# "The Great Transformation" Solus Christus

Introduction:

1. So Far - In Our Series On The Reformation:

- We Have Looked At 3 Of The Great, Transforming Truths:

- That The Reformers Rediscovered From The Word Of God!

- We've Looked At:

- Scripture Alone:

- Or - Sola Scriptura - And How God Used Men Like John Wycliffe To Bring

The Scriptures Again To The Common People!

- We've Also Looked At:

- Faith Alone:

- Or - Sola Fide - And How God Used Men Like Martin Luther To Rediscover

And To Preach The True Gospel Of "Faith Alone" In Jesus Christ For Salvation!

- Last Week - We Looked At:

- Grace Alone:

- Or - Sola Gratia - And How God Used Men Like Ulrich Zwingli Of

Switzerland To Teach That: "We Are Saved By Grace Alone – Undeserved, Yet Freely Shown!"

2. Tonight - Our Focus Will Be On:

- "Solus Christus" - Or - "Christ Alone!"

- Hebrews 12:2 Describes Jesus As:

- The "Author & Finisher Of Our Faith!"

- In Other Words - Faith In Jesus Christ Is The Only Way For A Person To Be Saved From Their Sin!

- It Is Not The Family You Belong To!

- It Is Not The Church You Attend!

- It Is Not Through Another Intermediary:

- Like The "Saints" Of The Roman Catholic Church!

- But Through The Son Of God Alone!

- Through "Christ Alone!"

3. This Is Why The Apostle Paul:

- Wrote In Philippians 3:10 - "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings!"

- For Paul - His Life Was All About Jesus Christ:

- And To "Know" Him!

- And This Desire Should Be The Desire:

- And Quest Of Every True Christian!

- It Was Certainly The Desire:
  - Of The Next Reformer We Will Look At Tonight:

- John Calvin!

- Even Though He Lived A Bit After The Other Reformers We Have Learned About: - And Is Sometimes Called A "Second-Generation" Reformer!

- Yet His Importance & Influence By God's Grace Continues To Be Felt Even
- Through Today!
- 4. "The Life and Times of John Calvin" (T. H. L. Parker)
- 5. For Calvin Like The Other Reformers:
  - Like The Apostle Paul Himself:
    - His Life And Ministry Was All About Jesus Christ!

- "Solus Christus!"

- About "Knowing Christ & Making Him Known!"
- But This Statement:
  - "Christ Alone" Is A Very Exclusive Statement!
    - And One That Will Put Many People Off!
      - Some Think That Christ & Christianity Is Only One Way Out Of Many To Obtain
      - Favor With God & Some Heavenly Future!
- Watch This 1 Minute Video:

- And See What So Many People In The World:

- Believe!

#### 6. The Truth Is:

- Not Every "Finger" Can Be Correct!

- And Jesus Christ Himself:

- Is Very Exclusive!

- Which Is Why "Christ Alone" Is What We Must Continue To Proclaim:

- In A World That Gets More & More Inclusive & Pluralistic With Every

Passing Day!

- In Our Final Moments Tonight:

- I Would Like For Us To Look At:

- John 14:1-11 - "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. / 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. / 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. / 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. / 5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? / 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. / 7 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. / 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. / 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? / 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. / 11 Believe me that I am in the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake!"

- There Are Some Very Exclusive Statements:

- In These Verses!

- That Remind Us Over & Over Again The Truth:

- Of "Solus Christus" – "Christ Alone!"

#### \* First - We See:

1. The Exclusive Claim:

- By Jesus - John 14:6 - "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me!"

- Jesus Did Not Say:

- That He Was Just One Finger:

- Out Of Many!

- But That He Was / Is The Only Way! The Only Truth! And The Only Life!

- This Truth Is Further Taught:

- In Acts 4:10-12 - "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. / This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. / Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved!" (Peter)

- The Truth Of "Christ Alone" Is Not Just A Reformation Truth!

- It Is A Gospel Truth!

- And The Point Of This Truth Was Never To Merely Reform People's Lives: - But To Transform Their Souls!

- But To Transform Their Sou

- Now - As Many Have Suggested:

- For Jesus To Make These Kinds Of:

- Exclusive Claims:

- He Would Have To Be Either:

- A Liar Or A Lunatic Or, In Fact, Lord Of All!

- If Jesus Was A Liar Or A Lunatic:

- Then He Would Not Be Worth Following!

- But If He Is Telling The Truth:

- Then All That He Says Is So!

- And He Is To Be Believed!

- John 14:1 - "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me!"

- What A Claim!

- But If His Claim Is True – Which It Is:

- Then What Does It Do To All Of The Other "Fingers" & Religions Out There?
  - It Makes Them All False!

- And It Makes All The Followers Deceived Or Deceivers - Because They Are Believing In Lies!

- Romans 1:22, 25 - "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools – Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever!"

- But Jesus Christ Alone:

- Could Make These Exclusive Claims Because Of:

# 2. The Exclusive Connection:

- Of Jesus - With God The Father!

- God Is Not Just "The Father" In John 14:6:

- That Is - The Father & Creator:

- Of Everything In This World! But:

- Jesus Claims That God Is "My Father" In John 14:2:

- "In my Father's house are many mansions!"

- There Is A Special & Unique Relationship Between Jesus Christ And God The Father:

- That Exists With Noone Else!

- See This Further In John 14:10-11:

- "Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. / Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake!"

- This "Father-Son" Connection:

- Is Not By Creation!

- Not By Adoption!

- But By Eternal Generation!

- As Long As God The Father Has Existed As Father - That Is As Long As Jesus Christ Has Existed As His Son! From All Eternity!

- This Gives Jesus Christ:

- The Same Nature As God The Father!

- The Same Attributes As God The Father!

- And The Same Purpose & Will As God The Father!

- And Yet - A Unique Person In Himself!

- Jesus Christ Is God The Son – And Now – God In The Flesh!

- One Member Of The Triune God!

- And This Exclusive Connection Makes Possible:

# 3. The Exclusive Calling:

- Of Jesus Christ!

- John 14:2b-3 - "I go to prepare a place for you. / And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also!"

- This Shows Us Just How Freely:
  - Jesus Can Come & Go:

- Between Earth & Heaven Itself!

- Jesus Christ Alone Can Do This:

- Because He Is The Sole Mediator:

- Between God And Man!

- In A Sense - As God - He Has One Foot In Heaven!

- And As A Man - He Has One Foot On Earth!

- This Truth Is Also Taught In:

- 1 Timothy 2:5-6 - "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; / Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time!"

- "Christ Alone" Is The Mediator:

- Who Can Redeem Us From Our Sin!

- This Exclusive Calling Belongs To "Christ Alone!"

- And When Someone:

- Believes In & Calls Upon:

- "Christ Alone" - There Comes:

# 4. The Exclusive Comfort:

- Of Jesus Christ!

- John 14:1 - "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!"

- There Are Great Benefits & Great Comfort:

- When You Trust In Jesus Christ Alone!

### - Romans 5:8-11 Provides Us With Just A Few Of Them:

- "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. / Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. / For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. / And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement!"

- Only In Jesus Christ:
  - Will You Experience All Of These Benefits!
    - The Love Of God!
    - Justification By His Blood!
    - Saved From Wrath!
    - Reconciliation & Peace With God!
    - Joy Real Joy "In God Through Our Lord Jesus Christ!"
- Many More Comforts Can Be Added!
  - But They Can Only Come:
    - Through "Christ Alone!"

# **Conclusion:**

1

This Truth Is One:

- We Must Continue To Cling To:

- And To Share With Others!

- Because "Christ Alone" Has The Power:

- To Transform Sinners Like Us:

- Into Saints Of The Living God!

- "Christ Alone!"

\* "Reformation Hymn"

- "We will stand on Christ alone, the unyielding Cornerstone; Nations rage and devils roar, still he reigns forevermore!"

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