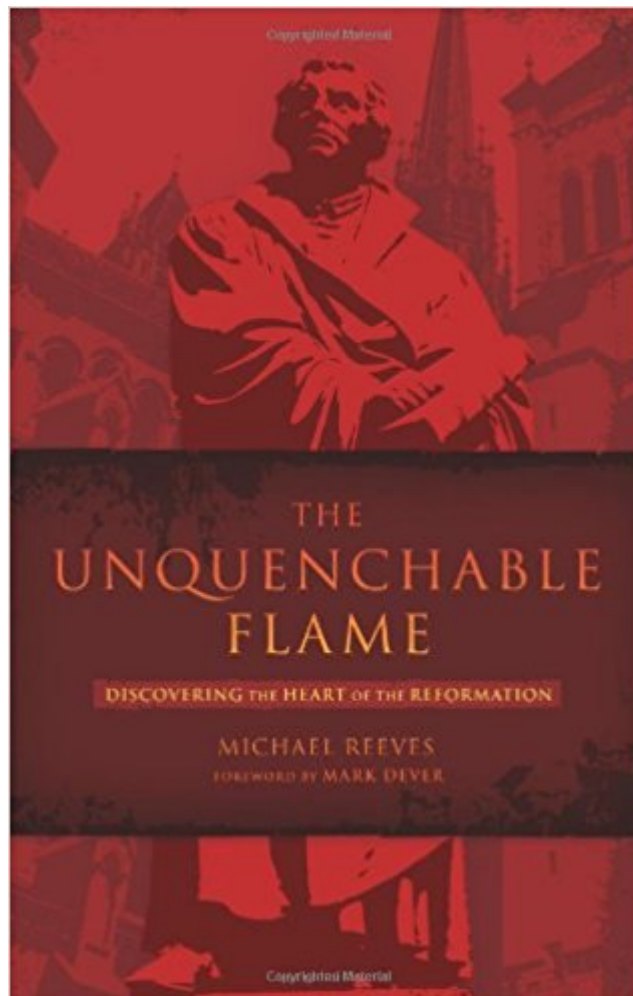




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The Unquenchable Flame: Discovering The Heart Of The Reformation



Synopsis

Burning pyres, nuns on the run, stirring courage, and comic relief: the Protestant Reformation is a gripping tale, packed with drama. But what motivated the Reformers? And what were they really like? The Unquenchable Flame, a lively, accessible, and fully informative introduction to the Reformation by Michael Reeves, brings to life the movement's most colorful characters (Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin, The Puritans, etc.), examines their ideas, and shows the profound and personal relevance of Reformation thinking for today. Also included are a lengthy Reformation timeline, a map of key places in the Reformation, further reading suggestions, and, in this U.S. edition, a new foreword by 9 Marks Ministries president Mark Dever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michael Reeves is theological advisor for Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF), a charity supporting evangelism in higher education throughout the United Kingdom. He was previously associate minister at All Souls Church, Langham Place and holds a doctorate in systematic theology from King's College London.

Point: A return to the authority of Scripture opened the eyes of the reformers to see justification by faith alone, and forever changed history.
Path: In a clear and engaging manner, Reeves explains the background, the major players, and the continuing effects of the Reformation. He gives sufficient information to peak interest, but does not dive too deeply into debates and arguments from

scholars. I would categorize the tone of the book as something akin to “sarcastic storytelling,” and have to admit that it is very appealing! The story is engaging, there is both suspense and humor, and the broad picture of the Reformation Era is very helpful! Sources: Reeves knows his history, and he knows it well enough to keep it very interesting. There are not many footnotes, so this is not a resource for your next journal article, but it gives a very helpful overview of the Reformation. Agreement: I thoroughly enjoyed this book and found myself checking on other books that I have or would like to purchase in order to follow the lives of other individuals touched upon. Personal App: Sola Scriptura and Sola Fide are not mere historical relics. Am I living them? Favorite Quote: There were so many gems in this book, it is hard to pick only one. “As a result, Luther never believed that he should devise any great programme for spreading the Reformation. He simply wanted to unleash the word of God, and let that do all the work.” (57) It would be worth another read and I would recommend it to someone who: is interested in church history, loves a good story, has a catholic or lutheran background, is confused on what “Protestant” or “Evangelical” actually means. Other books along this same theme would be: George, Timothy. *Theology of the Reformers*. Revised edition. B&H Academic, 2013. Lawson, Steven. *The Heroic Boldness of Martin Luther*. 1st ed. Reformation Trust Publishing, 2013. Parsons, Burk. *John Calvin: A Heart for Devotion, Doctrine, Doxology*. Reformation Trust Publishing, 2008. Sproul, R. C. *Are We Together? A Protestant Analyzes Roman Catholicism*. Orlando: Reformation Trust Publishing, 2012.

This book made a subject I’ve studied a good bit come alive in a very enjoyable & informative way. Reeves really understands the history, theology, politics, and motives of the Reformation.

Reeves work is best summarized by this definition of justification. He goes to lengths to show, beginning with Luther especially, that understanding justification rightly, a radical change had come! A great read!

Michael Reeves has become one of my favorite authors. Here his familiarity with the reformation mixed with his passion for its teachings make for a colorful and engaging introduction. If I was going to introduce a newer believer to the the reformation this is the book I would give them. Reeves 3 titles together are devotion in a bottle: *Delighting in the Trinity*, *Rejoicing in Christ* and the *Unquenchable Flame*.

Comprehensive! From before Luther to our own day and the flow of history in between, Reeves clearly shows that the Reformation was needed and still is.

Good but brief synopsis of the Reformation, which was a bloody affair. I'm going to proceed to a more detailed approach.

Having just turned the last page of this splendid little (200 pp) book, I have a smile on my face and a little bit of that "unquenchable flame" in my heart! This is a great introduction and summary of the major issues pertaining to the Reformation. Reeve's writing style is perfect, blending history with action and humor. In his foreword to the book, Mark Dever writes that the story is told with "clarity, boldness, humor and an engaging earnestness." I couldn't agree more. And the string of culture-shaking personalities and events that made the Reformation deserve no less. If you're planning on diving deeper into this topic (or a particular aspect of it), this would be a good place to begin.

After reading this book I realize that my understanding of the reformation has always been a bit vague. Reeves style kept me reading for I sometimes find history a bit dry. I liked the bits of artwork from the historical period. What I gained is an understanding of what the Reformation was all about. Justification in Christ alone. I was amazed to find that though statements from Catholic leaders support this, the catechism still teaches pre reformation beliefs. Words from leaders can be cheap. The real question is, what are people in the congregation taught?

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