

473/06

**HISTORY – HI3**

**UNIT 3**

**IN-DEPTH STUDY 6**

**THE GERMAN REFORMATION, c. 1517-1555**

A.M. THURSDAY, 12 January 2006

(1 hour 30 minutes)

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources or quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

**You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.**

## UNIT 3

## IN-DEPTH STUDY 6

## THE GERMAN REFORMATION, c. 1517-1555

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

## SECTION A

Answer **one** question.

**1. Martin Luther and the beginning of the Reformation in Germany.**

*Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

‘The Romanists want to be the only masters of Holy Scripture, although they never learn a thing from the Bible all their life long. They try to persuade us that the Pope cannot err in matters of faith.

- 5 Therefore it is a wickedly devised fable – and they cannot quote a single letter to confirm it – that it is for the Pope alone to interpret the scriptures or to confirm the interpretation of them. They have assumed the authority of their own selves. And although they say that this authority was given to St. Peter when the keys were given to him, it is plain enough that the keys were not given to St. Peter alone, but to the whole community.’

[Martin Luther in his critical tract, *Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation* (1520)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘for the Pope alone to interpret the scriptures’.  
(line 5) [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about the interpretation of the scriptures by the Catholic Church? [8]
- (c) How useful is this source to an understanding of Martin Luther and the beginning of the Reformation in Germany? [20]  
(*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.*)

## 2. The Catholic Church on the eve of the Reformation.

*Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

5 ‘Gracious lord, at your request we have investigated the Augustines and found that they have ceased to hold Mass for several reasons. First, because a great and unchristian abuse of the Mass has been implanted throughout the whole world, both spiritual and secular. Second, the celebration of the Mass as it has hitherto been observed is contrary to the usage and practice instituted by Christ and the Apostles.

It is certain that the abuse of the Mass is one of the greatest sins on earth and there is no doubt that we will be severely punished with wars and plagues. For the Mass is in its most prominent part no more than a spiritual meal and this spiritual meal is no more than a sure sign, when a lay person goes to the Sacrament, by means of which we are reminded of the forgiveness of sins.’

[Report to Frederick the Wise, the Prince of Saxony, by a university committee in Wittenberg, many of which went on to play leading roles in the development of Lutheranism (1520)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase “a spiritual meal” (line 8). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about the role of the Princes on the eve of the Reformation? [8]
- (c) How useful is this source to an understanding of the Catholic Church on the eve of the Reformation? [20]  
*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)*

**SECTION B**

Answer **one** question.

**3. The spread of Lutheranism in Germany.**

Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.

Source A

‘We Germans have the name, title, and coat of arms of the Empire, but the Pope has its wealth, power, the courts and the laws.’

[Martin Luther in his critical tract, *Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation* (1520)]

Source B

‘Frederick the Wise of Saxony had showed his readiness to stop papal indulgences being sold on his land. He had a substantial collection of relics and was keen to sell his own indulgences rather than those authorized by the Pope.’

[Geoffrey Woodward, an academic historian writing in *The Sixteenth Century Reformation* (2001)]

Source C

‘Though I realise full well that your Princely Graces will know how to deal in this matter better than I can advise, yet I am in duty bound to do my part and respectively pray and exhort you to look into this matter carefully. Your obligation to maintain order requires you to guard against such mischief and to prevent rebellion.’

[Extract from Martin Luther’s letter to the Prince of Saxony about the German peasants,  
*Concerning the Rebellious Spirit* (1524)]

Source D

‘The peasantry are wrong and act contrary to God in rebelling and using violence against their authorities, for even if all the articles are quite correct, God still demands obedience to rulers. As St Paul says in Romans 13.2, whoever resists the authorities shall be punished.’

[Philipp Melanchthon, a humanist and leading reformer, in a reply to the Elector Palatine. This Prince had previously written to Melanchthon asking for advice about the behaviour of the peasants (1525)]

Source E

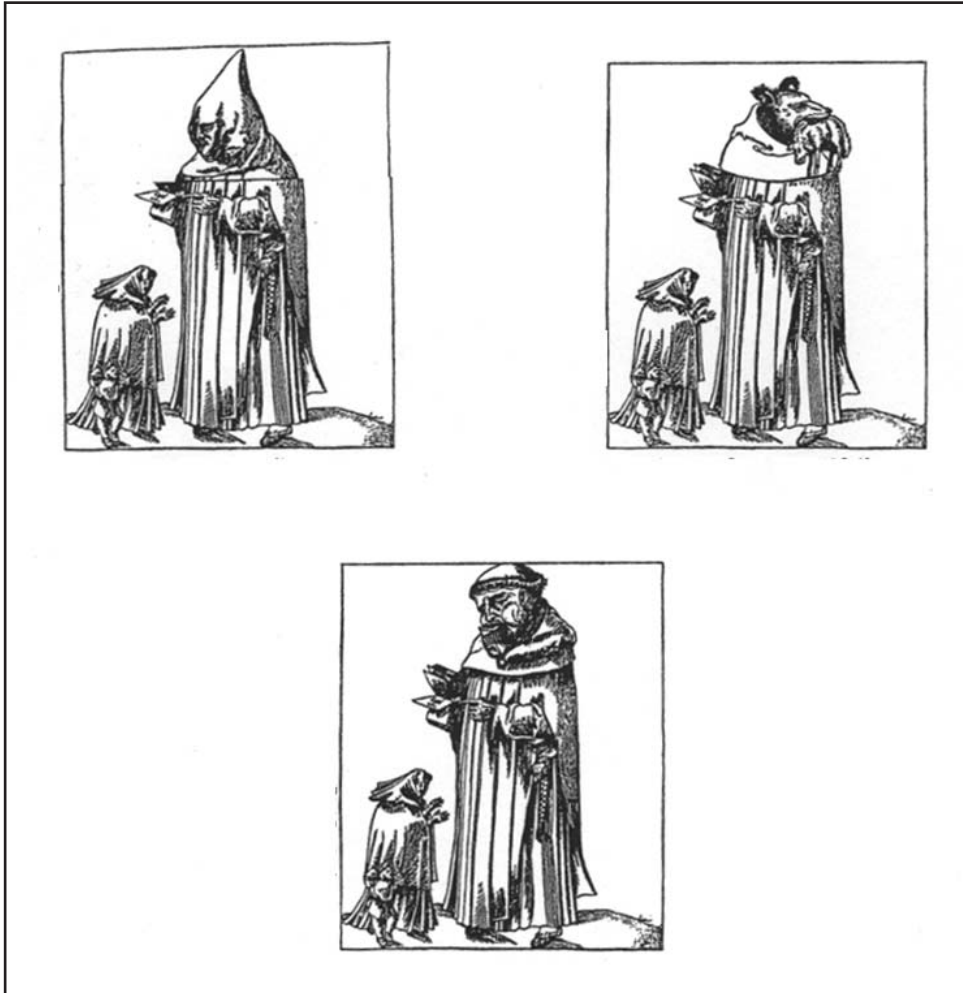
[Luther shown as *Hercules Germanicus*, a critical contemporary cartoon by Hans Holbein the Younger (1528)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show differing views of the authority of the Pope? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying the reformers and the Peasants Revolt? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the spread of Lutheranism in Germany? (You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.) [24]

#### 4. Reaction to the Protestant Reformation in Germany.

Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.

##### Source A



[A critical woodcut entitled *Monkish Covetousness*, artist unknown (16th century)]

##### Source B

'It seems to the advantage of the Pope that this affair [Martin Luther's challenge] be settled by the mature deliberations of serious and impartial men. In this way regard will best be shown for the dignity of the Pope. Opposition to Luther ought to be without hate.'

[Desiderius Erasmus, a leading humanist, giving advice to Frederick the Wise (1520)]

Source C

‘The Emperor [Charles V] has answered the University of Vienna to the effect that it is to burn the books of Luther at once. Today in a privy council he has resolved and given orders that one of his secretaries depart with utmost dispatch for Antwerp and other cities in Flanders for the purpose of completely stamping out Luther’s books, arresting his followers and taking the most drastic measures.’

[The Papal Nuncio’s report from the Diet of Worms (1521)]

Source D

‘Unless a council is called things will get worse so we have appointed our beloved sons, Giovanni Caraffa and five others, as Inquisitors General, with jurisdiction throughout Christendom. They are to investigate by way of inquisition all and sundry who wander from the way of the Lord and the Catholic faith.’

[From Pope Paul II establishing the Roman Inquisition (1552)]

Source E

‘There is little doubt that the new religious orders supported Papal authority and indeed strengthened it when the Church came under attack from Luther.’

[Alaistair Armstrong, an academic historian writing in a school textbook,  
*The European Reformation 1500-1610* (2002)]

- (a) Compare Sources B and C. How do Sources B and C show differing reactions to Martin Luther? [8]
- (b) Study Sources D and E. How reliable are Sources D and E as evidence to an historian studying the significance of the religious orders? [16]
- (c) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the reaction to the Protestant Reformation in Germany?  
(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.) [24]