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week 1

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SOLA SCRIPTURA

What does the Bible say about that?

History Sheds Light on *Sola Scriptura.*

1. What does the Bible say about the "Sale of Indulgences"?

"Indulgences were writs purchased for the remission of sins for the living or for the dead suffering torments for their sins in purgatory. ... All one had to do was pay a certain amount of money to receive a writ that pardoned one's sins while living or shortened the stay of a loved one in purgatory." *(worldhistory.org)*

1517, Martin Luther's 95 Theses

What did the Bible say about that? . . . Nothing!

"He who does not accept the doctrine of the Church of Rome and the pontiff of Rome as an infallible rule of faith, from which the holy scriptures, too, draw their strength and authority is a heretic." *(Sylvester Prierias)*

"Like an insidious devil you pervert the scriptures." *(Martin Luther)*

2. **Who or what has the final authority on truth?**

1519, Leipzig Debate: Martin Luther vs Johann Eck

"You are a Hussite." *(Johann Eck)*
(John Huss burned at the stake for heresy July 6, 1415).

"Not only is scripture our infallible authority, but a school boy with scripture in his hand is better fortified than the pope himself." *(Martin Luther)*

3. **The Protest of the Protestant Reformation:**

1521 the Diet of Worms

"The church does not derive for certainty about all revealed truths from the holy scripture alone. Both scripture and tradition must be accepted and honored with equal sentiment, devotion, and reverence." *(Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church)*

"Unless I am convinced by Scripture and plain reason - I do not accept the authority of the popes and councils, for they have contradicted themselves. I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me. Amen." **(**Martin Luther, April 18, 1521)

Sola Scriptura . . .

- Does not mean that Scripture is our only <u>authority</u>,
- Does not mean that scripture is our only source of <u>information</u>.
- Does not mean that <u>history</u> or <u>traditions</u> don't matter.
- Does mean that the Bible alone is our <u>ultimate authority</u>.

What does Sola Scriptura require of Christians?

1. **Sola Scriptura means we _____ to the authority of God's Word.**

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16–17

2. **Sola Scriptura means we boldly put the _____ back in *protestant.***

"Through the mercy of God, I ask anyone of any standing to testify and refute my errors. To contradict them with the Old and New Testament. I am ready, if better instructed, to recant any error. And I shall be the first to throw my writings into the fire." *(Martin Luther, Diet of Worms, 1521)*

3. **Sola Scriptura means we _____ the scriptures for answers to our questions and problems.**

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

4. **Sola Scriptura means we _____ a treasury of wisdom so we can access the whole counsel of God's Word, not just a verse to justify our opinion.**

"Pay attention and turn your ear to the sayings of the wise; apply your heart to what I teach, for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart and have all of them ready on your lips." Proverbs 22:17

5. **Sola Scriptura means when we gather in groups, we elevate the scriptures over _____.**

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

6. **Sola Scriptura means all other sources of wisdom are _____ _____ the authority of scripture.**

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

"We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. [20] Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. [21] For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." 2 Peter 1:19–21