

Good News

November 8th 2015

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted, But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:6

The ultimate all access pass

There is only one person who completely fulfilled all of God's righteous requirements

"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Matthew 11:27

- The only God incarnate
- The only sinless man
- The only begotten Son of God
- The only foreordained lamb of God
- The only eternally appointed High Priest
- The only perfect substitutionary sacrifice that God will accept

We can receive it but we cannot earn it

Pursue righteousness (right standing with God) by Faith What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; but the people of Israel, who pursued the law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal. Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.

Romans 9:30-33

As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame."

Romans 9:30-33

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

Galatians 3:1-3

So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in

Galatians 3:5-8

advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because "the righteous will live by faith." The law is not based on faith;

Galatians 3:8-12

We have work to do

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

John 6:28-29

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The Five Solas are five Latin phrases (or slogans) that emerged during the Reformation to summarize the Reformers' theological convictions about the essentials of Christianity

> 1. Sola Scriptura "Scripture alone"

The Scriptures are our ultimate and trustworthy authority for faith and practice. This doesn't mean that the Bible is the only place where truth is found, but it does mean that everything else we learn about God and his world, and all other authorities, should be interpreted in light of Scripture. The Bible gives us everything we need for our theology.

2. Sola Fide "faith alone" We are judged righteous in the sight of God purely on the basis of our faith. The atoning sacrifice of Christ leads to righteousness being imputed to us as sinners through a legal declaration by God. Believing is the key mechanism of salvation.

> 3. Sola Gratia "grace alone"

Salvation is the free gift of God to man. It is given by God's Grace alone and not through any merit on the part of the Christian. We can only stand before God by his grace as he mercifully attributes to us the righteousness of Jesus Christ and attributes to him the consequences of our sins. Jesus' life of perfect righteousness is counted as ours, and our records of sin and failure were counted to Jesus when he died on the cross.

4. Solus Christus "Christ alone"

Our salvation is accomplished by the mediatorial work of Christ alone. His sinless life and substitutionary atonement alone are sufficient for our justification and reconciliation to the Father. The gospel is not preached unless Christ's substitutionary work is declared and faith in Christ and his work is solicited.

5.
Soli Deo Gloria
"to the glory of God alone"

Glory belongs to God alone. God's glory is the central motivation for salvation, not improving the lives of people—though that is a wonderful by product. God is not a means to an end—he is the means and the end. The goal of all of life is to give glory to God alone. Every aspect of the Christian life is to be seen as giving glory to God.

