

# SHIFTING PARADIGMS

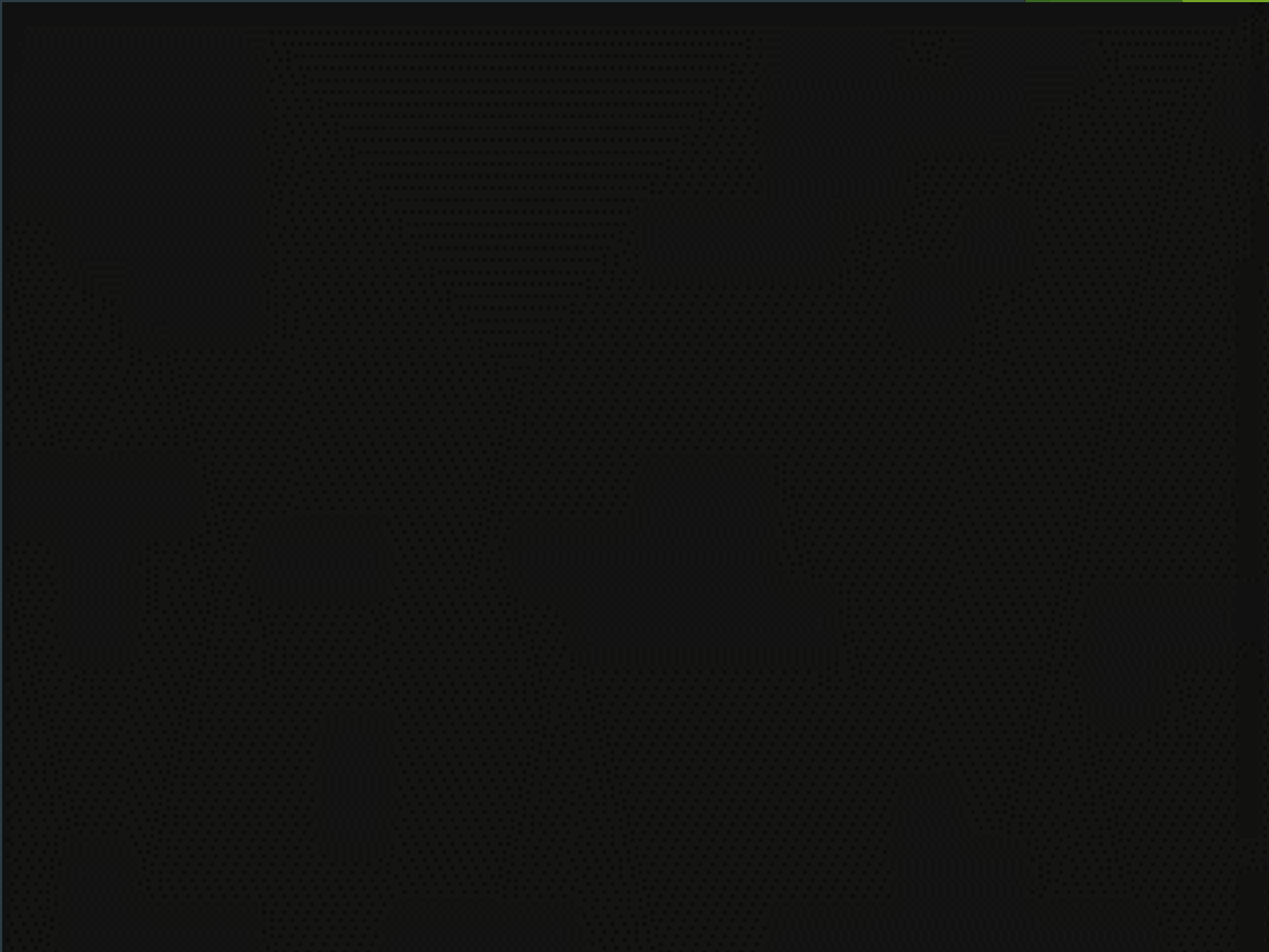
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## MARTIN LUTHER'S ENDURING GLOBAL IMPACT



Martin  
**LUTHER**  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Federated with  
**Wilfrid Laurier**  
University



# Martin Luther in Global Context



Jung Young Lee, Marginality: The Key to  
Multicultural Theology

(Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1995), 10-13.

**Martin Luther: Setting the Stage**

**Martin Luther's Life and Career: A Scholar in Turbulent Times**

**Everything New is Old Again: Tradition and Innovation in Luther's Theology and Religious Practice**

**Luther's Musical Dialectic: Singing Faithfully into Context**

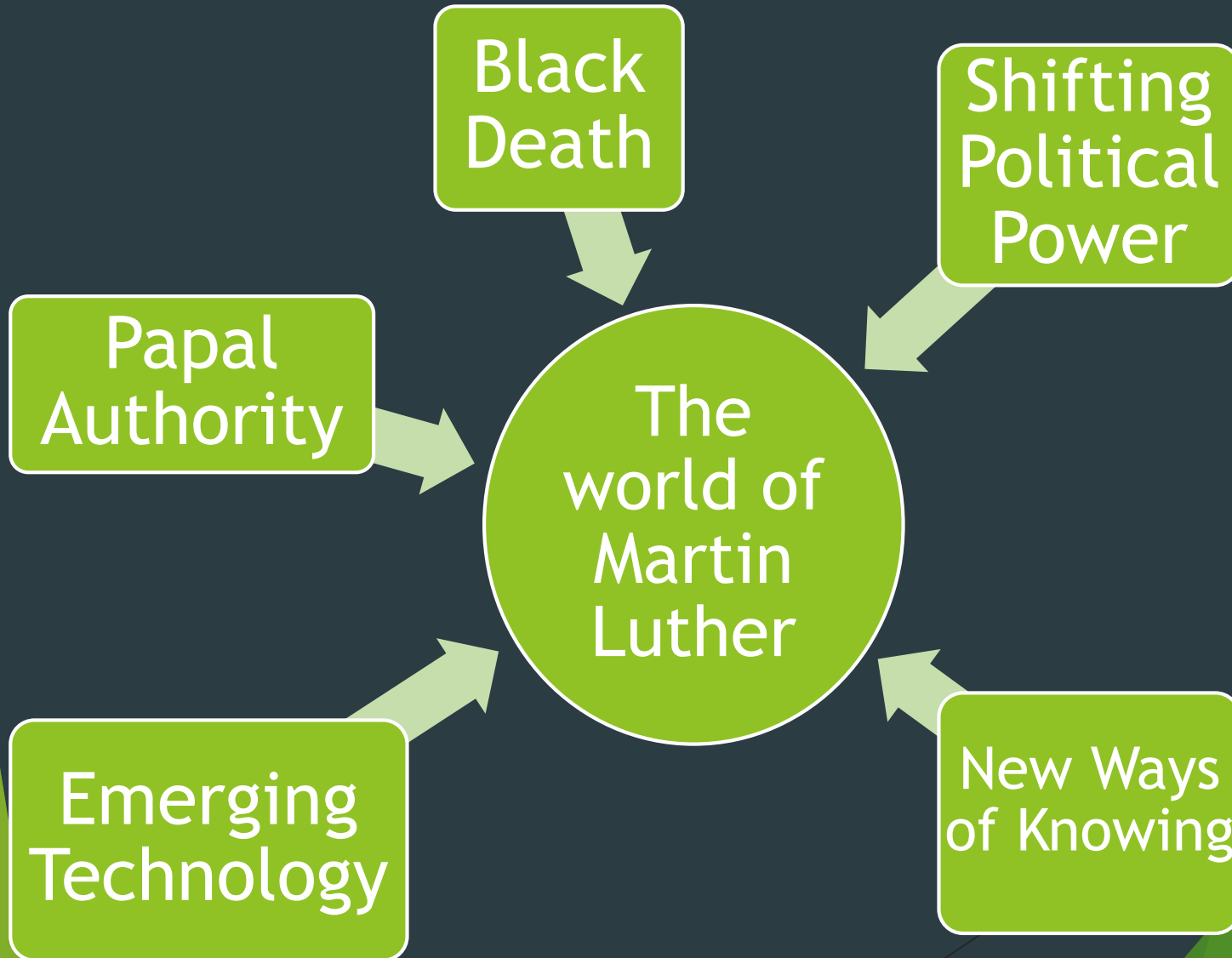
**When Doing the Right Thing Doesn't Make You Right: Martin Luther's (Very Public) Ethics**

**Martin Luther and Care of the Soul**

**Martin Luther and Anti-Semitism**

**Martin Luther in a Global Context**

# Martin Luther: Setting the Stage



# Martin Luther's Life and Career: A Scholar in Turbulent Times

## Luther: The Man and the Legend

The beginning of the Reformation - 95 thesis: was it posted on the castle door or was it just sent to Archbishop Albrecht on October 31, 1517

*Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation -*

*On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church -*

Freedom of a Christian

# Everything New is Old Again: Tradition and Innovation in Luther's Theology and Religious Practice

Justification as a continual event

Theologian of the cross – calls a thing for what it is

Vocation and Priesthood of all Believers – Christ is the first priest and we are all working together in response to Jesus' call

Sacraments - It is not that the sacraments make you holy; it is about coming as you are, broken but honest, bringing yourself and your gift to the table



# Luther's Musical Dialectic: Singing Faithfully into Context

How does one sing faithfully into context?

- By looking people in their mouth

Music as Christian practice

Singing together as constructing theology

# When Doing the Right Thing Doesn't Make You Right: Martin Luther's (Very Public) Ethics

What is the world view?

What lenses are you wearing?

Faith is biographical and defines who we are.

Ethics is autobiographical and tells us who we are becoming and creates the world view

# Martin Luther and Care of the Soul

Medieval world understanding of mental illness

Martin Luther's experience of mental illness

Martin Luther's relationship with Staupitz:  
The therapeutic relationship

Spiritually integrated psychotherapy

# Martin Luther and Anti-Semitism

“When you wake up in the morning, you have a fresh start. Each day is a new opportunity to walk a little bit more in turning toward the way that we all know or that we can learn is the way to walk to ‘do this and you will live.’”



“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’ and ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”



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Is this Luther?

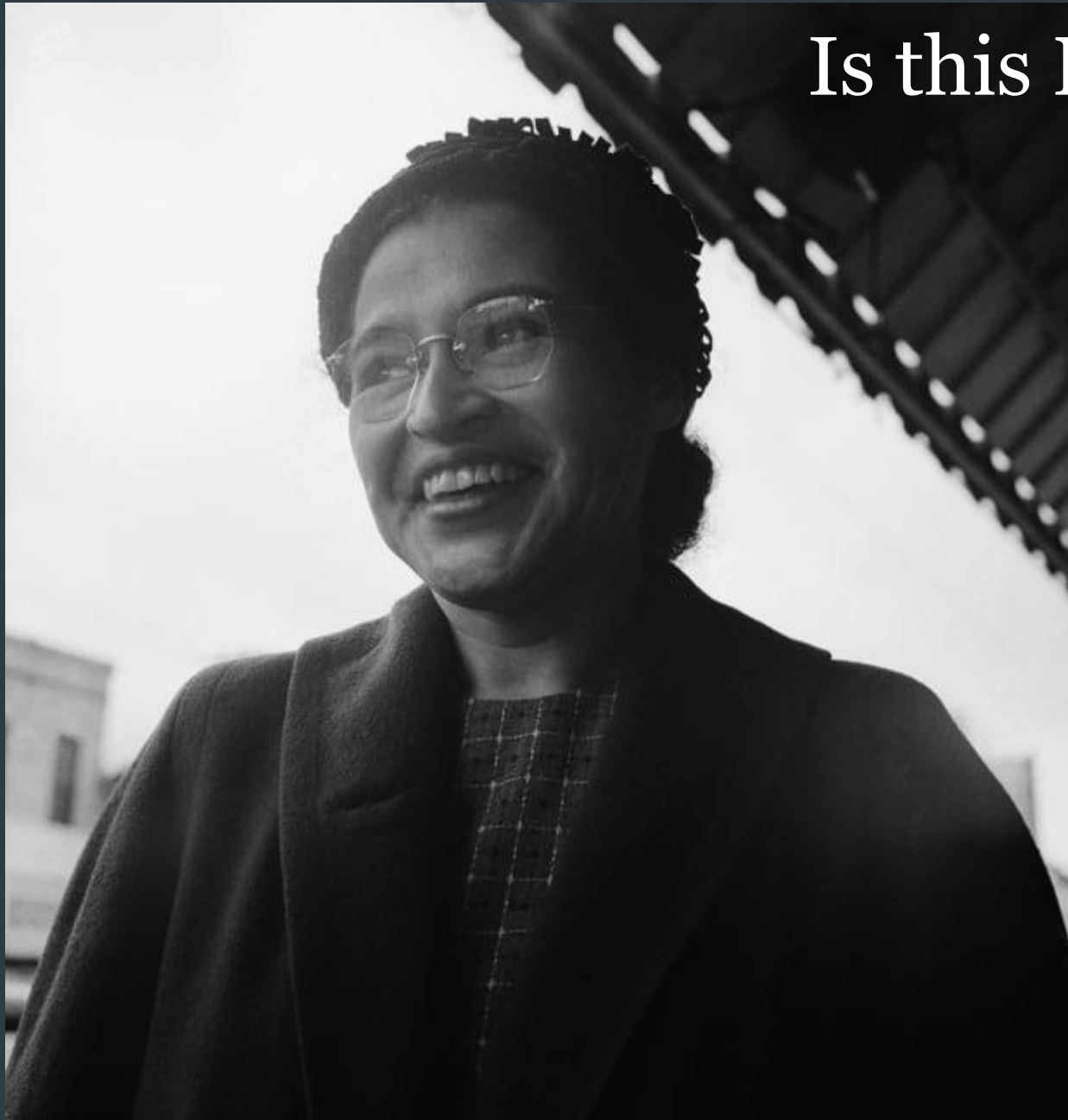




Is this Luther?



Is this Luther?

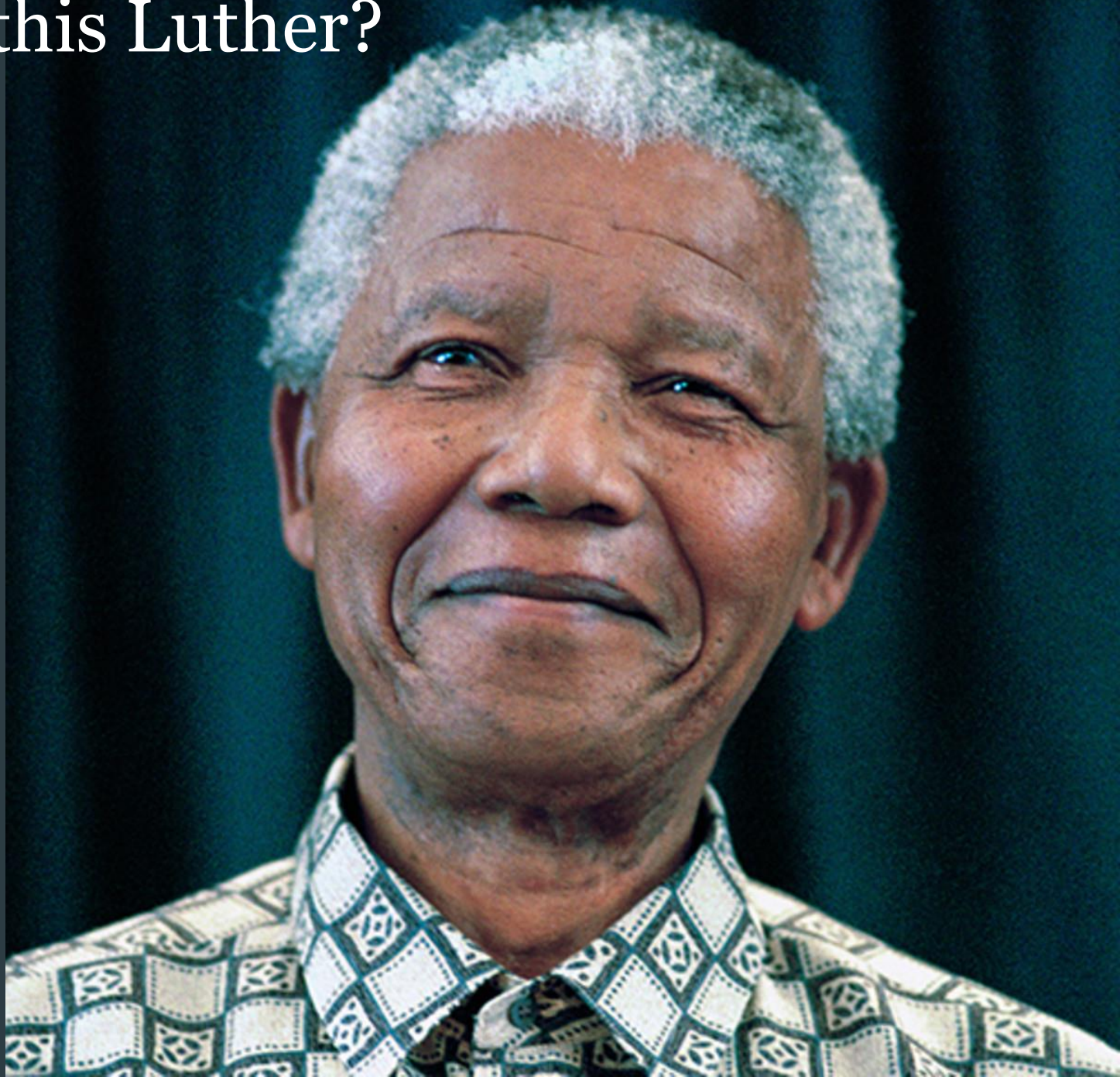


# Is this Luther?





Is this Luther?





*ut legem credendi lex statuat supplicandi*

the rule of faith is to be established  
by the prayer of the suppliant

# Tasks of Theology

To be -

- the Mouth of Aaron
- Martha and the house of Martha





rohila-770x433.webp



Rohila Hembram, tribal student who will conduct Saraswati Puja in Dalla Chandramohan High School, in Malda, WestBengal



Headmaster Joydeb Lahiri,

Teacher Binay Bishwas

Rohila Hembram

Baby girl born in Piplantri  
in front of the tree planted at her birth





“ God writes the Gospel not in  
the Bible alone, but also  
in the trees, and in  
the flowers and  
clouds and stars.”



Martin Luther

# Girls of Piplantri beside the trees planted at their birth





"One must deal cleanly with the Scriptures. From the very beginning the word has come to us in various ways. It is not enough simply to look and see whether this is God's word, whether God has said it; rather we must look and see to whom it have been spoken, whether it fits us."

Martin Luther, "How Christians Should Regard Moses"  
Luther's Works: Word and Sacrament I, vol. 35.

*Traduttore traditore*

translator traitor

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,\* you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

“If you want to see  
Christ, stare not at  
the heavens; in every  
alley, at your door  
you will find Christ.”

- Martin Luther



## *Contact Lenses*

Lacking what they want to see makes my eyes hungry  
and eyes can feel only pain.

Once I lived behind thick walls of glass and my eyes belonged to  
a different ethic  
timidly rubbing the edges of whatever turned them on.

Seeing usually was a matter of what was in front of my eyes  
matching what was behind my brain.

Now my eyes have become a part of me exposed  
quick risky and open to all the same dangers.

I see much better now and my eyes hurt

May God bless you with restless discomfort,  
At easy answers, half-truths,  
And superficial relationships  
So that you may seek truth boldly and live  
Deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger  
At injustice, oppression,  
And exploitation of people,  
So that you may tirelessly work for  
Justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with gift of tears,  
To shed for those who suffer pain,  
Rejection, hunger and war,  
or the loss of all that they cherish,  
So that you may reach out your hand  
To comfort them and turn their pain to joy



And,

May God bless you with enough foolishness

To believe that you can make a difference in the world,

So that you can do what others claim cannot be done

To bring justice and kindness

To all our children and the poor.

Amen.