

The Reformation, Week 2 - Five Solas

☐ Monday - Sola Scriptura: Scripture Alone.

Oh what a time in redemptive history that we live: to have the completed canon of Scripture in our own hands and in our own language; that is, the Word of God! It is the only true lamp to light our path through this dark world. Your own feelings and impressions have often misled you. And the man-made religions and philosophies of this fallen world lead only to ruin. But you, Christian, have an inspired and inerrant road map to guide you through this difficult life. Today, read your Bible like your life depends on it, because it does! Read Psalm 119:105, 160; 2 Tim. 3:16

☐ Tuesday - Solo Christo: Christ Alone.

For fifteen hundred years the Levites stood as priests and mediators between God and man. But the Old Testament priesthood and sacrificial system were only pictures of better things to come. For it is in Jesus Christ that these old foreshadows find their fulfillment. Christ is now both the High Priest and final sacrifice for sin. Sadly, the Medieval church reinstated an earthly office of priesthood, yet for those who belong to Christ, there is one Mediator between God and men and that is Christ (1 Tim. 2:5).
Read John 14:6, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25, 1 John 2:1

☐ Wednesday - Sola Gratia: Grace Alone.

God's Word declares. "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Wages are something you earn, something you *deserve*. What we deserve is "death", which refers not just to physical death, but eternal punishment (Rev. 21:8). In contrast, God's grace may be defined as His *undeserved* favor. Because of our sins, we deserve eternal punishment, but by God's grace we receive His eternal favor. Well sign me up! How can I receive God's grace? "By grace you have been saved *through faith*" (Eph. 2:8), i. e. faith in Jesus Christ's payment on the cross for my sins. Someone has said that God's grace is God's Riches At Christ's Expense. And what is the child of God's response to the unmerited, unearned, undeserved favor of God? Let it be our unbridled and unending thanksgiving and praise.
Read Ephesians 1:3-6, 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

☐ Thursday - Sola Fide: Faith Alone.

It is really not an overgeneralization to say that man-made religion is all about works: Do this, do that, and maybe it will be enough. But whereas man-made religion says, "Do, do, do!" Christ says, "Done!" (John 19:30). Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ's finished work on the cross. God's Word declares, "By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight" (Rom. 3:20), "but to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness" (Rom 4:5). So then, it is faith in Christ alone that is reckoned (imputed) as righteousness, and not by works that anyone is saved. "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).
Read Isa. 64:6, Eph. 2:8-9, Gal. 2:16

☐ Friday - Soli Deo Gloria: Glory to God Alone.

We tend to separate the things that we do into one of two categories: sacred or secular. In the category of things that we consider "sacred" we might put Bible reading, prayer and going to church. And in the category we call "secular" we generally think of things like work, recreation, and chores. But such a sacred/secular division is not found in Scripture. No, rather, we must discard such categories and intend to do all things, even the routine activities of life, for the glory of God. Christian, Jesus does not want to be a *part* of your life; He wants to be your life!
Read 1 Cor. 10:31