

Pastor's Pen

The Five Solas: SOLA SCRIPTURA

All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be equipped, having been thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim. 3:16-17

We have looked at three of the five Solas; Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, and Solus Christus. Today brings us to why we can believe in grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, it's because of Scripture alone.

The Scriptures in the original manuscripts are inherent and infallible. Even though the Scriptures have human authors they are all directly inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 2:21). The reformers were fighting against a religious system that put church tradition and the words of the Pope on the same authority as the Bible.

Even Jesus Himself validated the scriptures of the Old Testament. In Matthew 5:17, He validated both the Mosaic Law and the books of the prophets when He said, "*Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.*" In addition, when talking about marriage in Mark's Gospel He said, *But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. 7 For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, 8 and the two shall become one flesh; so they are no longer two, but one flesh* (Mark 10:6-8). He also referenced the Book of Exodus (Luke 18:20), Deuteronomy (Luke 10:26-28), 1 Samuel (Mark 2:25), 1 Kings (Matthew 12:42), Psalms (Mark 12:10), Isaiah (Matthew 13:13-14), Daniel (Matthew 24:15), Hosea (Matthew 9:13), Jonah (Matthew 12:40), Zechariah (Matthew 26:31), and Malachi (Matthew 11:10). He also acknowledged the lives of those that lived during the Old Testament. He spoke of Abraham (John 8:56), Isaac and Jacob (Matthew 8:11), and David (Matthew 12:1-3), and these are not all that He mentioned.

You can see that those who falsely claim that we can only believe in the red letters (those spoken by Jesus) of scripture as inherent and infallible have to say that Jesus is wrong in speaking of what the Old Testament saints wrote in scripture. Because we know and believe that *All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be equipped, having been thoroughly equipped for every good work*, we can find peace knowing that the Gospel is true and that our salvation is secure.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

As proud and carnal as ever!- Thomas Watson
Grace changes the heart!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

The true Christian has a great change wrought.
Not a change of the faculties, but of the tendencies.
He is altered from what he was before.
His body is the same, but not his mind.
Oh what a metamorphosis does grace make!

There is a change wrought in the UNDERSTANDING.

Before, there was ignorance, but now there is light. The first work of God in the creation of the world was light, likewise it is in the new creation. He now says, "I once was blind, but now I see!" John 9:25

Quote of the Week

"When the Bible speaks, God speaks. This is the Bible's own testimony about itself, and it is the historic faith of the Christian church."

-Al Mohler

He sees such evil in sin, and excellency in the ways of God--as he never saw before! It is a marvelous light, because it is more penetrating. Other light may shine upon the face--but this light shines into the heart and enlightens the conscience. 2 Corinthians 4:6

There is a change wrought in the WILL.

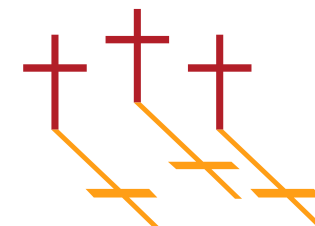
The will, which before opposed Christ, now embraces Him. The will, which was an iron sinew against Christ, is now like melting wax, and readily receives the stamp and impression of the Holy Spirit. The will now moves heavenward, and carries all the affections along with it. The will now says, "Lord! What will you have me to do?" Acts 9:6. Before, the will kept Christ out; now, it keeps sin out! Oh what a happy change is wrought here!

There is a change wrought in the CONDUCT.

He who is saved, walks directly contrary to what he did before. He once walked in envy and malice; now he walks in love! He once walked in pride; now he walks in humility. In the heart there is a new birth, and in the life there is a new conduct.

Thus we see what a mighty change grace makes.

How far are they from salvation, who never had any change! They are the same today, as they were forty or fifty years ago. They are as proud and carnal as ever! They have had no change in their heart. Let not them think to leap out of the harlot's lap (the world) into Abraham's bosom! They must either have a gracious change while they live, or a cursed change when they die!



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please check church website
for start date and directions to each

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and need to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address on the back of this bulletin.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study & Surge!

Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Children's Church @11:00AM

Giving from service on 12/10/2023

General Offering8,117.78
Building Fund 26,641.55
Uganda Missions 635.00

Total.....\$35,394.33
Attendance 208

SOS/Uganda Christmas giving so far \$1,966.00

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest
Baptist Church
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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Dec 17, 2023

Welcome