

b. Hus...a vernacular Bible and the full participation of the worshippers in the life of the church.

There are others in this category but the thrust with these was the commitment to the Scripture as authority and the proof that they felt it so by virtue of the translation of the text into the speech of their people..

## 2. Contributing Humanists

a. Savanarola...an insistence on obedience to the Scripture at the expense of defiance of the highest ecclesiastical authorities.

b. Erasmus...the Greek New Testament in its first edition in a long time...the thrust being that men must study the Word as given as much as possible. While Erasmus is hardly a reformer his ideas are contributory to the reformation thrust and his satirical attacks on the authority of the clergy and the ecclesiastical machine helped restore the Scripture to an authority position.

c. Reuchlin...doing for Hebrew what Erasmus did for Greek and making the text of the Old Testament readily available for scholars such as Luther.

d. Colet...giving the Scriptures a place superior to philosophy in the academic circles of his time (Oxford).

e. LeFebvre...Using the Scripture as the means for measuring the validity of the theological arguments of the Sorbonne scholars and concluding rather pointedly that only the Scriptures made sense and offered consistency.

## 3. The Emphatic Challenge: Sola Scriptura

a. The cry was sounded when at Leipzig Luther noted that a general council might err, any human teacher might err...but the Scripture would not. From that point forward the claim of the reformers was...if you can show a point wrong by Scripture it must be given up. They concentrated on showing the wrongness of the Roman position. It is not surprised that the great reformers were exegetes of a very superior sort...and reformation followed their exegesis.

c. Calvin would make a great point that only Scripture interprets Scripture--infallibly. His challenge would be to defy the traditional understanding and, in particular, the mysterious ecclesiastical tradition that only a few learned priests knew.

c. Luther would lead the fight for public literacy. If the Word of God contained the plan of salvation it would be necessary that every man be able to read it if that