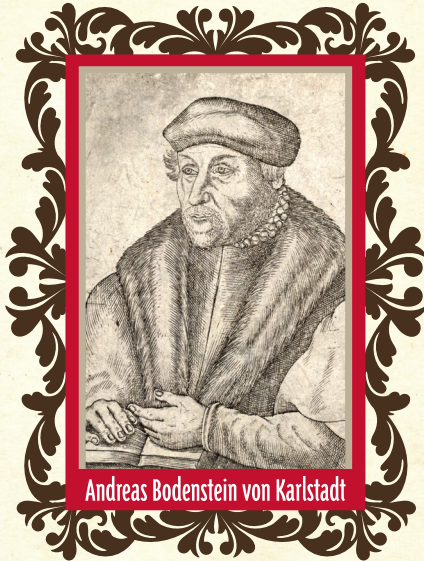


A Theologically Inept Reformer
Who Forced Sweeping Changes upon
the Christians in Wittenberg



ANDREAS
BODENSTEIN
VON KARLSTADT
(CARLSTADT)

Born: ca. 1486 |
Karlstadt, Franconia
(Germany)

Died: Dec. 24, 1541 |
Basel, Switzerland



REFORMATION
2017 It's Still All About
Jesus

LutheranReformation.org

ANDREAS BODENSTEIN VON KARLSTADT, USUALLY KNOWN BY HIS HOMETOWN OF KARLSTADT, was a professor of theology at Wittenberg when Luther was a student. Through his dialogue with Luther, he became convinced of Luther's ideas. Upon further contemplation, he felt Luther was too moderate in his application of his doctrines. Karlstadt left the academic life and decided to focus solely on applying Reformation ideas. In doing so, he went much farther in his reforms than Luther did. He opposed all images and stripped the sanctuary of any symbols — even the crucifix, priestly vestments and altar furnishings. He opposed the concept of clergy because he thought every Christian should have equal status. From this focus, he wanted to open the Sacrament to as many people as possible, which led to his adopting a representational interpretation of the Lord's Supper. He thus broke with Luther not only in application but also in doctrine.

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