

HISTORY
of
THE REFORMATION
of
THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY
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VOLUMES I. to V.

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Luther's tenth proposition, condemned by the pope, was thus drawn up: "No man's sins are forgiven, unless he believes they are forgiven when the priest absolves him." By condemning this, the pope denied that faith was necessary in the sacrament. "They pretend," exclaims Luther, "that we must not believe our sins are forgiven when we receive absolution from the priest. And what then ought we to do?.....Listen, Christians, to this news from Rome. Condemnation is pronounced against that article of faith which we profess when we say: 'I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the forgiveness of sins.' If I were certain that the pope had really issued this bull at Rome (and he had no doubt about it), and that it was not invented by Eck, that prince of liars, I should like to proclaim to all Christians that they ought to consider the pope as the real Antichrist spoken of in Scripture. And if he would not discontinue publicly to proscribe the faith of the Church, then.....let even the temporal sword resist him, rather than the Turk!.....**For the Turk permits us to believe, but the pope forbids it.**"  
JHMD DHR THE PAPAL BULL—1520, book 6, chapter 9 page 205 paragraph 6

Rome, having got rid of the reformer, thought the heresy was at an end. But in a short time everything was changed. Death removed from the pontifical throne the man who had put Luther under the ban of the Church. Disturbances occurred in Spain, and compelled Charles to visit his kingdom beyond the Pyrenees. **War broke out between this prince and Francis I, and as if that were not enough to occupy the emperor, Soliman made an incursion into Hungary, Charles, thus attacked on all sides, was forced to forget the monk of Worms and his religious innovations.** JHMD DHR book 9 chapter 6 page 322 paragraph 3

It might be feared that the emperor's brother, the Archduke Ferdinand, would do what Frederick had refused. This young prince, who presided during part of the sittings of the diet, gradually acquiring more firmness, might in his zeal rashly draw the sword which his more prudent and politic brother wisely left in the scabbard. In fact, he had already begun a cruel persecution of the partisans of the Reformation in his hereditary states of Austria. **But God on several occasions made use of the same instrument for the deliverance of reviving Christianity that he had employed in the destruction of corrupt Christianity. The crescent appeared in the terrified provinces of Hungary.** On the 9th of August, after a six weeks' siege, Belgrade, the bulwark of this kingdom and of the empire, fell before Soliman's attack. The followers of Mahomet, after having evacuated Spain, seemed bent on entering Europe by the east. The Diet of Nuremberg forgot the monk of Worms, to think only of the Sultan of Constantinople. But Charles V kept both these adversaries in mind. On the 31st of October [1522], he wrote to the pope

from Valladolid: "We must check the Turks, and punish the abettors of Luther's poisonous doctrines with the sword." JHMD DHR AGITATION, REVERSES, AND PROGRESS. 1522—1526, book 10, chapter 3 page 357 paragraph 1

Yet Ferdinand still hesitated. **Mahomet himself came to the aid of the Gospel. Louis, king of Hungary and Bohemia, drowned at Mohacz on the 29th August 1526, as he was fleeing from before Soliman II,** had bequeathed the crown of these two kingdoms to Ferdinand. But the Duke of Bavaria, the Waywode of Transylvania, and, above all, the terrible Soliman, contested it against him. This was sufficient to occupy Charles's brother: he left Luther, and hastened to dispute two thrones. JHMD DHR THE PROTEST AND THE CONFERENCE. 1526-1529, book 13, chapter 1 page 503 paragraph 10

Ere long a greater agitation eclipsed all these rumors, and events which threatened the whole evangelical body, proclaimed its great and intimate union with new force. The emperor, it was everywhere said, exasperated by the Protest of Spires, had landed at Genoa with the pomp of a conqueror. After having sworn at Barcelona to reduce the heretics under the power of the pope, he was going to visit this pontiff, humbly to bend the knee before him; and he would rise only to cross the Alps and accomplish his terrible designs. **"The Emperor Charles," said Luther, a few days after the landing of this prince, "has determined to show himself more cruel against us than the Turk himself, and he has already uttered the most horrible threats.** Behold the hour of Christ's agony and weakness. Let us pray for all those who will soon have to endure captivity and death." JHMD DHR THE PROTEST AND THE CONFERENCE. 1526-1529, book 13, chapter 7 page 536 paragraph 6

The two arms pointed out by Luther were, in reality, vigorously employed; and Soliman, perceiving at last that he was not the "soul of the universe," as his poets had styled him, (page 536) but that there was a strength in the world superior to his own, raised the siege of Vienna on the 16th October; and "the shadow of God over the two worlds," as he called himself, **"disappeared and vanished in the Bosphorus."** JHMD DHR THE PROTEST AND THE CONFERENCE. 1526-1529, book 13, chapter 7 page 535 paragraph 8 {This power (Islam) that vanished in Luther's day is having a resurgence today under the Seventh Trumpet—Third Woe time frame of Revelation 8, 9, 10 and 11, compilers comments.}

The horizon became hourly more threatening. The papists of Germany wrote one to another these few but significant words: "The Saviour is coming." "Alas" exclaimed Luther, "what a pitiless saviour! He will devour them all, as well as us." In effect, two Italian bishops, authorized by Charles V, demanded in the pope's name all the gold and silver from the churches, and a third part of the ecclesiastical revenues: a proceeding which caused an immense sensation. "Let the pope go to the devil," replied a canon of Paderborn, a little too freely. "Yes, yes!" archly replied Luther, "this is your saviour that is coming!" The people already began to talk of frightful omens. It was not only the living who were agitated: a child still in its mother's womb had uttered horrible shrieks. **"All is accomplished," said Luther; "the Turk has reached the highest degree of his power, the glory of the papacy is declining, and the world is splitting on every side." The reformer, dreading lest the end of the world should arrive before he had translated all the Bible, published the prophecies of Daniel separately,—"a work," said he, "for these latter times." "Historians tell us," he added, "that Alexander the Great always placed Homer under his pillow: the prophet Daniel is worthy not only that kings and princes should lay him under their heads, but carry him in their hearts; for he will teach them that the government of nations proceeds from the power of God.** We are balanced in the hand of the Lord, as a ship upon the sea, or a cloud in the sky." JHMD DHR THE AUGSBURG CONFESSIOIN. 1530, book 14, chapter 1 page 540 paragraph 6