Anglican bishop Mark Dyer commented on a pattern in Christian Church history – that about every 500 years there is a major upheaval and re-formation. He jokingly (and seriously) dubbed these periods giant church rummage sales! Writer Phyllis Tickle also calls them “hinge times.”

Hinge Times occur over decades – not in a single moment, though sometimes we talk about them as if they do. For instance, Martin Luther’s nailing of the 95 Theses to the Wittenberg church door is often called “the start of the Protestant Reformation,” but there was a century of prelude to Luther grabbing that hammer!

**Here are the five Hinge Times:**

1) Great Transformation (Roman Empire dominance; birth of Jesus)
2) Great Fall (Roman Senate dissolves; Dark Ages; Gregory the Great)
3) Great Schism (Christian Church split between Rome and Constantinople, Western and Eastern Church, 1054 CE)
4) Great/Protestant Reformation (1517 CE, sola scriptura)
5) Great Emergence (today! We are in the middle of a Hinge Time - what will emerge? Where is the Bible in this Hinge Time?)


**UPCOMING SERMONS/SMALL GROUP FOCUS**

**ON QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE:**

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION:**

In addition to Wednesday Small Groups and Sermon Talk-Back immediately following worship, all sermons of the series will be retained on the website, along with the Sermon Supplement and an Ask-the-Pastor link.

SEPT 16 --- WHAT IS THE BIBLE? (Chap 1)

SEPT 23 --- (HOW) IS THE BIBLE TRUE? (Chap 2)

SEPT 30 --- HOW IS THE BIBLE THE WORD OF GOD? (Chap 3)

OCT 7 --- WHERE DID THE BIBLE COME FROM? (Chap 4)

OCT 14 --- HOW CAN I READ THE BIBLE WITH GREATER UNDERSTANDING? (Chap 5)

OCT 21 --- IS THERE A “CENTER” TO SCRIPTURE? (Chap 6)

OCT 28 --- WHAT KIND OF AUTHORITY DOES THE BIBLE HOLD? (Chap 7)


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