

would last about 1000 years from then. And during that period of the Middle Ages, the first several centuries are occupied with the gradual spread of Christianity through the Germanic tribes, and toward the end of the period, at 1000 A.D. we find the bishop of Rome suddenly coming into this tremendous recognition, and then of course in fifty years he rises from practically no importance to one of tremendous importance. And we will need to take a little time to see how that happened. A good ~~x~~ many hist. books call the whole five centuries before the rise of the papacy. They divid~~e~~ the Middle Ages into the rise of the papacy, the high time of the papacy, and the decline of the papacy. So actually the rise of the papacy took place in fifty years., or less and in the period before the papacy was of very little importance. It was~~a~~ a period un which it had one or two high points. But this period of the Middle~~s~~ Ages is a period in which the Roman ~~infex~~ influence, the ~~sixxxx~~ civilization of the Romans had a tremendous effect upon the bar~~barians~~. But the general life was tremendously changed from previous time, certain institutions became established, the ~~xxxx~~ traditions became set up which were quite out of line with previous Christianity. It was a very interesting period, but we are interested in the end of it. How did it come about that the modern age came into existence. And at the end of this period we have the beginning of the reformation.

So the reformation itself begins in 1517, when Luther wrote his theses on the wall. As an era I think it is better to start about 1500, actually, because that wasn't something just all of a sudden it came, there was ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ a backgroudn to it. I feel that if you say about 1500, the Middle ~~Agexxxxxxxxxxx~~ Ages ended somewhere between 1450 and 1500, so if you say about 1500 the beginning of the reformation, it had its roots before that, but it is a good point to take it, about 1500 to 1600, from the viewpoint of ch. hist. is a very vital century, beca~~u~~se during this century you havex~~xxxxxx~~ all that is fundamentally basic ~~x~~ in our modern churches coming into existence, between 1500 and 1600. That is the period of first, the great reformation under Luther