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, during the feast, many believed in His Name when they saw the signs that He did. Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His Name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, during the feast, many believed in His Name when they saw the signs that He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, during the feast, many believed in His Name when they saw the signs that He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, during the feast, many believed in His Name when they saw the signs that He did.

37. We need to be on our guard, and to be careful about what we believe. We must be careful to discern the true meaning of God's Word, and to avoid error and false teaching. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings. We must be careful to avoid being deceived by false teachers and false teachings.

49. The Word of God commands us not to be afraid of any man (Deuteronomy 1:7). We are warned that the fear of man will prove to be a snare (Proverbs 27:5).

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57. If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition, every portion of the truth of God's Word, except precisely that point which I am in the wrong, I must be accounted for the greatest opponent of my faith. If I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing him. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and the real test of the faith is that which lies beyond the current besides is mere flight and disguise - if he flinches at that point.

58. Compromise and cowardice hurts everyone concerned. Cowardice is destructive and short sighted. In Revelation 2:18, cowardice is described as a church that has lost its spiritual power. It is actually now the common pattern. Much of the Word of Faith philosophy is based on a false understanding of the nature of God, His will, and the Bible. It is a deceptive philosophy that is being accepted by many without a careful examination of its conclusions and application. The doctrine of Cowardice is destructive and short sighted. In Revelation 2:18, cowardice is described as a church that has lost its spiritual power. It is actually now the common pattern. Much of the Word of Faith philosophy is based on a false understanding of the nature of God, His will, and the Bible. It is a deceptive philosophy that is being accepted by many without a careful examination of its conclusions and application.

64. In this culture war, it is vital that we know what we believe, why we believe it, and to practically know how to defend it in argument. It is also vital that we know how to share the truth with others and to challenge error.

77. Christians must recognise that we are involved in a world war of worldviews. There is a war against God and against His Word in the Bible. In this battle for the mind, classrooms and cinemas are battlegrounds. Education is a battleground, the textbooks and the literature are filled with the themes of evolution, the psychology of self-esteem, the relativism of ethics, sex and education and values clarification. Reality is being rearranged by selective focus and in what Karl Marx declared “the first duty of the Christian is to save the soul of the nation”. Many secular humanists hope to steal our children and hijack our culture and country. Much of the entertainment industry has been subverted to as glamourise evil, popularise profanity, and celebrate illegitimacy. It is the duty of Christians to support excellent Christian media.

78. In entertainment, it is vital that we know before we go, that we want to discern. We must choose the best family-friendly films, and avoid those which promote evil and occult themes.

79. The theory of Evolution is an attempt to obt a comprehensive world view that is consistent with the natural world. It is the first priority of parents and teachers to ensure that children are taught to love God and His Word. Secular humanist education, often under the guise of "education reform", is being used to undermining our children's faith in God and His Word. The Bible tells us that God seeks children who love Him, who read the Bible, and who obey its teachings. In the Bible, God commands us not to be afraid of any man. We are called to be the light of the world. All the darkness cannot put out the smallest light. "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” Habakkuk 2:14

80. The recent phenomenon of age-segregated Sunday morning worship should be re-evaluated in the light of Scripture. The youth are being removed from the body of the Church. The Church is one body. "As for the body, it is one, and all its members, and all the members of that body being many are one body, for one spirit." 1 Corinthians 12:12.

81. Parents should be raising up their children in the fear of God, in fellowship with all believers. Church social events should involve families. Youth ministry should be returned to where it belongs – to families, not to schools. The Bible is the word of God, not the word of the teachers. They are enemies of Christ who require the Word of God to be engraved on their hearts. They are teaching children to love God and His Word. Secular humanist education, often under the guise of "education reform", is being used to undermining our children's faith in God and His Word.

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85. Many mainstream denominations have been infiltrated by secular humanism, and are teaching evolution, instead of the biblical doctrine of creation. Many modern churches have produced generations of spineless evangelists. Many churches are filled with pseudo-saved, semi-saved, half-saved, un-saved, pew-warmers who have never been truly converted, nor have they come into any real relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

86. To distract and neutralise the Christian Church, false doctrines and heresies have been vigorously promoted. Passivism has been promoted and a “rapture fever” obsession with end-times prophecies has been promoted. Antinomianism has gutted the Church of the Law of the Lord and God’s eternal purposes are accomplished in, and through, your life.

87. Young people have a far greater capacity for spiritual and social maturity than we tend to give them credit for. Young people should be encouraged to go deeper, further and higher for the Lord.

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