

And there were the Wasdenzi(?) had been in Italy for a century, in northern Italy in the edge of the mountains, they had been persecuted occasionally but now they were persecuted with severity beyond what they'd ever had before. And thousands of them were killed but others managed to maintain themselves in little ~~villages~~ valleys up in the mountains, so small groups of them survived. But the Roman bishops, of whom there were many who were going over to Protestant ideas, were either scared into giving them up, were taken and punished by the Inquisition or else escaped and became Protestant ministers - and there were quite a few who did the latter. But the Roman Inquisition was an effective thing in putting down Protestantism in various countries - it never would have done the job or been successful without these other things we've mentioned but it was an important adjunct to it. And then the Index was a list of prohibited books which were not to be read. And it's very interesting - there's a book - a six-volume work by a Jesuit named ~~K~~ Grisar, on the life of Martin Luther. And in these six volumes Grisar took up everything you'd ever hear anywhere it seemed like about Martin Luther and investigated the evidence. And he took all their charges of his being drunken(?) and of being a man who just wanted to be married and that's why he started all this and all that sort of charge they make against him - and he took them up one by one and gathered the evidence and in most cases came to the conclusion that he was not guilty of the charges. And in one place in one of the chapters he said this, "These ideas have been repeated over and over in Roman Catholic books and yet they're absolutely without foundation. How does that come? The reason for it is because during a period of three centuries, the rules were so strict against reading any of Luther's works or any Protestant books about Luther that Roman Catholics were absolutely forbidden to read them, even men writing books about Luther were