ANALYSIS OF CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN THEOLOGY

Activity idea
Organise your class into two groups – Lutherans and Catholics. Each group then has to answer the following questions as best as they can by using this article.

To Lutherans	To Catholics
1. Justification: If God has already predestined who is to be saved, and we can't influence that decision, are you saying that Good Works are a complete waste of time and that we should not bother leading a moral life? Response:	**1. Justification:** Your doctrine of Justification by Works has led to the likes of *Johann Tetzel* effectively selling salvation in the form of indulgences in Germany. Are you then saying that God can be bribed into giving us Grace? Response:
2. The Bible: Your opponents claim that having the Bible in loads of vernacular versions – such as the one you published in 1522 - leads to confusion, contradiction and division between national churches. How do you defend your position? Response:	**2. The Bible:** Your opponents claim that having the Bible in Latin is exclusive and demeaning to those who cannot understand the language. How do you defend your position? Response:
3. The Priesthood: If you are so keen on a "Priesthood of all Believers" why is it that you encouraged the Princes to murder the Peasants who had picked up on your ideas in 1526? Response:	**3. The Priesthood:** How do you defend having a separate, elite clergy when this arguably leads to social divisions, harsh hierarchies and corruption at the highest levels? Response:
4. Ceremonies / Appearances: How can you possible justify your insistence that there is still a "Real Presence" in the Eucharist, when this runs against everything you have said against the magic and superstition of the Catholic Church? Response:	**4. Ceremonies / Appearances:** How do you justify having seven sacraments when only three of them have any clear foundation in the Bible? How do you respond to the argument that images and the worship of saints detracts from the worship of Jesus Christ? Response: