**The FIVE SOLAS – Scripture alone**

**Just a few months earlier Jesus was crucified – it’s the beginning of Christian persecution. The church is growing in Jerusalem. However, the authorities are frustrated that the disciples are telling people that Jesus was alive and healing the sick.**

**Thousands were coming to faith in Jesus Christ.**

**They were frustrated at this “blasphemy” and arrested them.**

**Acts 4:7 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

**One of the great declarations of Sola. One of five core declarations and foundations of the Christian church.**

**The Five Solas 5 Core Truths - (Sola Latin for alone/only)**

1. **Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone) - Bible alone is the final authority**
2. **Solus Christus (Christ alone) - Through Jesus Christ alone**
3. **Sola Fide (Faith alone) - Saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ**
4. **Sola Gratia (Grace alone) - By the grace of God alone**
5. **Soli Deo Gloria (God’s glory alone) - For the glory of God alone.**

**The five Solas guard and clarify the gospel.**

**The order is often different. I chose an order that builds a foundation. Everything we know about God and Jesus is from the scriptures. So, we began there.** **All of it rests on this.**

**Today Sola Christus (Christ Alone)**

**I have been preaching Jesus for 40 yrs. Every time I got up to speak, it was about Jesus. I calculated over 5,000 sermons, lessons, Bible studies, and devotionals about Jesus. 156 this last year alone.**

**There is no way I can expound on the glory, wonder, and supremacy of Jesus in one sermon. Today is no small task.**

**Sola Christus (Christ Alone) – Christ's life, righteousness, blood, and resurrection alone, satisfies the justice of God. Salvation is found in the person and work of Jesus Christ alone.**

**In Christ alone, we have all we need for salvation. Jesus alone is our means of escape from sin. In Him alone we made right with God. We must trust in Him and Him alone.**

**This is not saying Christ is the only person of the Trinity involved in salvation. But that in the work of Christ alone (his incarnation, life, righteousness, blood, and resurrection) we are redeemed.**

**Of the Solas, this might seem the least debated. However, this is not the case.**

**First of all, we need to know why this is so vital. A serious issue…**

**Born Spiritually Dead - Eph 2:1,5; 1 Cor 1:18, 21-24, 2:14; 2 Cor 2:15-16, 4:3-4; Deut 29:2-4; Psalm 119:18; Pro 4:19; Isaiah 42:6-7; Hosea 14:9; Matt 16:17; John 3:27, 8:43, 6:44,65, 14:16-17; Acts 22:14, 26:18; Eph 4:17-19; 1 John 5:20; Phil 2:13.**

**We are dead in sin – We do not want God or desire God – our hearts are in rebellion with God –enemies with God. (Rom 5)**

**Born Slaves to sin - John 8:34; 2 Pet 2:19; Titus 3:3; Gal 4:8-9; Rom 6:6-20; 7:14; 2 Tim 2:25-26; Isaiah 42:6-7; Psalm 51:12; John 8:31-32,36; 2 Co 3:17.**

**Born with completely Perverted desires - Rom 1:24-2, 7:18; Eph 2:3; Pro 21:10; John 3:19, 8:44; Titus 1:15-16; Isaiah 1:5-6, Psalm 51:5.**

**Born at war with God - John 3:20, Rom 1:28-30, 8:7-8; Col 1:21; James 4:4; Psalm 58:3; Eph 2:3, 12-13.**

**No one is good - 2 Chron 6:36; Micah 7:2-4; Rom 1:28-31, 3:10-23, 5:12-14; 1 John 1:8,10; Matt 15:19, Mark 7:21-23, 10:18; Luke 18:19; Psalm 5:9, 143:2; Isaiah 53:6; 1 Kings 8:46; 116:11, 130:3, 143:2; Pro 10:20, 20:9, 28:26; Ecc 7:20, 9:3; Jer 2:29, 10:7-8,14, 17:9; 1 Cor 5:9-10; James 3:2; Gen 6:5, 8:21; Titus 1:15-16; Eph 4:17-18.**

**No One seeks God - Psalm 10:4, 14:1-3, 53:1-3; John 3:20; Isa 64:7; 65:1; Rom 3:10-12.**

**Psalm 143:2 - …no one living is righteous before you. / Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way.**

**Romans 3:10 “None is righteous, no, not one; 11 no one understands; no one seeks for God. 12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” 23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

**(Deut 4:24, 9:3, 2 Sam 22:9, Isaiah 33:14, Heb 12:29)**

**And in the face of all this God is holy, perfect and righteous. The sinful are consumed like a fire in his presence**

**How can sinful man and sinful woman stand before a righteous God? How can a guilty sinner have fellowship with an infinitely Holy God?**

**Religion seeks to answer this. Usually, with a work based, climb a ladder, jump through hoops answers.**

**\*\* We are in a state of total depravity before the righteous and Holy Almighty LORD God**

**What can we do?** **We can’t earn it, buy it, or work for it. We don’t deserve it and don’t want it. We’re not good enough or worthy of it, or even able to see it. We are helpless before him.**

**What can a dead man do – but stink.**

**Good news – God is good. Act 4:12 And there is salvation…**

**Praise God there is a way! There is deliverance! Salvation has come!!**

**Solus Christus - ONE WAY!**

**Acts 4:10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

**Using the Acts 4 passage let’s take a look at Sola Christus.**

**1. Christ alone is God in the flesh**

**Hinduism (avatars or Sanskrit) - New age/paganism (all a type of god in the flesh). Jesus is one of many – and never intended to be God.**

**Acts 4:10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth…**

**Christ = God – promised anointed savior / of Nazareth = man**

**Jesus repeatedly referred to himself as God and Messiah.**

**His favorite verse was Psalm 110 – declaring the Messiah is God Almighty.**

**The earliest NT creed was this statement,**

**Jesus is Lord” (Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 12:3; Phil. 2:10-11) Jesus is Yahweh.**

**The earliest gospel confession in print (within months of the resurrection)**

**1 Cor 15:1-5 Jesus fully God/fully man - crucified & rose again for our sins.**

**Jesus was not made into God centuries later – high level of early Christology within the first century. Every major church father.**

**2. Christ alone is sinless**

**Acts 4:11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. (A perfect flawless cornerstone – the measure by which all others are judged – Jesus the cornerstone)**

**Some think Jesus was a man and like the rest of us who sinned and made mistakes and sinned. Progressive churches.**

[**2 Corinthians 5:21**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+5%3A21&version=ESV)**For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5, Hebrews 4:15, Isaiah 53:9)**

**Christ alone can bring salvation before a righteous and Holy God because he is the only one who is sinless – perfect in every way and without sin.**

**3. Christ alone satisfies the justice of God**

**Acts 4:10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified…**

**For the reformers - The problem was not the person of Christ (Catholics accept that). The problem was the work of Christ.**

**Have you ever heard - Are you saved? Saved from what?**

**Here is something shocking… \*\* We are saved from God himself\*\***

**Saved from the very wrath of almighty God against sinners – of which we are all born into a state of rebellion and sin.**

**Without an intervention – we face God’s judgment.**

**John 3:18 - we are already condemned – John 3:36 - without an intervention, God’s wrath remains on us all.**

**We are not saved from low self-esteem and self-worth. We are not saved from insecurity and purposeless and hopelessness.**

**Mark 2:1-12 – A crippled man is brought to Jesus – Jesus respond, “Your sins are forgiven.” The issue was not his health, sadness, and family issues. It was not his finances, medical bills, or marriage. They all shrink in comparison to our real need. Which is to be saved from God’s judgment upon sin.**

**\*\* And - Only one can save us from God – God himself.**

**Only one is able to absorb our sin and shame – Christ himself!**

**Only God can save you from God (the Trinity is important)**

**Psalm 5:4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. 5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. 6 You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

**It is much more than God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life. You and I need desperate help. God hates sin and the sinful. (Rom 5 – we are enemies of God)**

**Psalm 7:11** **God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. 12 If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow; 13 he has prepared for him his deadly weapons, making his arrows fiery shafts. (and be assured God never misses)**

**Psalm 11:4 The Lord is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. (he doesn’t miss a blink) 5 The LORD tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. 6 Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. (Not to mention the prophets!)**

**The judgement of God. This is why we need to be saved!!!**

**BTW – those Psalms also speak of God’s grace that is given**

**Are you saved? Do you know his salvation? There is no other name for our children, grandchildren, friends, parents, or you.**

**Jesus is called our propitiation (1 John 2:1-2, 1 John 4:10, Rom 3:25, Heb 2:17, 9:12-26, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Isiah 53:5-11, Rom 5:6-11)**

**Propitiation (to satisfy) He satisfied our debt of sin and the judgement of God. He cried out – it is finished – Paid in full!**

**This is known as Penal Substitutionary Atonement.**

**Hebrews 9:12 He (Jesus) entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. (Done once – finished – and eternal)**

**Nothing can be added to it to make it better or do more. His blood alone has infinite value. Gal 2:21, 5:2-4 – not even 1% can help. I bring nothing. If I try his death is purposeless.**

**Jesus did not just die to show us the way to treat people or model love. Jesus’ death is not a sad story of a good man treated unfairly by political and religious movements. Jesus was not a doomsday prophet who got it wrong. Jesus was not trying to start a new religion.**

**Jesus came to die – leaving heaven to willingly submit to the cross. He gave his life it was not taken. Why? To satisfying the justice of God and reconcile us to God.**

**God was under no obligation to do this – but through the depths of his eternal mercy and love – Jesus was sent.**

**Romans 5:8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.**

**He who knew no sin became sin for us – the great exchange… The worst of me received the best of Him (1 Pet 2:24 / Gal 3:13)**

**4. Christ alone is our salvation**

**Act 4:12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name…**

**There is no one and nothing else! Jesus is not one of many ways – or just the way for Christians. Salvation is not in Moses, Allah, Mohammad, Hari Krisha, Shiva, Brahma, Akal Murat, Buddha, Confucius, or the Pope. Salvation is not in a church, denomination, cause, justice work, helping people, a political party or politician. It is not in money, a marriage, or having a family – or the American dream. Salvation is not found in a self-help plan, motivational pep talks, having positive mental health, or being a good person.**

**John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**

**Salvation is found in one place – the Lord Jesus! Our only hope and way - there is no other - Sola Christus!**

**In today’s world – few things are more offensive than a claim to exclusive truth. Coexist – universalism – inclusive views.**

**\*\* This is given by grace alone and must be received through faith alone (the next couple weeks) because of the work of Christ alone.**

**Notice - Acts 4:12 …there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (it jumps out!)**

**18th-century Great awakening preacher Geroge Whitfield was approached by a woman and asked, “Mr. Whitefield, why do you keep saying we must be born again?” To which he answered, “Because dear woman, you must be born again.” This is our message to you!**

**John 3:3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (Later in John 3:36 or he add if not, the wrath of God abides on you).**

**(the book of Hebrews declares) Jesus alone is our great:**

**Prophet - revealing His word and will by the HS.**

**Priest - who stands as our sacrifice and mediator to satisfy divine justice.**

**King - who sits as eternal Lord God and King on the throne of heaven. Ruling, reigning, and conquering the enemies of God.**

**He is the only one the Father sent – there is no other!**

**1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (Act 4:12, John 14:6, 2 Tim 3:15, 2 Cor 5:21)**

**Jesus fully God - alone can stand as God before God.**

**Jesus fully man - alone can stand before us as God in the flesh.**

**Because of this – salvation is available.**

**12 And there is salvation in no one else…**

**This was the message they proclaimed – and it is ours.**

**5. Christ alone is our declaration**

**Peter was asked– who do you think you are? By what authority do you speak, and do what you do? What makes you right? “I’ll tell you who!”**

**Acts 4:10 “let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... 12 there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

**There is not one drop of saving grace in any other way.**

**That sounds narrow-minded… yes it does. It is a narrow way.**

**We are to hold to and speak this truth with conviction, patience and gentleness – and without compromise.**

**\*\* We humbly proclaim this. It’s not something I achieved (how can I be prideful). I did not deserve it or earn it (how can I be arrogant). I was a sinner made righteous not of my own doing – but by Christ.**

**I will boldly and bravely and humbly proclaim He is the only way. That a righteous God would die for a sinner like me. I was dead – all I did was stink like a corpse - but Jesus stepped into this cesspool of our life and died for our sins.**

**No one did and no one could do it but him. By his life, righteousness, blood, and resurrection alone.**

**I have a question for you – are you born again – by Christ alone?**

**Your sin – your shame – your selfishness – your rebellion – was paid for and satisfied on the cross of Jesus Christ.**

**Acts 4:12 …there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

**Your family must be saved – your friends must to be saved – your classmates need to be saved – everyone under heaven must be saved. And – there is only one who can.**

**\*\*\* You can know this is still know this and go to hell. This must be confessed and believed by faith in Christ alone.**

**John 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, (faith in Jesus) he gave the right to become children of God,**