

1961 West Germany

First image of Luther

on a stamp

## Martin Luther's Philatelic Image (1961-1983) J. Fred Pritchard

Martin Luther (10Nov1483 - 18Feb1546) was a Gerrman academic theologian whose rejection of several teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church in 1517 led to the Protestant Reformation.

## Priest

He entered the University of Eufurt to study law, but after literally being struck by lightening, he took holy vows becoming a Augustinian friar in 1507.

## Theologian



1967 East Germany Luther as a Young Friar



1967 South Africa

Doors of All Saints Church in

Wittenberg, Germany where

Luther posted his 95 theses

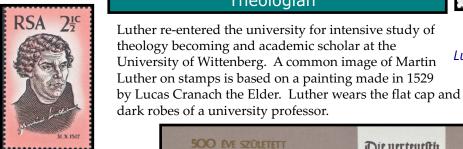
that initiated the Reformation



French Polynesia



1983 East Germany



1967 South Africa



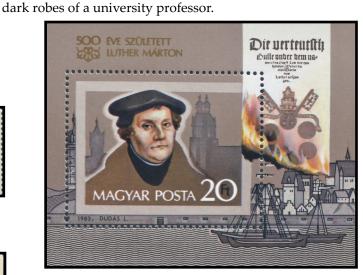
1967 Finland



1983 United States



1983 Bulgaria



1983 Hungary Souvenir sheet issued on 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's birth.

## Biblical Translator, Author and Composer

1983

Luther's translation of the Bible into German instead of the prevailing Latin versions opened its teachings to lay people resulting in fundamental changes to the church and German culture, including the evolution of a standard for the German language. His writings redefined man's relationship with God as well as challenging church power and

hymns, many of which are still sung 500 years later. Brasil 83

1983 Brazil



1983 Germany



1983 Netherlands

1983 France



1983

Czechoslovakia

1983 Suriname

authority. He wrote several