Some Luther Gems:
"When you feel in your conscience that you are guilty, guard with your utmost effort against striving with God or with men by defending and excusing your sin. Rather do the following: Do not flee from God when He is pointing His spear at you, but flee to Him with a humble confession of your guilt and a request for forgiveness. Then God will draw back His spear and spare you." (*Lectures on Genesis*, pg 277)

"Our Lord God gives to us not out of benevolence, fairness, or because of our deserts, but because of the greatest virtue of all, which is called love. That should make our hearts swell big, and sadness totally disappear, to perceive such sheer, undeserved love in the heart of God and to believe it with our whole heart, that God, the greatest of all givers, gives out of the best of all virtues- love!" (*Sermons, Vol 6*, pg 196)

"We believe that the very beginning and end of salvation, and the sum of Christianity, consists of faith in Christ, who by His blood alone, and not by any works of ours, has put away sin, and destroyed the power of death." (*Table Talk*, 190)

"If you are a preacher of mercy, do not preach an imaginary but the true mercy. If the mercy is true, you must therefore bear the true, not an imaginary sin. God does not save those who are only imaginary sinners. (*Letters*, #99)

Recommended for Further Reading:
Schaff, Philip *History of the Christian Church, Vols VII, VIII*
Tomkins, Stephen. *A Short History of Christianity*
D'Aubigne, J.H.M., *History of the Reformation*
Paulson, Steven *Luther for Armchair Theologians*
Forde, Gerhard *On Being a Theologian of the Cross*
Nichols, Stephen *The Reformation, How a Monk and a Mallet Changed the World*
Reeves, Michael *The Unquenchable Flame*
Luther, Martin *95 Theses, Bondage of the Will, Babylonian Captivity of the Church, Table Talk, On Christian Liberty, Short and Large Catechism, Commentary on Galatians, Lectures on Genesis, Preface to the Book of Romans*

Core Seminars—Church History

Class 6: Martin Luther & the Protestant Reformation (AD 1483-1546)

"…we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified." Galatians 2:16

"To sum it all up, the sin for which the world is judged is failure to believe on the only begotten Son. For God loved the world, gave his own Son to the world as a gift, sent the light into the world; all sins would be forgiven, if only mankind would believe on the Son". –Martin Luther, *Sermons, Vol. 6*

I. Introduction: The Need for Church Reform

a) Moral Decay

b) Indulgences

II. The Early Reformers

a) Peter Waldo (~1140 - ~1218)

b) John Wycliffe (~1328-1384)

c) Jan Huss (1369-1415)

d) Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498)

III. Luther: Life (1483-1546)

a) Luther the monk

b) Luther the professor

c) Luther the reformer

1. *95 Theses* (1517)

2. *Babylonian Captivity of the Church* (1520)

3. Diet of Worms (1521)

d) Luther the fugitive

IV. Luther: Doctrine

a) Justification by Faith Alone

b) Theology of Glory/Theology of the Cross

c) Believer's Freedom

V. Lutheranism

a) Melanchthon and Osiander

b) 30 Years War (1618-1648)

c) Scandinavia and America