

TRANSFORMED BY KNOWING CHRIST

EPHESIANS

4:17-24



**This Tuesday marks
the 500th
anniversary of the
Reformation
movement.**

**But what other
significant events
and individuals
allow us to have
freedom in Christ
today?**



In 325 AD Emperor Constantine called church leaders to a resort town of Nicea, in an attempt to find unity on the subject of the nature and character of Jesus Christ.



The Hiberno-Scottish Mission: The earliest recorded Irish mission can be dated to 563 with the foundation of Iona by the Irish monk, Columba. During the dark ages (590-1215 AD), missionaries from Ireland spread Christianity to Europe.



Cyril and Methodius were sent out by the Greek Orthodox church (860-885) to preach and translate the scriptures into the Slavic languages.



Peter Waldo (1140-1205 AD) preached the word of God when it was illegal to do so. The Waldensians studied in alpine mountain caves then spread the message in the towns below.



John Wycliffe (1330-1384 AD) translated the scriptures into English and considered the scriptures of higher authority than the church.



**Jan Hus taught at
the university and
preached in a
church in Prague
that had required
preaching in the
language of the
people ever since
the ministry of
Cyril and
Methodius.**



"The Church of Christ in Bohemia greets the Church of Christ in England, and yearns to share in its confession of the holy faith by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ." –excerpt from a letter (September 1410) from Jan Hus to Richard Wyche.



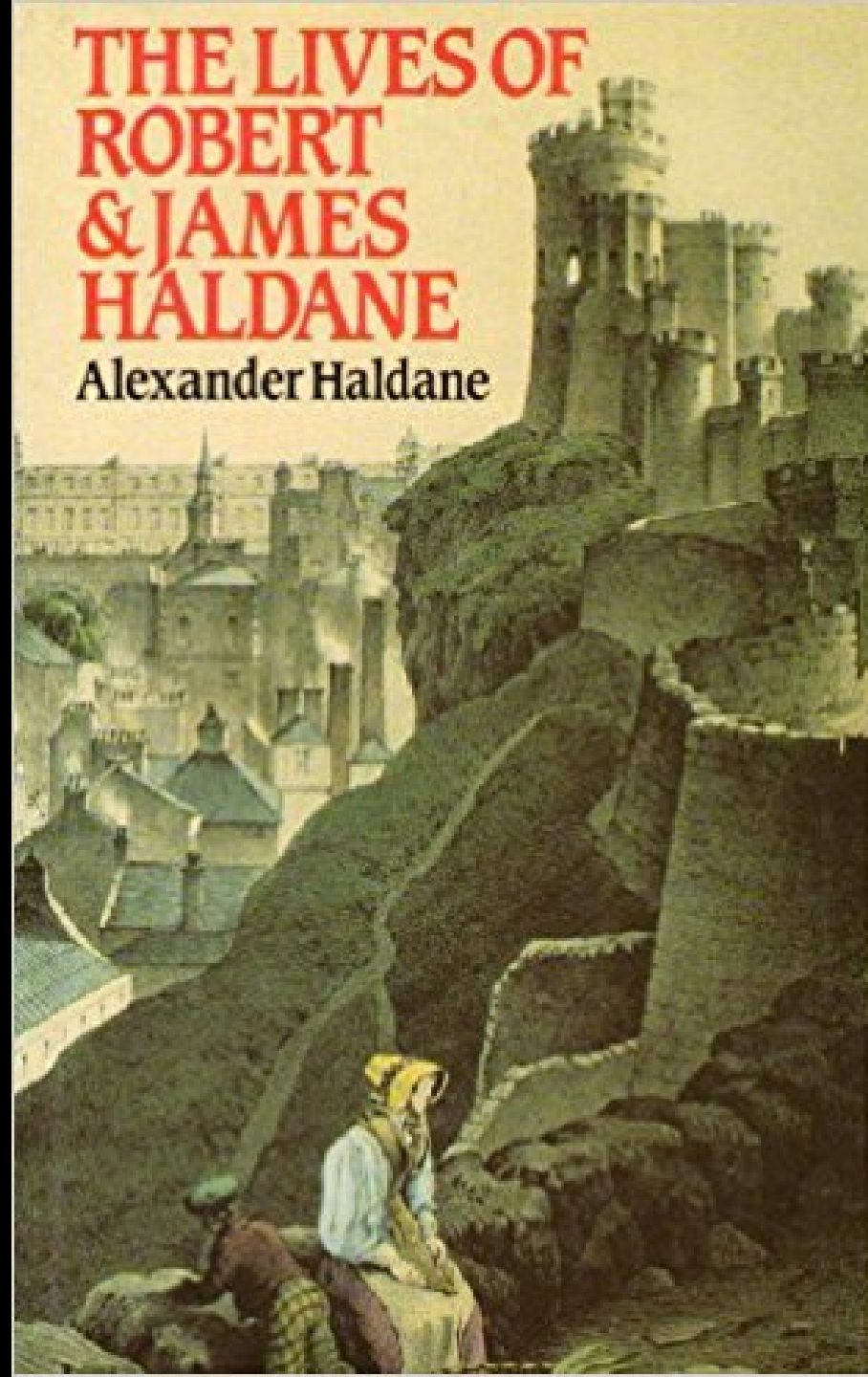
Martin Luther a former Roman priest and monk nailed 95 theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg on October 31, 1517.

He most strongly objected to the selling of indulgences to fund the building of St. Peter's in the Vatican. He also taught the authority of the scriptures and salvation by grace.

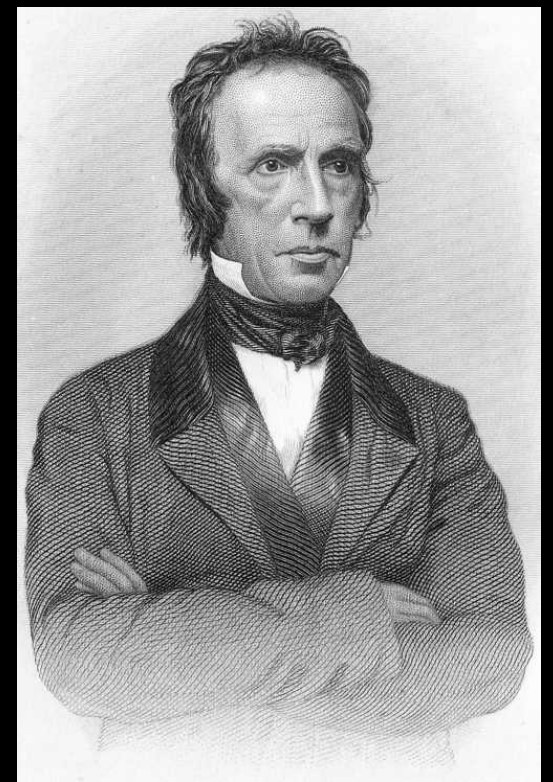
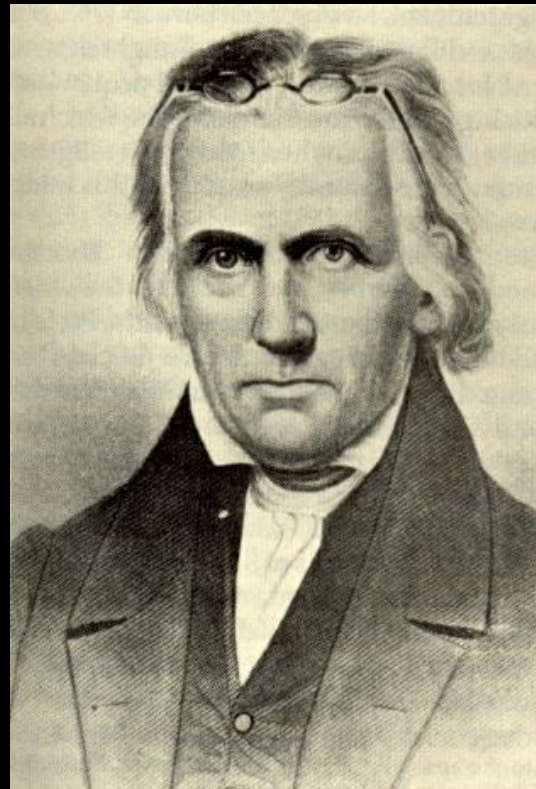
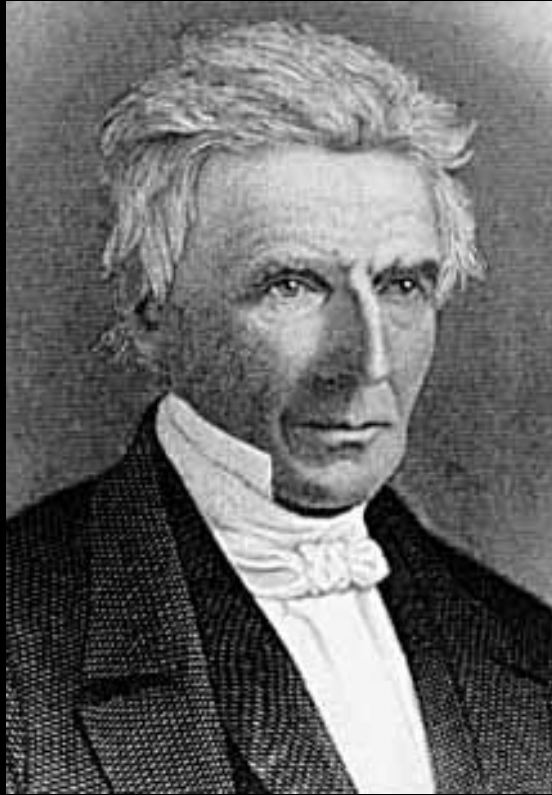


**James and Robert
Haldane established
85 churches in
Scotland and Ireland
and trained ministers
in their school.**

**Churches planted by
the Haldanes practiced
baptism by immersion,
weekly communion,
and autonomous
government.**

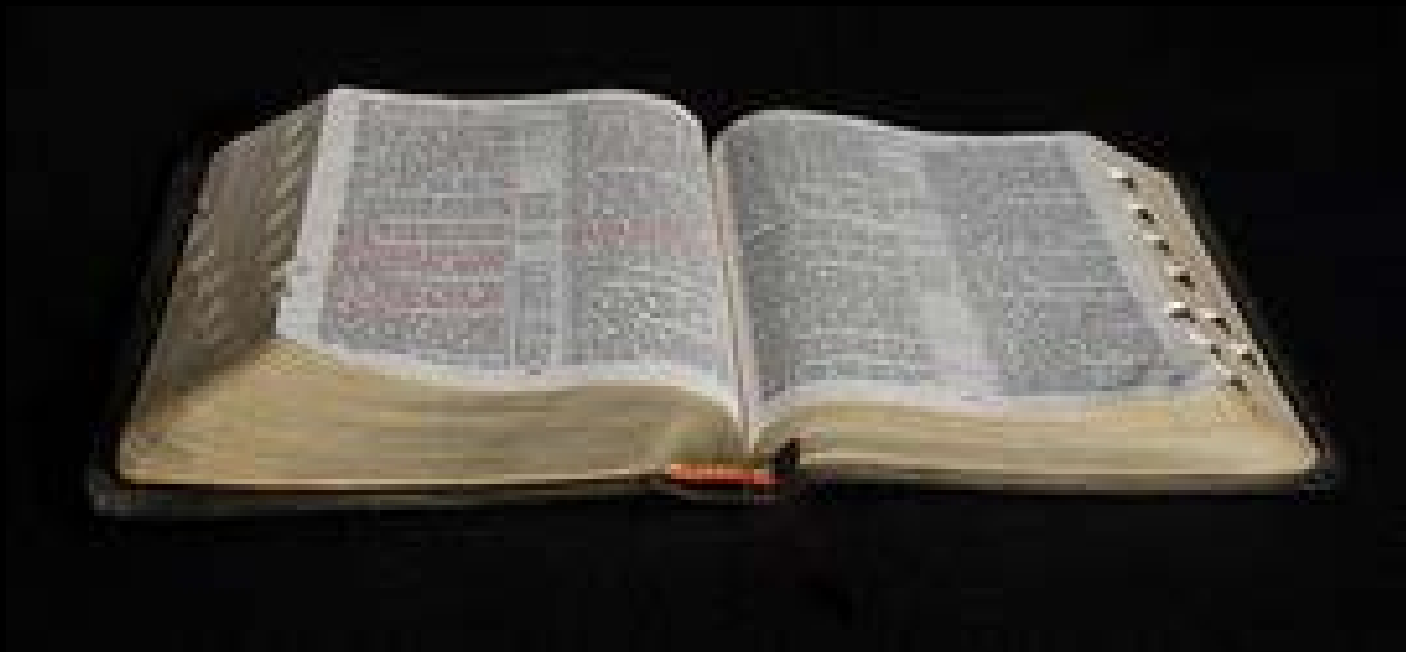


American Restoration leaders, Thomas and Alexander Campbell and Walter Scott all attended the school started by the Haldane brothers in Scotland.



All of these men as well as countless other Christians allow us to be simply followers of Christ. Now, let's examine our text for today and see what it can teach us.

"TRANSFORMED BY KNOWING CHRIST"
EPHESIANS 4:17-24



I. Worldliness progresses along a specific path (Ephesians 4:17-18).

- How does hardness of heart lead to ignorance, then to worldliness?
- What can we do to prevent our hearts from being hardened to Jesus?



II. Worldliness will harden hearts to the holiness of God (v.19).

- **Why does a hardened heart spiral downward morally?**
- **What can we do to keep that from happening?**



III. All life-transforming truth is found in Jesus (v.20-21).



- What do worldly people need to clearly see?
- How completely does truth reside in the person of Jesus?
- How has learning of Jesus helped your life to be transformed?

IV. The truth found in Jesus can transform you into His nature (v.22-24).



- What is the role of 'the spirit of your minds' in overcoming worldliness?
- What is involved in putting on the new self that is in God's likeness?
- How diligently are you praying and working to that end?

Call to Action: To allow the life of Jesus to continue your own reformation.



- How are we indebted to the men and women of history who spread the message of Jesus?
- How have we allowed our hearts to become hardened?
- How can we allow the person of Jesus to lead us to holiness?
- How regularly & clearly are you seeing Jesus?
- How diligently are you praying and striving to see Christ?

-How can we help?