

## Solus Christus Psalm 118

My current teaching series in the Psalms is on the Five Solas of the Reformation. (You can find it at [www.bbcpa.org](http://www.bbcpa.org) under the sermon series link.) Each of the Five Solas is a defining foundation of evangelical belief.

**Sola Scriptura** ("from Scripture alone") **Our only Foundation** 2Tim 3:16 2Pet 1:21 Matt 5:17 Heb 4:12 Ps 119:9,11  
**Sola Fide** ("thru Faith alone") **Our only Means** Eph 2:8-9 Gal 3:13-14 Rom 3:22, 28 Rom 5:1-2  
**Sola Gratia** ("by Grace alone") **Our only Source** Eph 1:4-6; 2:1-5, 8-9 1 Cor 1:27-31 Rom 3:24; 11:5-6  
**Solus Christus** ("in Christ alone") **Our only Mediator** 1 Tim 2:5-7; John 14:6; Heb 9:23-28; Col 1:13-20; Isa 53  
**Soli Deo Gloria** ("to the glory to God alone") **Our only Ambition** Rom 11:36 1Co 10:31 Rev 1:6 1Pet 4:11 Ps 115:1

Put it together and you have: "From the scriptures alone do we find and define the message and obligations of the gospel; that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for the glory of God alone."

**Solus Christus** – Salvation is found "*in Christ alone*" *Christ is exclusive, essential, and all sufficient.* The forgiveness of sins and eternal life comes in and through Christ and *Christ alone*. There is no other way of salvation but Christ and His death and resurrection. There is no other mediator between God and men. There is no other acceptable access to God except through Christ. *There is nothing outside of, in place of, or in addition to Christ as the sole Savior of mankind.*

## Psalm 118 The Glory of Christ as Gate, Cornerstone, Blessed One, Light, Lamb, and God

The Old Testament contains more than 400 prophecies about the coming Christ... His Person, Purpose and Work. Psalms 2, 16, 22, 69, and 118 refer to His suffering, death and resurrection. Psalm 118 contains more references to His various offices than any other single Psalm.

The prophets and the psalms are customarily distinct in their prophetic styles. Many of the Psalms have first person references to Messiah like Ps 22:1. "*My God... why have you forsaken me?*" The prophets usually refer to Christ in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person – Isa 53 "The Lord laid on *him* the iniquity of us all." Psalm 118 is more prophetic in style, encompassing His coming, triumphal entry, rejection, death as the Lamb of God, and adoration as risen Messiah.

## Psalm 118:19-29 Christ revealed as Gate, Cornerstone, Blessed One, Light, Lamb, and

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

20 ***This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter.***

21 I will give you thanks, for you answered me; ***you have become my salvation.***

22 ***The stone the builders rejected*** has become the capstone;

23 the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

25 ***O LORD, save us;*** O LORD, grant us success.

26 ***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.*** From the house of the LORD we bless you.

27 The LORD is God, and ***he has made his light shine upon us.***

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession ***up to the horns of the altar.***

28 ***You are my God,*** and I will give you thanks; ***you are my God,*** and I will exalt you.

29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

<b>Gate</b> 20-21	John 10:9, 1 Timothy 2:5, John 14:6 Mediator, the Go-Between, the Entry Gate
<b>Cornerstone</b> 22-24	Matt 21:42, Mk 12:11, Lk 20:17, Acts 4:11, Eph 2:20, 1 Pet 5:7 Rejected, Risen
<b>Blessed One</b> 25-26	Matt 21:9; Mk 11:9 Praised from the temple, triumphal entry
<b>Light</b> 27	John 1:1-5; 8:12 Revealer
<b>Lamb</b> 27	John 1:29 Sacrificial lamb tied to the altar
<b>God</b> 28	John 20:28 Risen Christ worshipped as God and King

## **Like John 1, Psalm 118 portrays the Lord Jesus in His threefold role as Revealer, Redeemer and Ruler!**

### **John 1**

Revealer: He is our Prophet – The *WORD* made flesh... light of men... revealed the Father John 1:1,4-5, 18

Redeemer: He is our Priest – the Mediator, Lamb and Priest John 1:29

Ruler: He is our King – Sovereign Lord John 1:49

**John 14:6** I am the Way – Redeemer I am the Truth – Revealer I am the Life – Restorer  
No one comes to the Father except through me!

Christ is the only way to God the Father John 14:6 1 Tim 2:5

1. Exclusive ***because of Who He is*** - for He alone is sinless and holy
2. Exclusive ***because of What He did*** - He alone bore our sins & died
3. Exclusive ***because of What He said*** - He said so, and His words are absolute truth!

**Sola scriptura demands Solus Christus!**

**To deny the exclusivity of Christ is to deny Christ!**

**To deny the exclusivity of Christ is to deny the Word of God!**

***He is exclusive and He is inclusive – He invites us to come! “O come, let us adore Him!”***

### **Think about it:**

1. *Why* is there such opposition to this doctrine of the exclusivity of Christ as the only Savior?
2. *What* are some common attempts offered by professing Christians to escape “Solus Christus” as essential doctrine? (Example: Second chance after death; annihilation of the soul...)
3. *How* does Solus Christus motivate worship? evangelism? humility? gratitude?

**For further study:** John 14:1-6 John 8:24 Heb 9:23-28 Col 1:13-20

### **Self Check:**

1. Is my faith, confidence, reliance and hope all resting on and focused in Christ and Christ alone?
2. Am I trusting my knowledge, my history, my gifts, my experience to bring me acceptance before God?
3. Do I see the utter futility of my own efforts and the utter depravity of my own heart and so cast my soul daily on Christ and His cross as the sole and all sufficient remedy for my sin.
4. What does it mean to “glory in the Lord alone” (1 Cor 1:30-31) Practically speaking, how can I do that?

"Lord Jesus Christ, God-man, Only Mediator, Perfect Sacrifice, High Priest, Final Word, Dying Lamb, Risen Lord, Reigning King, Redeemer of sinners, Revealer of the Father, Restorer of Rebels, Advocate for law-breakers, Sin Bearer, Sin Breaker, Sin Burier, Satan's Conqueror, Soul's Savior... In You and you alone I glory. God forbid that any praise for so great a salvation go to anyone in any measure for any moment but You. Blessed Christ of God, I throw myself on Your cross of atonement, Your promise of mercy, Your finished work, now and forever. In Thy name receive my worship and surrender, Amen."

Remember, you are very special to us and we pray for you.

**Living with leaving in view.... Jn 9:4 Ron & Val**

Seeing The Invisible, embracing The Unapproachable, declaring The Unexplainable, changed by The Immutable, running after The Irresistible with inexhaustible joy in our inexpressible sorrows, spending our time on eternity, owning nothing yet possessing everything that matters and lasts. We are Pilgrims in Paradox. Welcome to THE JOURNEY.