

Where are God's people?

A summary of the first thousand years

God's people are people of

Peter Waldo, 1140-1217, wealthy merchant of Lyon, France.
c.1176 sold his goods, gave to the poor, began preaching about Jesus.
Considered prayers offered in a house or stable just as effective as
prayers offered in a church!
If the world hates you... If they persecuted Me... John 15:18-25

God's people are people of

John Wycliffe, 1320-1384, Oxford professor, England.
Wealth and political power corrupted the church.
The Bible should be the only rule of faith.
44 years after Wycliffe died, the Pope ordered his body exhumed, his
bones burned and ashes scattered in the river.
The church declared Wycliffe had been "that pestilent wretch, of
damnable memory, yea, the forerunner and disciple of antichrist who, as
a complement of his wickedness, invented a new translation of the
Scriptures into his mother-tongue."

God's people are people of

John Huss, 1374-1415, Dean of Theology, Prague, Bohemia.
* One can be IN the church without being OF the church.
* The Lord's Supper is both bread and wine.
* Salvation is a gift, not bought with indulgences.
Church law: Heretics have no rights. To deceive and betray them is a
pious act. Promises made to a heretic need not be kept.
Luke 12:32. Do not be afraid, litte flock. Your Father is pleased to give
you the

God's people are people of

Martin Luther,1483-1546, priest, monk, Professor of Theology, Germany
4P

My prayer priorities, 28 October 2018

Today's song selection

I believe in Jesus | We are His people | By faith | To every generation |
In Christ alone | Only by grace | O church arise | Revive us O Lord

Thought starters for personal reflection, or group discussion

1. Suggest some reasons why the church spiralled downward for 1,500 years before serious reform was initiated.
2. Peter Waldo was condemned because he considered prayers offered in a house or stable just as effective as prayers offered in a church. a) Why did the church condemn him? b) What makes prayer effective?
3. John Wycliffe wanted the Bible in his mother tongue. a) List some advantages of reading the Bible in your own language. b) List some potential problems, and ways to overcome them.
4. John Huss said it is possible to be in the church, but not of the church. What did he mean; and why is it so?
5. Catholic Church law still says: Heretics have no rights. To deceive and betray them is a pious act. Promises made to a heretic need not be kept. Do you agree? Why or why not?
6. All attempts at church reform began with someone reading, believing, and obeying, the Bible. Why does the Bible bring reform?

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