

INTRODUCTION

1. We come now to the culmination of our salvation.
2. It is soli deo gloria....for God's glory alone!
3. Psalms 115:1 (NASB) Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth.
4. This verse is a reference to salvation.
5. The psalmist wants Israel to understand that salvation is not through idols but through "trust[ing] in the LORD" (vv.9, 10), and through "fear[ing] the LORD" (vv.11, 13).
6. And as we have been learning through the 5 solas that the authority for our salvation is the Word of God.

7. Peter said in 1 Peter 1:23 (NASB) for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.
8. That is sola scriptura!
9. We have been saved by grace alone (sola gratia), through faith alone (sola fide) in Christ alone (sola Christus).
10. Why did God do all of this?
11. Ephesians 1:6 and verse 14 says, “to the praise of His glory.”
12. The Lord saves for His own glory!
13. Everything God does is for His glory and “all of life is to be lived to the glory of God.”
14. As the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks, "What is the chief end of man? Man's chief end is to glorify

God and to enjoy him forever."¹

15. Salvation is seen in both the Old and New Testament.
16. In the Old Testament, when God was about to deliver Israel from the Egyptians, Moses said in Exodus 14:13-14 (NASB) But Moses said to the people, “Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. 14 The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent.”
17. Whose salvation is it? The Lord’s!
18. Who will fight for you? The Lord!
19. Also in the Old Testament, David said in Psalms 37:37-40 (NASB): Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright; for the man of peace will have a posterity. 38 But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; the posterity of the wicked will be cut off.

¹ <https://www.fivesolas.com/5solas.htm>

39 But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble. 40 The Lord helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in Him.

20. So when we hear that God delivered or protected people in the OT, the word “salvation” is used “generally from evil or danger.”
21. It is used more specifically of salvation from sin in Isaiah 53.
22. Isaiah 53:10-11 (NASB) But the Lord was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand. 11 As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities.

23. In the New Testament it is specially used with reference to the great deliverance from the guilt and the pollution of sin wrought out by Jesus Christ.”²
24. For example, Matthew 1:21 (NASB) She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”
25. As we look at salvation being for God’s glory alone, I want us to look at two things: Salvation is God’s Work and Salvation is for God’s glory alone not ours.
26. First...

LESSON

I. Salvation is God’s Work

A. He Alone Saves the Sinner

² Easton’s Bible Dictionary.

1. Peter said in Acts 4:12 (NASB) And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”
2. Jesus said in John 14:6 (NASB) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Jesus is not one of many ways to heaven,
He is the only way!

B. He Alone Elects the Sinner

1. God decided before Creation of the world who would be saved (Eph.1:4)
2. Only those who have been appointed to eternal life will believe (Acts 13:44-48)

C. He Alone Regenerates the Sinner

1. Titus 3:5 says that God saved us “by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.”
2. Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:3 (NASB) Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
3. To be born again is to be “born of water even the Spirit” according to verse 5

D. He Alone Draws the Sinner (John 6)

1. Sinners are a gift to Jesus (v.37 - “All that the Father gives Me”)
2. When God draws a sinner, He comes (v.37 - “will come to Me”)
3. Those God draws to Himself are secure in Jesus (v.37 - “I will not cast out,” v.39 - “I lose nothing”)

4. God's will in drawing the sinner is to give him eternal life and raise him up at the last day (v.40)
5. Jesus states it emphatically in verse 44 that "no one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."
6. And those whom He draws will be "taught of God" (v.45)
7. These are those who have "heard and learned from the Father" (v.45)
8. They "[come] to Me" Jesus says (v.45)
9. He mentions the Holy Spirit's involvement in verse 63 when He says "It is the Spirit who gives life..."
10. Jesus states a third time in verse 65 that "no one can come to Me unless it has been

granted him from the Father.”

11. This is why Paul says in 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (NASB) But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, 31 so that, just as it is written, “Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

E. He Alone Gives Grace to the Sinner

1. Ephesians 2:8 (NASB) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.
2. Romans 3:24 (NASB) being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.
3. Peter said in Acts 15:1, “But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus.”

F. He Alone Gives Faith to the Sinner

1. Again Ephesians 2:8 says it is “by grace through faith...it is the gift of God.”
2. Philippians 1:29-30 (NASB) For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, 30 experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

G. He Alone Gives Repentance to the Sinner

1. 2 Timothy 2:24-26 (NASB) The Lord’s bondservant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive

by him to do his will.

H. He Alone Provides Forgiveness to the Sinner

1. Ephesians 1:7 (NASB) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.
2. Colossians 2:13-14 (NASB) When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

II. **Salvation is for God's Glory Alone Not Ours**

- A. We Cannot Successfully Claim to Have Anything to Do with Our Salvation

1. Our coming to Christ is a gift from Him (eg. John 6; Eph.2:8-9)
2. We cannot come on our own even though we are told to come because we are dead in sin (God has to draw us) (Eph.2:1)
3. Even though we can't come on our own we are still told to come
 - a) Mark 1:14-15 (NASB) Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
 - b) Acts 2:37-40 (NASB) Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness

of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” 40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!”

- c) Acts 17:30-31 (NASB) Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, 31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”
- d) Matthew 11:28-30 (NASB) Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will

find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

As we hear these verses it sounds like we have the ability to come to Christ on our own but I want to remind you of what Jesus said in John 6:44:

- e) John 6:44 (NASB) No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

Or we could also add to this what Paul said in Ephesians 2:1:

- f) Ephesians 2:1 (NASB) And you were dead in your trespasses and sins.

B. Salvation is Not By Works

1. If it was by works we would boast

2. We would also have to work to keep our salvation
3. But Paul specifically says over and over it's "not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness" (Titus 3:5)

CONCLUSION

1. The Reformers wanted the church to understand this!
2. And they wanted them to understand that the glory of God is for all of life...that it affects every area of living.
3. The glory of God is the goal of all things.
4. 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB) Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
5. This is what we were created for.

6. What did the Westminster Shorter Catechism that I mentioned earlier say?
7. What is the chief end of man? To glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.
8. In the words of Isaiah 43:7 (NASB) Everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made.”
9. So this is my purpose in life...to give God glory in every way possible.
10. This is also the great mission of the church.
11. We are to declare God’s glory among the nations. “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!” (Ps. 96:1–3; Ezek. 39:21; Isa. 66:18–19).
12. You ought to praise God for His salvation!

13. And you should live every day for His glory!
14. If you don't know Him today, I call you to those passages I read earlier that speak of repenting and believing in Jesus like Acts 17:30-31.
15. Acts 17:30-31 (NASB) Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, 31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”
16. Come to Him now as we pray.
17. Let's pray.