

THE FIVE SOLAS – ESSENTIAL GOSPEL TRUTHS

I. SPIRITUAL DARKNESS AND THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

A. The Protestant Reformation was a mighty work of God whereby the truth of the gospel was clarified and preached like no other time since the 1st century apostles.

B. The main question at that time: how does man get right with God?
The answer is the gospel, the good news of Christ, for it is *“the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”* Romans 1:16-17

C. The five Solas, the five essential gospel truths (Romans 3:21-27):
Sola Scriptura, Solus Christus, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Soli Deo Gloria.
Therefore, salvation is what God does for us, not what man does for God.

II. SOLA SCRIPTURA – SALVATION IS BASED ON GOD’S WORD ALONE

We are to believe God’s word when it comes to salvation, for only it has the answer. Only it explains the truth of the gospel and how we can be saved and set free from sin. Romans 3:1-4, Romans 3:21, John 8:31-32, Luke 16:27

III. SOLUS CHRISTUS – SALVATION IS BY CHRIST ALONE - Romans 3:24

A. Jesus Christ died for us. He took our place and was punished by God for our sins.

B. Substitutionary atonement means Christ became our substitute and God was satisfied with what Christ did for us. This divine satisfaction is called propitiation. Romans 5:8

C. Christ’s death was the purchase price by which we’ve been redeemed, by which we’ve been bought and then delivered from sin and death. Colossians 1:13-14

D. Since Christ paid the debt we owed, then God gave us His righteousness, thereby making us righteous and justifying us. 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18, John 14:6

IV. SOLA FIDE – SALVATION IS BY FAITH ALONE – Romans 3:22

A. Salvation is by faith in Christ’s work for us on the cross. It is believing that Christ’s death on the cross was sufficient to pay the full debt we had incurred because of our sin.

B. The person who is saved is not trusting in his own work to save him, but is trusting in the work of Christ to save his sinful soul from death. Ephesians 2:8-9

C. The person who gets saved understands that he's a sinner, an ungodly person, an enemy of God, and he believes that Jesus Christ is the only answer, that only God through Christ can justify Him. Galatians 2:15-16, 3:1-5, 3:13-15; Romans 5:1

V. SOLA GRATIA – SALVATION IS BY GRACE ALONE – Romans 3:24

A. Grace means God wanted to save you, chose to save you, planned to save you, provided the means to save you, and then actually saved you. It is by Christ's work on the cross and the Spirit's work in your heart that you are saved. 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

B. There's a connection between grace and faith. The person who gets saved realizes he's a sinner, that he deserves to be punished by God for his sin, but then believes that it is only by God's grace that he can be saved. Romans 4:16

C. A person who gets saved realizes salvation is a gift from God, and that it's by God's grace, and that he doesn't deserve it or earn it, and can't buy it or trade for it, but believes God wants to spiritually and eternally bless His life. Galatians 2:15-21

VI. SOLI DEO GLORIA – SALVATION IS GOD'S GLORY ALONE - Romans 3:27

A. It is not man who gets the glory for His salvation. We are to boast in God and give Him the glory because it is not what we can do, but what God does for us. Therefore, we are to thank God and give Him all the praise and glory. Philippians 3:3

B. *"By His doing you are in Christ Jesus... 'Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.'"* You could not save yourself, but God could save you. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM
AND TO HIM ARE ALL THINGS.
TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.
Romans 11:36

SOME QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

1. What is the main thing that you believe God wants you to learn from this lesson?
2. Why was the Protestant Reformation so important?
3. Why is God's word so necessary when it comes to your salvation?
4. What did Jesus Christ do to save you?
5. When referring to your salvation, faith alone in Jesus Christ means what?
6. Explain how God's grace shows both His desire and His work in saving you?
7. Why does God get all the credit in saving you? How do you express your thanks to God?