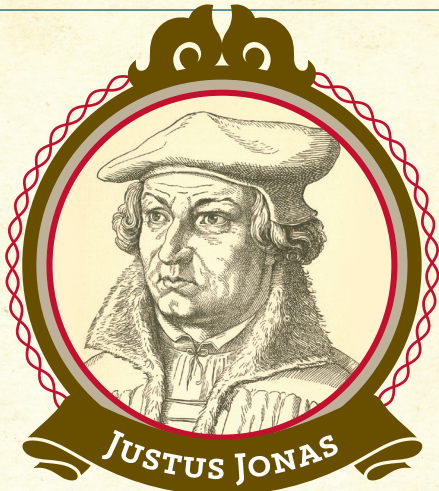


Faithful Teacher of God's Word and  
Luther's Closest Friend



JUSTUS JONAS

**Born:** June 5, 1493 |  
Nordhausen,  
Germany

**Died:** Oct. 9, 1555 | Eisfeld,  
Germany

**A TEACHER OF GOD'S WORD:** this was the life's work of Justus Jonas. He is not famous for prolific writing, nor does history remember him as a great leader, swaying the masses. He was, instead, Luther's closest friend and colleague. He shared Luther's fiery personality and possessed a strong command of Greek, Hebrew and Latin. His translation skills and ability to think theologically made him a unique combination of Luther and Philipp Melanchthon.

These three men were close both professionally and personally, but it was Jonas who was Luther's closest companion. He was at Luther's side when he stood up to the Emperor at Worms, he was one of the few witnesses to Luther's marriage, and he was at Luther's bedside as the reformer took his last breath in 1546.

God used Jonas mightily in organizing churches in Germany that reflected the outcomes of the Reformation, most notably in Naumburg, Halle and Regensburg. His dedication to the cause of the Reformation never wavered — even when he was forced to become a wandering preacher from 1546 until his death in 1555 — because of Jonas' faithfulness to the gracious Christ rediscovered by Luther in the Holy Bible.



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