

THE BERNESE REFORMATION

The Bernese Reformation took place in 1528 under the influence of the teachings of Luther and Zwingli. Its most important representatives were Niklaus Manuel, Berchtold Haller and Georg Brunner.

6 - 26 January 1528: Berne Disputation (participants included Zwingli, Bullinger, Vadian, Blaurer Ökolampad, Bucer and Capito).

The 1st thesis states:

"The Holy Christian Church has one Lord, Christ, and is born of the Word of God in which it abides, not heeding the words of strangers."

26 January 1528 Final ceremonial session
27 January 1528 The Mass was discontinued in the City of Berne
Zwingli gave a sermon in the Cathedral encouraging the practice of iconoclasm. 25 altars were destroyed in the Cathedral, the tabernacle was pulled down, and statues were smashed and buried in the Cathedral Platform.

2 February 1528 The resolutions of the Reformation, based on the 10 final speeches, were sworn in by the City Parliament in the Cathedral.

(7th final speech: abolition of the cult of the dead:

"al dotendienst, al vigilien, selmes, sibend drisgest, jarzit, selbgraebt, ampel, kerzenbrennen etc.")

1529 Prohibition of use of family vaults in the Cathedral.
1531 Abolition of the main cemetery on the Cathedral Platform.
The Cathedral Platform converted into a public park.
1534 Removal of the charnel-house.

Work on the Cathedral was brought a standstill by the Reformation.

1571 Work was resumed
1573 Daniel Heintz completed the net vaulting of the nave



Ulrich Zwingli

Text: The Rev. Jürg Welter, Berne, photo: Internet

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