

Semper Reformanda: The Biblical Heart of the Reformation
Week 5: *Sola Gratia*

1. Biographical note: *Sola Gratia* in the life of Lady Jane Grey

2. *Sola gratia* – by grace alone

A. Definition and summary

B. Faith alone and grace alone inseparably linked (Rom 4:13-16; Eph 2:8-9)

C. Recurring tensions seen in key questions

1. *Is man inherently good or totally depraved?* (Pelagianism)

Rom 3:10-18; Eph 2:1

2. *Can man make a move toward God apart from grace?* (Semi-Pelagianism)

1 Cor 1:23-24; 2 Cor 4:4-6; Acts 16:14

3. *Is salvation a result of man cooperating with God?* (Monergism vs. synergism)

Romans 9:14-23

4. *Is grace a substance that is received or God's unmerited favor?*

1 Cor 15:19; Phil 1:29

5. *Is grace sufficient?*

Romans 11:5-6; 2 Cor 12:7-10

3. *Sola gratia* is not a new concept, but has been demonstrated throughout history

A. Chrysostom (d. 407)

B. Jerome (d. 420)

C. Augustine (d. 430)

D. Cyril of Alexandria (d. 444)

E. Council of Orange (529)

F. John of Damascus (d. 749)

4. **Christological focus:** Jesus and grace alone

A. Jesus is full of grace and truth (John 1:14, 16)

B. Jesus teaches the *necessity* of God making the first move (Matthew 13:10-17; John 1:12-13; 6:41-47)

C. Jesus' entire ministry is a case-study in *sola gratia* (John 11:1-4; 38-44)

5. *Sola gratia*: a doctrine that points to the glory of God! (Ephesians 1:1-6)