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Ron and Val Berrus

...Laboring for the Laborers

Just Checking In #95 SDG Soli Deo Gloria Psalm 115 Oct 1, 2010

Psalm 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord...for I am a 'pilgrim' with You..."

Solus Christus Psalm 115

You can find my teaching series in the Psalms on the Five Solas of the Reformation at 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."



Johann Sebastian Bach penned over 10,000 pages of music. Each page bore the letters **SDG!** J S Bach understood that his talents and insights, the development of his abilities, the material he produced that flowed from those talents, their various themes and subjects, and even the enjoyment we as listeners would receive, were ultimately and essentially all for the glory of God alone.

SDG Soli Deo Gloria, “to the Glory of God alone”

All that is exists for the glory of God, alone. Creation, redemption, glorification, and even perdition... angels, mankind, animals, earth, the universe itself, all that is or ever will be exist by God’s will and power for His sole glory.

Romans 11:36

“For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To him be the glory forever!”

For from Him – God is the Ordainer: the origin of all creation, source of all power, seat of all authority, possessor of all ownership, determiner of all design, inscriber of all purposes is God and God alone.

And through Him – God is the Creator: He is present and involved in, ruling in providence, actively controlling, participating in the process, and guaranteeing the outcome of all events so that ultimately His eternal purpose for His own glory, and His alone, will be accomplished.

And to Him – God is the Judge and the Heir: In the final fulfillment of His eternal plan when His great inheritance in the saints is complete, He alone will receive active and eternal glory for His mercy. When every knee bows and every tongue confesses the Lordship of Christ, He will receive glory for His sovereignty. When all judgment on sinners is executed He will receive glory for His justice. In all His works in time and eternity He will be the recipient of all glory and honor for all ages, world without end, Amen.

Are all things – all things... past, present, and everlastingly future... all inclusive, no exceptions, complete and conclusively

To Him be the glory forever! AMEN . To God and God alone belongs exclusive glory, complete glory, everlasting, never ending, glory!

SDG means there is nothing secular to the believer! Nothing. There is sacredness (SDG) and sin, nothing else!

For further study:

The Westminster Shorter Catechism penned in 1647 asks as its first question...

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Rom. 11:36; I Cor. 10:31; Rev. 4:11; Jere 9:23-24; Gal 6:14

1 Corinthians 10:31 “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

Psalm 115 “Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness.”

115:1 Exclamation

115:2 Interrogation

115:3-7 Comparison

115:8 Admonition

115:9-11 Exhortation

115:12-18 Exaltation

All true theology necessitates doxology!

All God's truth magnifies and glorifies Him!

Theology that does not result in doxology is blasphemy!

Orthodoxy produces doxology every time truth heard in the ear touches the heart!

Think about it:

1. Define "glory". (Ps 115:1; Rom 11:36) Why does God and God alone deserve glory?
2. In 1 Cor 10:31 Paul exhorts us to do the very ordinary things of life "to the glory of God." How do we eat and drink to His glory? Can we sleep to the glory of God? How can an ordinary activity not be done to the glory of God? Is there anything we can never do to the glory of God?
3. How does SDG destroy the segregation of activities into separate categories labeled secular and sacred?

Self Check:

1. Is there anything I did today that I couldn't sign SDG to? What? Why? Should you transform it or stop it?
2. How can you fulfill your roles, relationships and responsibilities in life SDG?
3. Consider writing SGD a few times this week – perhaps on a check, or a letter, or an email. It's a great exercise to keep everything in perspective. It may even start a redemptive conversation.
4. Try waking up each morning this week singing the doxology before you get out of bed.

"Lord God, to You alone belongs all blessing and honor, praise and adoration, submission and obedience, gratitude and glory. For from You, and through You, and to You are all things. There is no God but You...No source but You... No power but Yours, No purpose that will prevail but Yours, No praise or honor or glory that rightfully belongs to any creature. To You, O God, and to You alone be all the glory in my life. Let my thoughts, my words, my motives, my actions, my relationships, my purposes, my energy, my all, my everything be to Your glory and praise, for Your pleasure and delight, in Your presence now and forever. You are worthy, O Lord. You alone. In Your glorious Name I ask for Your grace that I might glorify You, 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.

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