

The Five Sola's: Sola Gratia (By Grace Alone)

Ephesians 2:4-9

Sola Gratia— A Latin phrase meaning “grace alone” that expresses that salvation is all of divine grace at every stage, from election to glorification. Inherent in this phrase is the truth that no merit of man either before, at, or after his regeneration by the Holy Spirit contributes to his salvation. The only merit by which a sinner is saved is Christ’s merit. (Alan Cairns, Dictionary of Theological Terms.)

Some of the key passages that support this doctrine are Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7; Romans 4:4-5; Romans 11:6; and Galatians 5:4.

Because you are saved by Grace alone...

1. _____ working towards your salvation (vs. 4-9a)

- A. If you could accomplish your salvation through doing good works, you would get all of the glory. But believing that you can obtain salvation through your own good works is blasphemous for two reasons:
- It tells Jesus that the work He did on the cross was not good enough.
 - It believes that you can offer a work to God that is just as acceptable as the work of Christ on the cross. (See Isaiah 64:6)
- B. We do not work towards our salvation, we work from it. Salvation is not Faith+Works=Salvation (Religion), instead it is Faith=Salvation+Works (Grace).

2. _____ God's gift (vs. 8b)

- A. Salvation is offered as a free gift, and as a gift it can only be received and not earned.
- B. What have you personally done with God's free offer of Salvation?

3. _____ all bragging (vs. 9)

- A. All are saved on the level ground of the cross - and there is no one who can brag or boast about God loving them more than others.
- B. Salvation from beginning to end is a work of God (Hebrews 12:2; Romans 8:28-30).