

Martin Luther

Wege zu Gott



## (New) Ways to God

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By Christian Haubold

To commemorate the 'Luther Year'- 500 years after the Reformation- Christian Haubold, who teaches history and Protestant theology and is a member of Bonn UPF, gave a presentation on 17.09.2017 in Bad Gotesberg on the topic:

### **500 years later-what comes next, Mr. Luther?**

In 1517, Martin Luther proclaimed his 95 theses in Wittenberg, sparking developments that led to worldwide changes in the church and state, which continue to be of significant to this day.

However, the focus of Christian Haubold's presentation was not the external development. He dealt intensively with questions such as: What is my position as a human being in relation to God? What can we learn today from the still controversial Luther? Which new paths must or should we take?

Christian showed an impressive knowledge of historical detail as he painted a picture of the man Martin Luther and the time in which he lived. Through descriptions of landmark and dramatic happenings in Luther's life (such as the study of liberal arts and law, his vow during a terrible thunderstorm, the study of theology, the time spent in the tower), we could gain an understanding of his life and

insights. One of his still valid statements was: 'God does not want those who listen and repeat his words, but those who follow and act, in faith and love. Because faith without love is not enough.'

In the fascinating second half of his presentation, Christian expanded on terms such as grace and justification as seen from the viewpoint of the Divine Principle. He especially dealt with the chapter on 'resurrection', in which a progressive justification by works, faith and discipleship is described. We need an internal reformation. We should allow God to be as our father and mother, as our parents, so that we can live as children of God in his love.