



# Martin Luther

Lesson 2: Background and Early Years



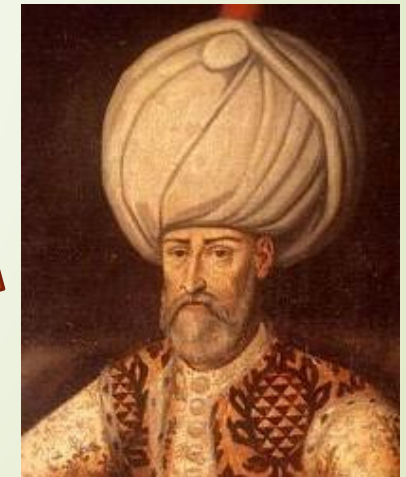
# What Was Going On?



Pope Leo X



Charles V




Suleiman the Magnificent

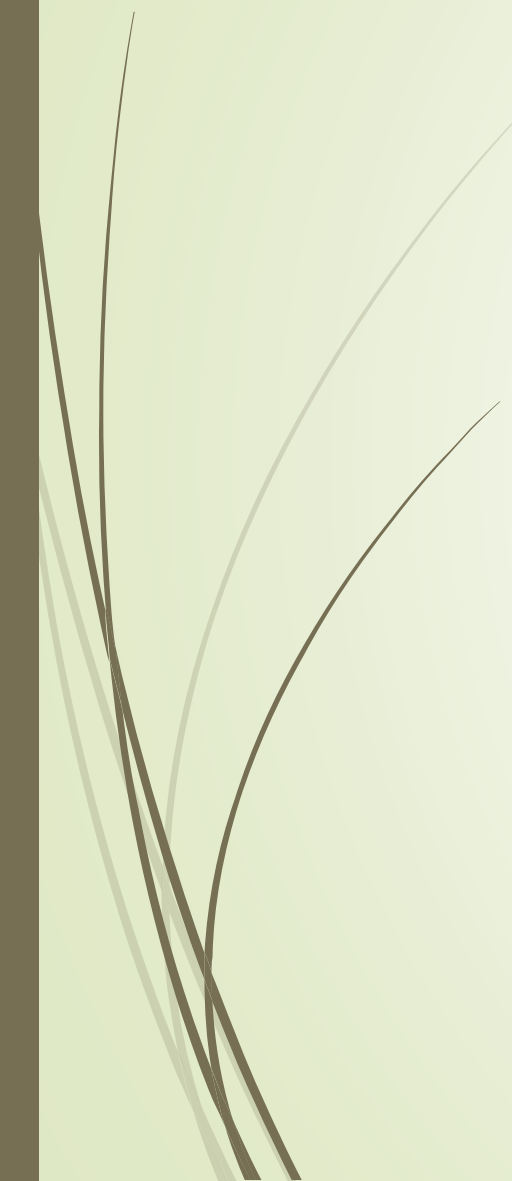


Francis I





# Economic and Moral Corruption in the Church

- Annates
  - Simony
  - Absenteeism
  - Concubinage fee
  - Curio fiscalism
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# Luther's Early Life

- ▶ Early training
- ▶ Joined Augustinian Order
  - ▶ [Luther's early trip to Rome](#) (start at 7:00)
- ▶ Was a very active man (1514-1518):
  - ▶ Professor at University of Wittenburg (lectured on the Psalms, Romans, Galatians, Hebrews)
  - ▶ Administrator—district vicar for 11 other monasteries in the region
  - ▶ Elected the “people’s priest”—had to preach and do pastoral counseling





# Indulgences

- Background
  - Two types of punishment—eternal and temporal
- Sacrament of penance
  - Part of the sinner
    - Contrition – have contrite heart
    - Confession – confess to priest
    - Satisfaction – external activity for temporal punishment
  - Part of the priest – grant forgiveness of sins
  - Purgatory takes care of remaining satisfaction not done on earth
  - Indulgence – reductions in requirements for satisfaction
- John Tetzel
  - [Video clip](#) (start at 31:10)
- Indulgences not completely accepted



# Questions for Discussion



- ▶ Where do we see aspects of “curio fiscalism” today?
  - ▶ How about in our own attitudes?
- ▶ What, besides money, is behind the idea of indulgences (why is that attractive)?
  - ▶ How can we still fall prey to a similar line of thinking?