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Does Reformation Still Matter? (Romans 3:21-24)

INTRODUCTION: *Martin Luther?* 500 years ago? Does it really matter today?

- I. AT FIRST GLANCE, THE REFORMATION DOES NOT MATTER TODAY
 - A. People today aren't concerned about being right with God & certainty of heaven
 - B. "Boredom" and entertainment seems to be the big concern
 - C. We aren't asking the same questions Martin Luther asked
 - D. There seems to be a "happy optimism" even about death [*Note: the famous newspaper drawing after the '911' terrorist attacks*]
- II. BUT SIN & DEATH & ETERNITY ARE REAL... & THE REFORMATION TRUTHS STILL MATTER
 - A. So says St. Paul in Romans 3:23
 - B. So says Damian's need for Baptism today
 - C. This is also true due to the <u>bad</u> choices being made today in the modern church [*Note: three examples in our lives here today...*]
 - D. In the face of real people facing real death, <u>the</u> <u>Reformation still matters</u> (Rom. 3:21-24)
 - E. The Reformation continues to ask: *"But what does* <u>God's Word say?!"</u>

CONCLUSION: At second glance, the '911' drawing had it right: the nail pierced hands of Jesus makes it clear: **The Reformation still matters**!