

“SOLI DEO GLORIA—TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY”

Romans 11:33-36

THE ‘FIVE SOLAS OF THE REFORMATION’

1. The 5 solas of the Protestant Reformation.

- *sola fide* = Faith alone (Salvation comes through faith alone—not the result of human works or religion.)
- *solus Christus* = Christ alone (Christ alone is our Savior—not Mary, the saints, or religious leaders.)
- *sola Scriptura* = Scripture alone (The Bible is our only rule for faith and practice.)
- *sola gratia* = Grace alone (We are saved on the basis of God’s grace—not because anything good in us.)
- *soli Deo gloria* = To God alone be the glory (A salvation accomplished by God gives Him all the glory.)

2. The 5 solas of the Reformation all surround the idea of justification.

- A debate with the Roman Catholic Church over this issue: How is man made right with God? (salvation)
- Justification is an act of God’s free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for [because of] the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone. (*Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Question & Answer #33)

THE DOXOLOGY OF ROMANS 11:33-36

- These are words of praise about God; A summary in response to God’s work in saving us. Rom Ch. 1-11

ROMANS: Paul’s Systematic and Comprehensive Explanation of the Gospel

1. The Good News of Justification through Faith. Romans 1:16-17

- Both Jews and Gentiles can be made truly righteous before God through faith in Jesus Christ.

2. God’s righteous condemnation of unrighteous people. Romans 1:18-3:20

- All condemned before God: pagan, moral & religious people because of our sin. 1:18; 2:1-2
- No one is righteous. Not even one person. 3:10-12
- All the world is guilty before God. 3:19-20

→ God righteously condemns all people no matter how ‘good’ or how ‘bad’ because of their sin.

3. God’s righteous justification of unrighteous people. Romans 3:21-4:25

- Salvation comes only through faith alone in Christ alone. 3:21-24; 3:28; 4:4-5

→ God has provided a way for us to be perfectly righteous: through faith in Christ’s life, death & resurrection.

→ This is imputed to us. We are declared righteous before God.

4. The Good News of God’s Salvation. Romans Ch. 5-8

- Freedom from God’s wrath. 5:1-11
- Freedom from Adam’s fallen race. 5:12-21
- Freedom from sin’s dominion. 6:1-23
- Freedom from the law’s inability to make us righteous/good. 7:1-25
- Freedom from carnal living (Life in the Spirit). 8:1-39

→ Sanctification is a process in which righteousness is imparted to us.

5. The Good News of God’s Way of Saving Us. Romans 9-11

- God has sovereignly chosen to save some Jews and Gentiles out of Adam’s fallen race. 9:1-24
- God has accomplished what He said He would do in His Word. 9:25-33
- Fallen people perish b/c of their sin and failure to believe the Gospel that is freely offered to them. 10:1-21
- God’s rejection of unbelieving Jews is only partial—there is a remnant who believe. 11:1-10
- God’s rejection of unbelieving Jews is only temporary—they will eventually come to Him. 11:11-32

→ 11:33-36: To God alone be the glory!