

Footstep #20 - Luther's Attempts to Have His Trial in Germany - Nov. 28, 1518

“Therefore from Leo badly advised and from his excommunication, suspension, interdict, censures, sentences, and fines, and whatsoever denunciations and declarations of heresy and apostasy which I esteem as null, nay, as iniquitous and tyrannical, I appeal to a general council in a safe place.” (Roland Bainton. *Here I Stand*. p. 75-76)

November 28 is one of the most memorable days in Luther's Life. Having just turned 35, he is facing excommunication because of his refusal to accept the teaching of the letters of indulgence for the forgiveness of sins and a condition for acceptance into heaven. In addition, the publication of his statement in Nuremberg that the pope was not infallible. ***“Every man is a liar.”*** (Psalm 116:11) further sealed his fate. Luther was cornered and he knew it.

On November 25, he wrote to Spalatin: ***“I expect anathemas from Rome any day. Therefore, I am putting everything in order so that, when they arrive, I will be girded and ready to leave, like Abraham not knowing where I will go, but absolutely certain of the way because God is everywhere.”*** (Scott H. Hendrix. *Luther and the Papacy*, p.70)



Georg Spalatin – advisor to Frederick the Wise of Saxony and trusted friend of Martin Luther