

over the offices of the church. In 1520 he resigned his papal pensions and office and began preaching through the Bible...a sort of running exposition. He preached daily and often several times and had a wide hearing.

By 1522 he was in revolt against ecclesiastical rule, had ended the mass and the feast of the liturgies. In this area he was quicker and more radical than Luther. He was working as a leader in an almost neglected part of the world and therefore not nearly so vulnerable to public opinion and pressure as was Luther.

Zwingli's chief method was debate coupled with positive preaching. During 1523-24 he conducted public debates in which he challenged the institutions of Rome. He welcomed priests, legates, etc., to the conflict and generally won the crowds..his style and position being popularly attractive. Of Zwingli we note that regardless of how a scholar might have judged the debates, the people hailed him as the winner. He produced a confession of faith in 67 articles and in 1525 the mass was formally ended in Zurich. This followed the confiscation of monastic properties and the reassignment of land in 1524 and both moves stimulated his popularity and gained the support of the Swiss populace in Zwingli's territory.

As did Luther, so Zwingli drew to himself a number of very capable assistants...most notable among these was Oecolampadius, who served in Basel in 1522 and Bern in 1528 and was Zwingli's spiritual confidant. In Strasburg, Martin Bucer, Luther's friend, was powerfully drawn to Zwinglian ideas and in time became a force that contributed well to both Lutheran and Reformed movements. His immediate successor, J.H. Bullinger, proved the stabilizing factor in Zurich and eventually established the Zwinglian doctrines in much of Switzerland.

As noted, Zwingli was a man of action and led in the formation of the Christian Civic Alliance in 1527. This represented a united political front of 7 cantons favoring the reformation views. It was headed by Strasburg, Constance and Zurich. The Catholic states were merged in the Christian Union but did not seem disposed towards warfare. However the hostilities could not be avoided and the sides met in the famous Kappel battle. Zwingli, at the head of the Zurich force, was killed in battle prompting a note from Luther, we are told, to the effect that those