

**The 5 Solas**  
*Timeless Truths for Today's Church*

RECAP: The 3 solas covered so far;

*Solus Christus* = in **Christ** Alone..... *Jn. 14:6, Is 43:11*

*Sola Scripture* = on **Scripture** Alone..... *Ps. 119, 2 Tim. 3:16-17*

*Soli Deo Gloria* = for the **Glory of God** Alone..... *Is. 42:8, 48:11*

INTRO:

The problem isn't that we know nothing about grace and faith, but rather we all know just enough to keep us from understanding them better.

*Semper Reformanda* = Always Reforming

main point = **GRACE vs. WORKS!**

*"My job is not to make up anybody's mind but to make the agony of decision making so intense that you can escape only by thinking." - Fred Friendly*

SETUP:

3 possible hearers of this message;

**Non-Christian**  
(Atheist/Agnostic)

**"Almost Christian"**  
(False Convert)

**Christian**  
(In Christ)

**NC** [evolution] [miracles] [pain & suffering] [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

**AC** [moralistic-therapeutic-deism] [partial-surrender] [do vs. be]



3 ways to bring NC & AC closer to Christ; 1.) Remove the obstacles. 2.) Move the obstacles closer together. 3.) Christ invades their space.

Epistemological Bewilderment (*i.e. Healthy Skepticism*)

*Is. 1:18, 43:26, Mal. 3:10, Acts 9:4-5*

The healthy skeptic asks...

*How do we know God exists?.....Logic proves God (Jn. 1:1-2, 14, Ro. 12:1-2)*

*Why do we need saving?.....Sin (Gen. 2:16-17, Deut. 30:15-20, Ro. 6:23a)*

*Can we save ourselves by doing good?.....No. (Ps. 14:1-3, Is 64:6, Ja. 2:9-11)*

*Why does God save?.....It's all about Him (Is. 43:25, Eph. 1:3-14)*

*Is there only one way to be saved? Why/why not?.....(Heb. 12:2, Ro. 8:30)*

*Who does God save?.....Sinners. (1Tim. 1:15)*

*What does God save us from (and to)?.....Himself (Ps. 2, Is. 43:13, Ro. 2:3-5)*

*How does God save? (See other side.)*

## **By Grace Alone, Through Faith Alone**

*Salvation According to God*

Dan. 4:18-37, Jo. 5:39-40, 2 Cor. 4:13-18, 2 Tim. 1:5-12, Eph. 2:1-10

GRACE:

Acronym for G.R.A.C.E. = **G**od's **R**ighteousness **A**t **C**hrist's **E**xpense

*“The very center and core of the whole Bible  
is the doctrine of the grace of God.” – John Gresham Machen*

*“In grace, God gives nothing less than Himself. Grace, then, is not a third thing\*  
or substance mediating between God and sinners, but is Jesus Christ in  
redeeming action.” - Michael Horton*

**Grace Offends!** (1 Cor. 1:20-31)

What a liberal Democrat and a Greek poet can teach us about grace.

*Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget  
falls drop by drop upon the heart,  
until, in our own despair,  
against our will,  
comes wisdom  
through the awful grace of God. - Aeschylus*

**Grace Works!** (Ja. 2:14-26)

Living faith vs. dead faith. Fruit (James) vs. Root (Paul)

Moral Imperatives > Redemptive Indicatives (2 Cor. 5:11-21)

FAITH: (Heb. 10:32-11:1)

Acronym for F.A.I.T.H. = **F**orsaking **A**ll **I** Trust **H**im

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
the conviction of things not seen. - writer of Hebrews*

What a French tightrope walker and his agent can teach us about faith.

**Faith Ignites!** (Acts 16:25-34, Ro. 12:3, Eph. 4:7, 2:8)

The spark which ignites a sinner to repent and trust is divinely lit.

**Faith Fuels!** (Hab. 2:4, Ro. 1:17, Gal. 3:11)

Work and live by His power and strength not our own. (Col. 1:28-29)

FINALLY: We are not saved by grace\*, or by our faith. We are saved by JESUS.  
You are loved by Father God with the very same love He loves Jesus (Jn. 17:23)  
Live like who you are. You are His masterpiece! (Eph. 2:10)