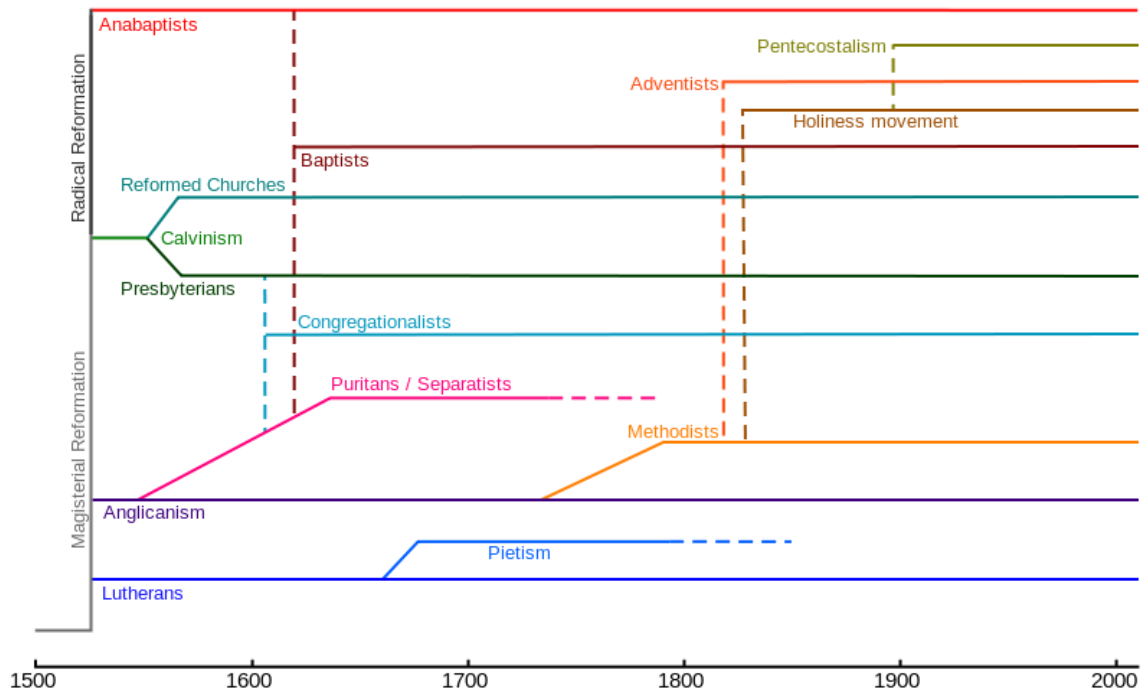


## Footstep #47 The Augsburg Confession - May 1531



“Like the Anabaptists, they deny that love is received through the Word. Therefore justification takes place through the Word, as Paul says (Romans 1:16), “The Gospel is the power of God for salvation to every one who has faith,” and (Romans 10:17), “Faith comes from what is heard.” From this we can prove that faith justifies. For if justification takes place only through the Word, and the Word is received only by faith, then it follows that faith justifies.” (*Apology of the Augsburg Confession*, Article IV:67-68)

The chart above shows the relationship of Lutherans and other Protestant faiths on a spectrum from moderate to radical. The Pietist movement among Lutherans was mostly influenced by the layman, **Philipp Jacob Spener** (1635-1705), who deviated from the intellectual emphasis of the Lutheran pastors to the importance of the outward signs of a religious lifestyle. **The Brethren of the Common Life** was a similar movement within Roman Catholicism before the Reformation.

The followers of pietism emphasized spiritual enthusiasm assisting the poor and sick, studying the Bible in community groups, and living a disciplined lifestyle. The Anglicans represent the Church of England, which was established with the *Act of Supremacy* (1534) by Parliament after King Henry VIII’s divorce and excommunication from the Roman Catholic Church. The Methodists and Puritans hold similar doctrinal beliefs but have a different style of public worship. The Presbyterians (John Knox) and Reformed (John Calvin) are closer to the teachings of Luther than the chart might suggest.