

# THE 5 SOLAS OF THE REFORMATION

SOLA SCRIPTURA | SOLUS CHRISTUS | SOLA GRATIA  
SOLA FIDE | SOLI DEO GLORIA

The Reformers of the 16th century were moved to put their livelihoods, homes, fortunes, and lives on the line to restore to the church the essential teachings of the gospel. These have come down to us by five Latin phrases. Translated into English, they teach that salvation is according to Scripture alone, in Christ alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, for the glory of God alone.

"Through Christ alone we are given salvation, blessedness, grace, pardon, and all that makes us in any way worthy in the sight of a righteous God."

ULRICH ZWINGLI  
(1484-1531)

**SOLUS CHRISTUS**  
IN CHRIST ALONE

As our Savior and Mediator, Christ has accomplished the necessary work for our salvation completely.

"Our being should be employed for [God's] glory; for how unreasonable would it be for creatures, whom he has formed and whom he sustains, to live for any other purpose than for making his glory known?"

JOHN CALVIN (1509-1564)

We all are sinners, who cannot contribute anything to our salvation. Our salvation is accomplished by the sovereign unmerited favor of God, who freely chooses to save sinners.

"Sin is not canceled by lawful living, for no person is able to live up to the Law. .... Nothing can take away sin except the grace of God."

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

**SOLA GRATIA**  
BY GRACE ALONE

God alone is also due all glory for our salvation as it was appointed by him, accomplished by him and ultimately his glory as its goal.

**SOLI DEO GLORIA**  
GLORY TO GOD ALONE

The Scriptures alone are our supreme authority. They contain, and are sufficiently clear in teaching, all things necessary for salvation and the life of faith.

"Your word of life has been, and still remains among us, faithfully collected in the sacred registers of the holy Scripture ... the image of your glory, the law of your kingdom, the ladder of heaven, the gate of paradise, the trumpet of salvation."

THEODORE BEZA (1519-1605)

**SOLA SCRIPTURA**  
BY SCRIPTURE ALONE

Faith (receiving and resting on Christ and his righteousness) is the only means by which we can receive justification (a right standing before God).

**SOLA FIDE**  
THROUGH FAITH ALONE

"When justification is attributed to faith, it is attributed to the mercy of God; it is taken out of the realm of human efforts, works, and merits."

PHILIP MELANCTHON  
(1497-1560)

**"WHEN THE CHURCH LOSES ITS UNDERSTANDING OF THESE RALLYING CRIES OF THE REFORMATION, IT LOSES THE GOSPEL."**

JASON HELOPOULOS, author of  
"These truths alone: Why the Reformation Solas are essential for our faith today"



**GOODBOOK**  
INFORMATIC