

The Five Solas: An Affirmation of Faith

Devotional Companion

Ken Bible

LNW *hymns*.COM

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**Sola Scriptura
or
By Scripture alone**

Psalm 1

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.

He will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season
And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so,
But they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish. (NASB)

Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;
In keeping them there is great reward. (NASB)

Matthew 7:24-27

[Jesus said:] “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.” (NASB)

The Word of God
A Reflection

You are sure to have a Bible at hand. Pick it up.
Do you know what a treasure You are holding?

God’s Word is creative, bringing life and beauty out of nothing (Genesis 1).
God’s Word is perfect, pure, and more precious than gold (Psalm 19).
God’s Word is unimaginably powerful:

*The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders...
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is majestic...
and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”
(Psalm 29:3-4, 9, NIV)*

God’s Word will be creative, life-giving, precious, and powerful
within you as You read it and trust it.

For thousands of years people have argued about the Bible’s accuracy.
Its teachings clash with our desires.
Its wisdom challenges our understandings.
Its principles sometimes seem to conflict with science’s latest version of the truth.

But as every other source of “truth” quickly goes out-of-date,
God’s Word continues to speak.

Person after person, generation after generation finds it
beautiful,
pure,
life-giving, and
consistently, completely reliable.

They find it true and satisfying mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.
As on the first day of creation, when God speaks, our world is filled with light.

Treasure God's Word.
Treasure it enough to
read it, trust it,
share it, and live by it.

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Hymn: [The Word of God](#)

**Sola Fide
or
Through faith alone**

Romans 3:21-24

Now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus. (NASB)

Romans 10:6-13

The righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down), or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).”

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” – that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; for “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (NASB)

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. (NASB)

Galatians 3:1-5

You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you?...This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?...Does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to Him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. (NASB)

Faith: The Greatest Bargain in the Universe

As we trust God,
as we believe that He is and that He rewards those who seek Him,
as we believe that Jesus is His Son and that God raised Him from the dead,
as we respond to God's word with faith,
as we entrust ourselves to Him,

Faith bears fruit within us:

- We are justified. God declares us completely innocent. We will not be judged by Him (John 3:18; 5:24; Romans 5:1; et al).
- God cleanses our hearts (Acts 15:9) and gives us His own righteousness (Romans 3:21-24; 10:4, 9-11; et al).
- We are sealed in Christ. We are marked as God's own possession and put under His protection. This sealing is by the Holy Spirit, who is our down-payment on our full redemption to come (Ephesians 1:13-14).
- We have eternal life. We have God's boundless, timeless, endless life, here and now and forever (John 3:16, 36; et al). Jesus Christ Himself lives in us (Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 3:17). We share His completeness (Colossians 2:9-10) and are being filled to all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19).
- We draw near to our Father God in full confidence (Hebrews 10:22).
- We enter into God's deep and endless rest (Hebrews 4:3).
- All our hunger and thirst is satisfied in God (John 6:35-36). We have the living water of the Spirit flowing within us (John 7:38-39).
- At work within us are the all-creating Word of God (1 Thessalonians 2:13) and the power of God that raised Christ from the dead (Ephesians 1:18-20).
- We have an unchanging, unshakable hope for the future that is unthreatened even by death (1 Thessalonians 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:12; et al).
- We rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory (1 Peter 1:8).
- We enjoy peace with God and full access to His boundless grace (Romans 5:1-2).
- We know God's love for us (1 John 4:16). We are rooted and grounded in it and begin to grasp how wide and long and high and deep it is (Ephesians 3:17-19).
- We are protected by a shield and a breastplate that can deflect and extinguish anything Satan throws at us (Ephesians 6:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:8).
- We grow in faith and pursue more and more faith throughout your lives (2 Corinthians 10:15; 1 Timothy 6:11; et al). Faith continues to grow as a natural fruit of God's Spirit within us (Galatians 5:22).
- As faith grows, so does the precious quality of patient endurance (2 Thessalonians 1:4; James 1:2-3; 1 Peter 1:6-7, 9).

Faith also bears fruit in our daily, outer life:

- God enables us to obey Him (Romans 1:5; 16:26).
- We overcome the evil world in which we live (1 John 5:4-5).
- God is perfecting us by faith (Galatians 3:2, 5).
- We know the truth, and the truth sets us free (John 8:30-32).
- If we lack wisdom, all we have to do is ask God, and He supplies it gladly (James 1:5-6).
- We can move mountains (Matthew 17:20). All things are possible to us (Mark 9:23 et al).
- We are fabulously wealthy, even when we are poor (James 2:5).
- We rest our physical bodies in the hands of the Great Healer (Matthew 9:22; James 5:14-15; et al).
- We remain confident and calm through every storm of life (Mark 4:40; Luke 8:25). We walk safely and confidently, even when we can't see the path ahead (2 Corinthians 5:7). We stand firm, no matter what problems or opposition we meet (1 Corinthians 16:13 et al). We fight the good fight of faith and lay hold of eternal life (1 Timothy 6:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:22; 4:7-8).

Since faith unites us with Jesus Christ, we are one in Him with all believers of every time and place (Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 4:5; et al):

- We are children of God and members of God's family (John 1:12; Ephesians 2:19; et al).
- We are children of Abraham and thus heir to all God promised him (Romans 4; Galatians 3; Genesis 12:1-3).
- We do the works of Christ, and together, we do even greater works than He did (John 14:10-12).
- All we have is His and thus is the common property of His people (Acts 4:32 et al).
- We are being built into a spiritual house, a holy temple, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20-22; 1 Peter 2:4-7).
- We have the joyful opportunity of encouraging our fellow believers (Romans 1:12 et al). God gives us beautiful, life-giving spiritual gifts to share with them (Romans 12:3, 6). We nourish each other with words of faith (1 Timothy 4:6).
- We are granted the great privilege of suffering for Christ's sake (Philippians 1:29).
- Our example of faith is a heritage that we pass on to our children and grandchildren (2 Timothy 1:5).

**Sola Gratia
or
By grace alone**

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.

In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.

In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory. (NASB)

Romans 5:1-8, 15-21

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification. For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (NASB)

Letter from a Concerned Father

Based on Hosea 11:1-11

My Dear Child,

Since before you were born, I've loved you. You were my delight, my pride and joy. I would sit and watch you and smile and laugh. I looked forward to being with you. I enjoyed you so much. I just could not do enough for you.

I cared for you day and night. You were always on my mind and on my heart. When you were sick, I felt your pain and nursed you back to health. When you fell, I would lift you in my arms and hug you and gently kiss you.

But the more I loved you, the more you resisted my love. The more I cared for you, the more you resented me. The more I did for you, the less you trusted me.

I taught you to walk, and you chose to walk away from me. I shaped your young mind. I carefully fed it and nurtured it. But you became proud, and in your youthful ignorance you found me foolish and old-fashioned.

You took everything I gave you and turned it against me.

But still I loved you and did all I could to help you. I saw trouble coming. I tried to warn you - sometimes gently, sometimes in desperation, as shouting to one standing in front of an oncoming truck: "Look out! Get out of the way!" But you took my warnings as intrusions, as selfish attempts to "run your life."

The trouble came - the incredible hurt, the destruction, the shattered relationships. Believe me, being right brought me no joy. I suffered it all with you.

I still see trouble coming. But I can't help you...not unless you let me...not unless you help yourself.

A parent's grief for a lost child has no comfort, no consolation, except one. It's hope-- hope that the child will somehow just come back.

Come back, child.
Please, come back.

Love forever,
God, Your Father

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HYMN: [Your Ceaseless, Unexhausted Love](#)

**Solus Christus
or
By Christ alone**

Colossians 1:13-20

He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of the cross. (NASB)

Hebrews 1:1-3

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. (NASB)

Hebrews 9:11-14

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (NASB)

The I AM

Jesus Christ is *the Word become flesh* (John 1:14).
He is *the image of the invisible God* (Colossians 1:15).
He is *all the fullness of the Deity in bodily form* (Colossians 2:9).
He is *the radiance of the Father's glory and
the exact representation of His very being* (Hebrews 1:3).

Holy God is now human.
The Almighty shares our weakness.
Our Sovereign is a humble servant.
The Unapproachable One grants us unlimited access.
The Transcendent, the Incomprehensible, the Unimaginable
has come to us, and
we see Him face to face.

Mystery and intimacy,
power and dependence,
time and eternity
are seamlessly combined in Him.

The Unknowable is knowable
by childlike faith alone.
The glory of the Infinite God,
of whom the vast universe is only a passing glimpse and a faint whisper,
is fully revealed in this One.

He shares with us
His wisdom,
His heart,
His breath, and
His peace.
He welcomes us with open arms,
holds us gently in His hand,
lovingly speaks our name, and
calls Himself our Brother.

All that the Father has,
all that He is, and
all the gifts of His magnificent Being
are ours forever in this One:
Jesus Christ.

*Holy Father,
in Jesus Christ
You have removed all the barriers
between You and me.*

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HYMN: [Christ Crucified](#)

Soli Deo Gloria
or
For the glory of God alone

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. (NASB)

Colossians 3:1-3, 5, 8-14, 17

If you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

Put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him — *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. (NASB)

Daily Work

The best way to serve God and fellowship with Him is through ordinary occupations.

Lift each daily task as an offering to Him.

Before you begin, ask for His help.
As you work, consecrate the task to Him
and speak simple words of love and praise.
When you finish, thank Him for His faithfulness.

To sanctify your days to God,
simply do for Him what you would ordinarily do for yourself.

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Hymn: [God Alone](#)