

## Here I Stand

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## My NEXT Step for This Week

- The \_\_\_\_\_ unified Europe during the Middle Ages (476 - 1492)
- \_\_\_\_\_ tilled the field of Reformation soil (1320's - 1384)
- \_\_\_\_\_ took the baton with which Wycliffe began to run (1372 - 1415)
- One of Huss' loyal followers and best friends was \_\_\_\_\_ of Prague (1379 - 1416)
- A priest in Italy, \_\_\_\_\_, was also burned at the stake (1452 - 1498)
- In \_\_\_\_\_ Martin Luther nailed *95 Theses* to the church door in Wittenburg

- Pray that persecuted believers would be bold.
- Google "Reformation Martyrs" and do some research.
- Email one or two of our missionaries with a word of appreciation. (Email addresses are at the Information Center)
- Read the bulletin insert: "Why Were Our Reformers Burned?"

## The Five "Solas" of the Reformation

1. Sola \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ alone
2. Sola \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ alone
3. Sola \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ alone
4. Solus \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ alone
5. Sola \_\_\_\_\_

## “Here I Stand”

John Samson having a friendly discussion with a fellow Christian minister.  
He was talking about the doctrines that sparked the Protestant Reformation,  
*“When out of nowhere, it seemed, my minister friend said,  
‘The Holy Spirit is not stuck in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.  
He has moved on. Why don’t you?’”*

Look, none of us would want to live in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.  
However, God led a movement during that time that was powerful.  
The central truths of the Reformation are the central truths of the Bible.  
And although the Holy Spirit is not stuck in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century --  
The Holy Spirit permeates the central truths of Scripture.

John Samson - *“One of the slogans of the Reformation was --  
“Semper Reformanda” or “Always Reforming” --  
And we should always seek to follow the Holy Spirit’s lead --  
as He reveals to us what Scripture says,  
and shows each of us our man-made traditions.  
We all have our traditions.  
Some of them are good (when tradition agrees with the Scripture),  
some of them are bad, because Scripture clearly denies them.  
In this regard, let God be true and every man a liar.”*

The Holy Spirit never moves on from the truth of the Gospel.  
It was for that truth that our brothers and sisters in Christ --  
Gave their lives, spilled their blood, were tortured and burned alive.  
The Holy Spirit continues to lead His people in Reforming and refining our lives according to  
the truths of Scripture.

Today we enjoy the fruits of the Protestant Reformation.  
It’s so easy to forget who we are and what made us great.  
I am guilty of keeping the Reformation in the foggy recesses of my mind.  
That which happened 500 years ago was not by accident.  
The providence that we have been seeing in the book of Ruth --  
Is the same divine providence that orchestrated that great Reformation.

*“Every generation of believers in the church has had to fight --  
For the purity and the exclusivity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
There is no exception.” -- Steve Lawson*

For about 1,000 years all of Europe was dominated by one church--  
the church in Rome.

The **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** was that which unified Europe in the Middle Ages after the fall of the Roman Empire in 476.

The church impacted everyone, from nobility to serf.

Except for a small numbers of Jews, all of Europe was “Christian.”

All were expected to live by the church’s laws and pay heavy taxes.

Superstition was the rule of the day.

The common man was oppressed and depressed.

All of Europe was enslaved by the idea of an angry God who could not be satisfied.

Public worship was full of mysticism and nonsensical theatrics.

John Calvin described it as “theatrical exhibition,” “vain theatrical show,” “showy ceremonies,” and “frivolous performances.”

In other words it was like much of worship in the modern church.

The Dark ages were dark because the light of God’s Truth was being obscured.

Europe was trudging in the mire of hopelessness and making no progress.

The tyranny of Rome had cast its subjects into the pit of misery and the slough of sadness.

There was an occasional light that shined out in the darkness.

John Wycliffe was such a light.

Wycliffe studied the Scripture and came to the conclusion --

That the Scriptures should be the foundation of all doctrine.

The Roman church insisted that Scripture and tradition formed doctrine.

Wycliffe also saw the church as a spiritual institution --

And not a political institution.

So his pre-reformation contribution was with Scripture / the church.

These were the same controversies that would later fuel the Reformation fires of men like Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, and the Anabaptists.

**JOHN WYCLIFFE** tilled up the field of Reformation soil.

He translated the Bible from the Latin Vulgate to the common tongue.

Before Luther was translating Scripture, there was Wycliffe.

Before Calvin waxed eloquent in theology, there was Wycliffe.

Before there could be a Reformation, God raised up Wycliffe.

The life and teaching of John Wycliffe brought so much grief to the Pope, that 44 years after he died, his bones were dug up and burned in hope that the impact of his teaching would be terminated.

Wycliffe is called “The Morningstar of the Reformation.”

A young man was listening, however, to the teaching of Wycliffe.

**JOHN HUSS** would take the up baton and continuing running the race that Wycliffe began.

Huss, whose name means “goose” was a Bohemian priest.

Bohemia is a general term for the area where the Czech language and culture prevailed.

Huss like Wycliffe in England before him --  
Believed in the authority of Scripture and not a mixture of Scripture and man.  
He wanted to see diminishing authority with the pope.  
Rome did not take kindly to that kind of teaching so that --  
In 1415, he was taken to the cathedral,  
dressed in his priestly garments, then stripped of them one by one.  
He refused a last opportunity to recant at the stake,  
Where he was heard praying,  
*"Lord Jesus, it is for thee that I patiently endure this cruel death.  
I pray thee to have mercy on my enemies."*  
The last words on his lips were the Psalms as the flames engulfed him.

One of Huss' loyal followers and best friends was **JEROME** of Prague.  
He too espoused Wycliffe's view, BUT was forced to recant.  
In weakness he declared that John Huss was rightfully burned at the stake.  
But, when he went to trial he recanted of his recantation --  
And he too, was burned.

Such was the fate of a priest in Italy, named **SAVONAROLA**.  
God was working in Italy, Germany, England, Bohemia, Switz, France...  
For 100 years there were sparks that were beginning to light the bonfire --  
That would ignite in a man named Martin Luther.

Early in the 16<sup>th</sup> century Luther came across some sermons by John Huss.

Luther would later say, *"I was overwhelmed with astonishment.  
I could not understand for what cause they had burnt such a great man,  
Who explained the Scriptures with so much gravity and skill."*

It was Luther who reminded his followers of Huss, the "goose" who had been "cooked" for defying the pope.

This was the canvas on which God would paint the wonderful and tragic picture of the Reformation.

The church was accepting gifts or indulgences from those who wanted special favors or wanted to be sure of their place in heaven.

The church was becoming more and more powerful and in the mind of Luther, more and more corrupt.

The Pope was recognized as God's representative on earth.

He had enormous authority, including the power to excommunicate--  
Which prevented church attendance and partaking of the sacraments --  
And certain hell upon the death of the one who was excommunicated.

All of life revolved around the church.

The church building was the biggest and most beautiful building --  
And always in the middle of the community.

The church permeated every part of life from baptizing babies,  
To marriages, to last rites at death.  
Everyone went to a service on Sunday which was given in Latin --  
And the common people understood little if any of it.  
The parish priest would teach the people and help them live by God's laws

But all was not well in Europe or the church.

John Calvin said,

*"The light of divine truth has been extinguished, the Word of God buried, the virtue of Christ left in profound oblivion, and the pastoral office subverted."*

Remember John Huss?

When he was burned, the fire was kindled with Wycliffe's manuscripts.

The last words of John Huss were,

*"In 100 years, God will raise up a man whose calls for reform cannot be suppressed."*

Just over 100 years later, in 1517,

Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenburg Church. Ironically, according to Dr. R.C. Sproul, when Luther was ordained a priest, it was done on a stone pavement in a church.

Under this stone pavement laid the body of the bishop who had executed John Huss.

This defiant act at the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg poured gasoline on the smoldering fires of Reform.

Very quickly these Theses were copied and dispersed.

Although Luther intended for these 95 Theses to bring about debate --

They instead became a straw that began weighing heavily on the back of the Roman church. Without the benefit of email or satellites these Theses spread throughout Germany in a week and throughout Europe in a month.

For several decades Luther butted heads with Rome.

Rome demanded that Martin Luther recant of his heresies --

And Luther did recant, but not like Rome was hoping.

In a letter to his friend Spalatin he wrote,

*"Previously I said the pope is the vicar of Christ. I recant. Now I say the pope is the adversary of Christ and the apostle of the Devil."*

The German monk wrote that,

*"I was wrong. I admit it, when I said that indulgences were 'the pious defrauding of the faithful.' I recant and say, 'Indulgences are the most impious frauds and impostors of the most rascally pontiffs, by which they deceive the souls and destroy the goods of the faithful.'"*

When he defended the writings of John Huss, that were condemned by the Pope, he said,

*"I was wrong. I retract the statement that certain articles of John Hus are evangelical...And to your face most holy Vicar of God, I say freely that ALL the condemned articles of John Hus are evangelical and Christian, and yours are downright impious and diabolical."*

After 1,000 yrs of growing darkness, the light of the Gospel was shining.

How did this come about?

It came about as Truth began to drown out the lie.

Men and women were being sovereignly regenerated and God was giving them an intense hunger for the Truth of the Scriptures.

But how was this appetite for the Word of God going to be fed?

How would ordinary people ever be nourished?

The Scriptures needed to be in the language of the common folks.

And it was served to the common people on loving platters that were stained with the blood of martyrs.

The Reformers were straight-forward in denouncing Rome.

But they were also clear with a positive message of their non-negotiables.

The synopsis of their message is summarized in what has been referred to as **The Five "SOLAS" of the Reformation.**

I will now turn my attention for the remainder of our time together,

To a brief examination of these so called, "solas."

## **1. Sola SCRIPTURA — SCRIPTURE Alone**

Scripture alone doesn't mean to reject the authority of biblical leadership. The Reformers knew that Scripture teaches us to submit to godly leaders.

*Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.*

Scripture alone not- 'I don't need anyone or anything other than my Bible.'

But rather that Scripture is the only infallible rule of faith for the Church.

Only Scripture is breathed out by God.

Listen to this verse like it was the words of God.

*2Timothy 16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*

One of the traditions of men that tweaked Luther was the sale of indulgences.

He felt like church officials were trying to sell salvation.

In 1517, Pope Leo X was offering indulgences to help fund the remodel of St. Peter's Basilica.

Johann Tetzel was sent to Germany to raise money and he was effective.

This quote is attributed to Tetzel.

*"As soon as a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs."*

It appears that it was Luther's reaction to Tetzel's practices that, in part, prompted the 95 Theses.

**Mark 7:1-13** Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, 2 they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. 3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, 4 and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) 5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" 6 And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

*"This people honors me with their lips,  
but their heart is far from me;  
7 in vain do they worship me,  
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'*

*8 You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."* 9 And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!"

Then Jesus gives an example of Honoring your father and mother.  
Then he summarizes...

*13 thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."*

Jesus is speaking out against the religious leadership of the day.  
He was addressing a false religion that relied on the traditions of men --  
Rather than on the Word of God.

Martin Luther saw the same things in the Roman church and he cried out -  
"Sola Scriptura" - The only infallible authority is Scripture alone!  
No man, no tradition should ever eclipse the authority of God's Word.  
That was the cry from Wycliffe and Huss a century before.  
Luther was an insignificant shepherd boy facing a giant.  
He was not only messing with the church in Rome, but governments of nations that were so closely tied to the church.  
When Luther opposed the tradition of indulgences, the humanist Erasmus-  
"He hath touched the Pope's Crown and the bellies of the monks,"

A religionist teaches tradition as God's commandments.  
He teaches his tradition as he practices it or proclaims it.  
Tradition is man's idea of what should or what should not be done.  
Some traditions are good; however, they shouldn't be taught as inerrant.  
Some traditions are important, but they are never as important as Scripture.

**Colossians 2:8** See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

This truth ultimately led Martin Luther out of the Roman Catholic Church.

He came to the conviction that he must put the “*infallible Word of God*” over that of popes, councils, church fathers, and tradition.

At the historic interrogation of Luther in 1521, he declared his conscience to be captive to the Word of God, saying...

*“Unless I am overcome with testimonies from Scripture or with evident reasons -- for I believe neither the Pope nor the councils, since they have often erred and contradicted one another -- I am overcome by the Scripture texts which I have adduced [offered as evidence], and my conscience is bound by God’s Word. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen.”*

All other authorities are subordinate to God’s Word and are fallible.

Though God gives offices and authorities to the church --

In every case, the content of Scripture is ultimately supreme.

Even today, the current *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states,

*“Both Scripture and Tradition must be accepted and honored with equal sentiments of devotion and reverence.”*

For the Reformers it was **to** the Scriptures that everything must rise or fall.

**Psalm 19:7-11** *The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;*

*8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;*

*the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

*9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;*

*the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.*

*10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;*

*sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.*

*11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;*

*in keeping them there is great reward.*

Sola Scriptura was foundational to why the Reformers bled and died.

I wonder if we have taken this privilege to lightly.

Wycliffe, Luther, and Tyndale willingly gave their lives so that we could have a shelf full of Bibles.

## 2. Sola GRATIA — GRACE Alone

How could a sinner be made right with God?

Adam and Eve thought the fig leaves, cut down with their own hands, would cover them from the thorough inspecting eye of God.

They thought their own works would make them acceptable before God.

Rome quickly perverted the apostles' teaching of salvation by grace alone, and added to it the commendable efforts performed by the committed.

These deeds included the seven sacraments of baptism, confirmation, the Eucharist or the mass, penance, extreme unction, orders and matrimony; along with a bunch of other works such as prayers for the dead, repetitious chanting, almsgiving and other works of supererogation [above call of duty].

But Reformers replied that from first to last, salvation was by grace alone.

*Kim Riddlebarger - "When we use the term "grace alone", what we mean is that our salvation from the wrath of God—our deliverance from hell—is because of something good in God, and not because of anything good in us."*

Don't miss this in the quote.

First, grace means that there's something good in God.

Second, grace means that there's nothing good in us.

*Romans 3:10-12 as it is written: "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."*

Here are some phrases that might jump out at you.

No one righteous.

No one who understands.

No one who seeks God.

No one who does good.

And God, knowing that I would read this verse someday repeated the last one.

No one who does good, not even one!

Luther saw man's total inability as the key to understanding redemption.

Rome taught that grace is poured in to a person and infused at the time of baptism--

And then it was up to the individual to work with this grace to achieve salvation.

To mix man's efforts was to corrupt grace and defile true salvation.

The Reformers knew that God's mercy was great and grace was free.

In fact, the term "free grace" is redundant.

For grace to be grace, it must be free.

If it's not free, it's not grace.

*Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God*

Grace alone means that we owe everything to God.

You're right to ask, "Are you saying I don't have a part in my salvation?"

No, don't misunderstand me here - we surely have a part in our salvation.

Let me use a story told by Harry Ironside to help me be clear.

One Sunday night a man stood to give his testimony.

Evidently he magnified the grace of God,

because afterwards a friend came to him with a comment:

*"You said a great deal about God's part in your salvation.*

*Why didn't you say anything about your part?"*

The man paused for a moment said,

*"Please forgive me. My part was to run away from God as fast as I could.*

*I kept running until he finally caught me."* That's the testimony of Paul!

Sola Gratia teaches us that our only "part" IN being born again --

IS to do the sinning and the running away from God.

I did as much in my regeneration as I did with my original conception.

God supernaturally did the whole thing by grace alone.

It has to be that way because of the universal condition of man.

We are so dead that only God can make us alive -

***Ephesians 2:1*** *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins*

We are so blind that only God could give us sight-

***2 Corinthians 4:4*** *In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

We are so sinful that only God could forgive us -

***Psalms 51:5*** *Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

We are so bad only God can make us good -

***Jeremiah 17:9*** *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?*

We are so lost that only God could save us -

***Luke 19:10*** *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*

We are so helpless that only God could change us -

***Jeremiah 13:23*** *Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?*

In short, without grace we are sinful-lost-helpless-hopeless-doomed-damned!

There is no hope without grace.

The Reformers believed-salvation from beginning to end must be of grace.

If anything was added to it, then it would be contaminated --

And it would not be the free gift of the true and living God.

That is why the Reformers were so zealous for Sola Gratia.

### 3. Sola FIDE — FAITH Alone

Martin Luther hit the nail on the head yet again when he said:

*“God creates faith in the human heart the same way that He created the world. He found nothing and created something.”*

Sola Fide brings us to the heart of the dispute between Rome and Reformers.

So important is this doctrine that Luther called it the doctrine by which the church stands or falls.

It is also the doctrine by which we stand or fall.

*J. I. Packer, “a church that lapses from justification by faith can scarcely be called Christian at all.”*

While teaching Romans Martin Luther came to a verse that changed everything.

*Romans 1:17 For in it [the Gospel] the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”*

The Catholic church believed in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and it believes today in salvation by grace through faith in Christ.

Many protestants falsely accuse the church in Rome of not believing that.

The problem is that they believe in:

Grace + Merit

Faith + Works

Christ + My inherent righteousness

They do not believe in grace alone, through faith alone in Christ alone.

What Luther needed and what we need, God has supplied and makes available solely on the basis of faith.

How, then, are we saved, how can God’s righteous justice be satisfied?

John Calvin and Martin Luther said that we are saved by the application of an *“alien righteousness.”*

*“Alien”* doesn’t refer to some strange creature that showed up in Area 51.

The word *“alien”* simply means *“from another place.”*

Where does a guilty sinner find righteousness *“from another place?”*

He can find it in Jesus Christ alone!

That’s the *“alien righteousness”* that saves guilty sinners.

That *“alien righteousness”* can only be accessed through faith.

AND that faith brings justification.

What is Justification?

The word *“justify”* means *“to declare righteous.”*

This is a term from the first century courtroom.  
After the judge, heard all the evidence, he would pronounce his verdict.  
If it was determined that a person was not guilty in the eyes of the law --  
The judge would declare that person Justified.

Think of Justification another way.  
What does it mean to justify the margins on your computer?  
It is taking that which is crooked and making it straight.  
Let's take those two concepts and put them together.  
When, by grace alone, through faith, you trust Jesus Christ as Savior --  
God declares you "*not guilty*" of sin and "*straight*" instead of "*crooked*" in his eyes.  
It is a supernatural act entirely of God, performed by God --  
On the basis of Jesus' death on the cross as payment for lawbreaking --  
And is received by us through the instrument of the gift of faith.  
Nothing you do or ever could do contributes to your own justification.  
It is entirely an act of God on behalf of sinners.  
The crooked declared straight and the guilty declared righteous in God's eyes.  
Justification can only come by grace alone through faith alone...  
So observe with me four things about justification from Romans 3-5.

Justification is based on God's grace (and it comes by no other means)

**Romans 3:24** [all who believe] "*... are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*"

Justification is grounded in the blood of Christ

**Romans 5:9** *Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.*

Justification is not according to our works

**Romans 4:5** *And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness*

Justification is through faith alone

**Romans 3:28** *For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.*

You can see why this changed Martin Luther's life.

It was this doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone that sparked the Protestant Reformation.  
It is the central doctrine of our faith and the one doctrine that sets Christianity apart from the religions of the world.

Do you know the difference between religion and Christianity?

It's two letters versus four letters.

Religion is spelled with two letters D-O.

Religion demands a list of things people have to do to be accepted by God. Go to church, give money, keep the Ten Commandments, say the Rosary, be baptized, pray every day--the list is endless--it's always Do...Do...Do.

The tireless tyrant of religion says heaven is for those who do something and then keep on doing it until you die.

Christianity is spelled with four letters D-O-N-E.

It is the freedom fighter against the tyrant of religion and it is not based on what we do but upon what Jesus Christ has already done.

God graciously opens blind eyes to believe what Christ has already done.

IT IS FINISHED! Nothing can be added to His perfect work.

If Sola Fide is the doctrine by which we stand or fall, are you standing?

If you're standing on anything besides Jesus, you aren't really standing.

But if you, by faith, rest your full weight on Him, you'll still be standing when everything else around us is falling apart.

For the Reformers, it could be nothing but Sola Fide!

#### 4. Solus CHRISTUS — CHRIST Alone

Let me tell you why Solus Christus was so important to the Reformers.

Rome taught that the objects of faith were prayers, tears, good works, Mary, the saints, the Church or even faith itself, rather than Christ alone.

The Reformers honored Mary like Scripture does, but she was a sinner in need of a Savior.

*1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus*

It seems like nothing else would need to be said yet Christ was ignored.

John Calvin observed that Romanists were

*“. . . passing by Christ, the only Mediator, each betook himself to the patron who had struck his fancy, or if at any time a place was given to Christ, it was one in which he remained unnoticed, like some ordinary individual in a crowd.”*

**CHRIST IS NO ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL!**

Rome added to the darkness by carving images --

And taught the people that the essence of God resided in them.

Calvin again says,

*“Hence, divine honours were paid to images, and prayers everywhere offered to them, under the pretense that the power and deity of God resided in them. Hence, too, dead saints were worshipped exactly in the manner in which of old Israelites worshipped Baalim.”*

These were an abomination to the Reformers as an attack against Christ.

The Cross-centered life is a Christ-centered life.

Luther said

*“Everything depends on the article of Christ, and everything is involved in it. Whoever has this article has everything; and Christians must engage in the severest conflict on its behalf and must forever strive and struggle to remain loyal to it.”*

Calvin asserted,

*“There is no part of our salvation which may not be found in Christ,' they boldly proclaimed.”  
“The whole gospel is contained in Christ.” “Christ is the beginning, middle and end . . .  
nothing is, or can be found, apart from him.”*

The Reformers refused to allow Mary, saints, angels, images, priests or anything to share in the glorious work of salvation in Christ alone.

Everything for the Reformers revolved around Christ, and him alone. '

Solus Christus was their cry.

The last Sola is **Sola TONIGHT**

Our authority is Scripture alone  
And our salvation is by grace alone  
Through faith alone  
In Christ alone  
For the glory of God alone.

These principles are what motivated the Reformers.

And I believe them with all my heart.

Though I feel completely unworthy to stand with the giants of the Reformation--

I would say with Luther...

*“...my conscience is bound by God’s Word. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me.  
Amen.”*