

The Five Solas: Sola Fide (Through Faith Alone)

Romans 3:21-28

Sola Fide— Latin for “faith only,” the Reformation doctrine that the only way to be justified and receive God’s grace is through faith, that is, by accepting Christ’s merits on one’s own behalf. (Pocket 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 we are saved through faith alone....

1. _____ Christ as your righteousness (vs. 21-22)

- A. The righteousness of God is obtained through faith in Jesus Christ. Just like Abraham, one believes and it is credited to them as righteousness. (Romans 4:3; Genesis 15:6)
- B. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (HCSB) He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2. _____ the wrath that was absorbed. (vs. 23-25)

- A. Propitiation (Gr. - Hilsterion) - Martin Luther translated this word as “Mercy Seat” which was the place within the temple, the lid of the ark of the covenant where the blood of sacrifice was sprinkled for the forgiveness of sins. The word Propitiation means - A wrath removing (absorbing) sacrifice.
- B. Christ, through his own blood, became the sacrifice for our sins and absorbed the full wrath of the Father in his death on the cross. His cross is the place of mercy for all sinners who will repent and believe.

3. _____ in the confidence of a full pardon (vs. 26-28)

- A. Through Jesus, God the Father is able to stay clean and make us clean (vs. 27).
- B. Paul concludes that we are justified by works apart from works of the law. We cannot boast that we have worked for our salvation. (vs. 28)