

since the time of Martin Luther.

The idea of an infallible pope was believed in by very few people in Martin Luther's time. If you had taken the leaders of the church, the educators, the heads of the schools throughout Europe in the time of Martin Luther and asked them, "Do you believe the Pope in Rome is infallible?" I don't think you would have had one in ten who would have said, "Yes." But many of them wrote very strongly taking an entirely different position. They thought of the Pope as sort of an executive officer, sort of a leader, but a man who might make mistakes; a man who had certain functions, but a man who was in no sense the absolute monarchical ruler that the Pope is according to present day Roman Catholic theology. That is a theory which was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church only less than a hundred years ago, and so their great leaders left them at that time because they could not accept that. So I claim that our Protestant groups are every bit as old as the Roman Catholic Church, that the Roman Catholic Church as an organization, or as a group accepting certain viewpoints, is something that developed since the time of Martin Luther.

We will now look a bit at the life of this wonderful man of God. Martin Luther came from the peasant class in Germany. He came from a very poor family, but his father worked very hard and raised himself to the place where he was able to help his boy get an education. And the father desired that Martin should become a great lawyer, a man who would be very able and distinguished in Germany, and eventually become very wealthy, and his father just did everything he could to get the boy an excellent education. You know, it's an interesting thing, you take the men who have done great things in the church of God--take Saint Augustine, take Martin Luther, take