

THE LINK

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The Five Solas of the Reformation in the Preaching of Charles Spurgeon

As many of you have heard in sermons recently, I am a big fan of Charles Haddon Spurgeon; that wonderful “Prince of Preachers” of New Park Street Chapel in the mid-nineteenth Century. He was a particular or ‘reformed’ Baptist who was not ashamed to be called a Calvinist. In addition to the Doctrines of Grace, Spurgeon’s teaching also reflected his steadfast belief in the “Five Solas” of the Reformation.

The Five Solas served as the collective rallying cry for the Protestant Reformation in the first half of the 16th Century. These are 5 Latin phrases: *Sola Scriptura*, *Sola Gratia*, *Sola Fide*, *Solus Christus*, and *Soli Deo Gloria*. The ‘*sol*’ in each of these refers to something being alone or the

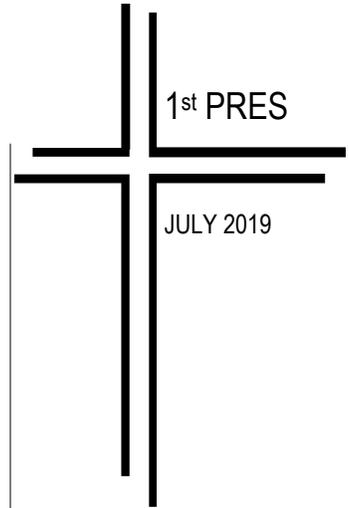
only source or outcome of the second word in the term. So ‘*Sola Scriptura*’ says that it is by Scripture alone that the church relies for its highest authority for salvation, in Christ alone, and for God’s glory alone.

These 5 truths served as the theological pillars of the Reformed and Protestant church of the past 500 years. Let’s look at what Spurgeon had to say about the 5 Solas of the Reformation. *Sola Scriptura* --- Scripture Alone
The doctrine of *Sola Scriptura* or scripture alone is a central belief of Reformed Theology. It comes as no surprise to find that this doctrine also formed the bedrock of Spurgeon’s preaching. In speaking of Paul’s views of Scripture Spurgeon

said the following...

“Evidently, they regarded the statements of Scripture as conclusive. They took counsel of the Scriptures, and so they ended the matter. **‘It is written’**, was to them proof positive and indisputable. **‘Thus saith the Lord’** was the final word: enough for their mind and heart, enough for their conscience and understanding.”

To go behind Scripture did not occur to the first teachers of our faith: they heard the Oracle of Divine Testimony, and bowed their heads in reverence. So it ought to be with us: we have erred from the faith, and we shall pierce ourselves through with many sorrows, unless we feel that if the Scripture saith it, it is even so.



Mission Statement:

A growing community that makes a difference by reaching all people with Jesus’ love.

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Elsewhere Spurgeon is quoted as saying “Scripture is the writing of the living God; each letter was penned with an Almighty finger.” In other words, Scripture is not a record of the words of mere men. If it was we might be able to argue with or reject them. Instead, Scripture is the very Word of God. The Bible is an authorized book, for God has written it.

Therefore it is free from error. It is good for all teaching, instructing, rebuking, and building up God’s people to their appointed maturity in Christ. This divine authority is why Spurgeon so powerfully used of God in the preaching of the Word of God. Through the spoken word the Christians who were listening, were to be brought under the authority and rule of God’s Word in such a way that it could do its work; the work of sanctification.

Sola Gratia — Grace Alone

Spurgeon endeavored to bring Sola Gratia to the forefront of many of his sermons. Another aspect of Reformed Theology which finds sure footing in the text of Scripture is that salvation is available solely due to God’s grace. [Ephesians 1:7](#) clearly proclaims that “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”

This teaching regarding the grace of God in providing salvation is found throughout the Bible and is similarly found throughout Spurgeon’s preaching. He expounds on this verse in Ephesians in a sermon entitled “The Glories of Forgiving Grace”:

“God forgives none because of payment made by them in any form. If we could bring him mountains of gold and silver, they would be worth nothing to him: if we bring him tears in rivers or alms in alps, or resolves, vows and promises in countless numbers, all will amount to nothing as a bribe of grace.

Forgiveness, like love, is un-purchasable by us. God’s pardons are absolutely free. He forgives because he chooses to forgive, out of sheer pity to the sinner, out of clear, unmixed compassion, but with no adulteration of anything like bribe or price.”

Forgiveness, like love, is un-purchasable by us. God’s pardons are absolutely free.”

Spurgeon goes on to point out how the verse references the “riches” of God’s grace. He contrasts God’s wealth of grace with our own charitable endeavors.

“We have to calculate our incomes to see whether we may not be spending too much in charity; but those who have great riches can give and not calculate.” God is not at risk of exhausting His stores of grace in pardoning transgressions, and that is very good news for the sinner.

As Spurgeon said in a sermon delivered 23 years earlier than the one quoted above:

“If any man be saved, he is saved by Divine grace, and by Divine grace alone; and the reason of his salvation is not to be found in him, but in God. We are not saved as the result of anything that we do or that we will; but we will and do as the result of God’s good pleasure and the work of his grace in our hearts.”

Because this “grand essential truth is often enough forgotten or ignored”

Spurgeon endeavored to bring Sola Gratia to the forefront of many of his sermons. So strongly did he feel about the importance of this doctrine he wished that “every time the clock struck it

said, 'By grace are ye saved.'"

Spurgeon wanted to disabuse his hearers from any notion that salvation can be earned. All preachers should be equally passionate about removing such obstacles to the truth of the gospel.

Sola Fide — Faith Alone

As seen above, Reformed Theology teaches that salvation is an act of God's grace and cannot be earned. Rooted in this truth is *Sola Fide*, which teaches that faith is the sole instrument by which this saving grace is applied to the life of the individual.

Ephesians 2:8-9 captures the relationship between grace and faith in regards to our justification: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Salvation is a gift which cannot be earned, but only received by faith. Spurgeon emphasized the truth of this doctrine:

The way of reaching this state of justification is not by tears, nor prayers, nor humbling, nor working, nor Bible-reading, nor church-going, nor chapel-going, nor sacraments, nor priestly absolution, but by faith, which faith is a simple and utter dependence and believing in the faithfulness of God, a dependence upon the promise of God, because it is God's promise, and is worthy of dependence.

Solus Christus — Christ Alone

"Both feet must be on the Rock of Ages."

The sole object of our faith is Jesus Christ and His atoning work on the cross. As Spurgeon told his congregation on a Sunday morning in May of 1890, "Both feet must be on the Rock of Ages." He was preaching on Romans 10:11, which states "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

Spurgeon expounded on this text with an explanation of the importance of placing faith in Christ alone for salvation:

It is not written, "He that believeth on Jesus nine parts out of ten, and on himself for the other tenth." No! "Whosoever believeth on him"—on him alone. Jesus will never be a part Saviour. We must not rest in part upon what we hope to do in the future, nor in part upon the efficacy of an outward ceremony. No! The faith must be "on him."

Scripture is clear that we are saved by faith in Christ, and Spurgeon aimed to be equally clear. In a sermon entitled "Faith," he attempts to rid his audience from any lingering notion of earned salvation:

If thou puttest one atom of trust in thyself, thou hast no faith; if thou dost place even a particle of reliance upon anything else but what Christ did, thou hast no faith. If thou dost trust in thy works, then thy works are antichrist, and Christ and antichrist can never go together. Christ will have all or nothing; he must be a whole Savior, or no Savior at all.

Throughout his ministry, Spurgeon preached salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. As Christ is the center of the Gospel, so to was He the center of Spurgeon's preaching: "Christ must

be in every sermon, and He must be top and bottom too of all theology that is preached.” With the heart of an evangelist, Spurgeon passionately exhorted his hearers to respond to the Gospel and place their faith in Christ.

Soli Deo Gloria — For God’s Glory Alone

Scripture teaches, “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” The Westminster Catechism declares that “Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. All things are ultimately intended for a single purpose: glorifying God.

We know from Scripture that all things are ultimately intended for a single purpose: glorifying God.

Spurgeon said of this doctrine, “Man’s chief end is to glorify and enjoy God. God’s greatest and highest object is to make to himself a glorious and an everlasting name.”

“God’s greatest and highest object is to make to himself a glorious and an everlasting name.”

Thus, God and man are to be united in the purpose of bringing Glory to His name. We can see by the impact he had for God’s kingdom, CH Spurgeon took this calling to glorify God seriously.

It is clear that Spurgeon saw in these doctrines not merely a statement of the Reformer’s beliefs, but a concise statement of the teaching of Scripture.

As in all things, Spurgeon looked to God’s Word to inform his preaching and teaching, and as a result, he confidently taught the Five Solas throughout his ministry.

Pastor Andrew

Mercer County Fairgrounds Presents

“Teens Night Out at the Fair”

Saturday, August 10

Cost 5.00

**(in addition to fair entrance & concert
tickets)**

Free Rides from 11-midnight

Food & games after concert



Cora Jane Ervin made her grand entrance to this world on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 1:46 p.m. weighing 9 lbs., 1 oz and measuring 21.25 inches in length, born to Jared & Paige Ervin. Mom and baby are both healthy and doing fine. Maternal grandparents are Randy & Jane Tester; Paternal grandparents are Mike & Lynn Ervin. Proud first time uncles (and aunt) are Gabe and Alex Thomas and Brandon & Kelsey Ervin.

Congratulations to Josh & Brandy (Brown) Hill on the birth of their second child, Louisa Trudell Hill, born at 6:08 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25. Louisa measured 19 1/2 inches long and weighed 6 lbs, 4 oz. Maternal grandparents are Dick & Dianne Brown.

SCHEDULES



GREETERS

All greeters should be at the church 20-30 minutes before the service begins. Anyone wishing to be a greeter should sign up at the Sign Up table in the narthex.

FRONT DOOR

SIDE DOORS (NARTHEX)

July 7 Ed & Cathy Cornell
 July 14 Kelly & Barry Hounshell
 July 21 Russ & Phyllis Royer
 July 28 Helen Miller

Don Stevenson
 Bruce & Linda Stoltz
 Anita Carr
 Margaret Hayes



COFFEE HOUR

If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, the sign-up is in a binder on the Sign-Up Center table. Hosts will need to provide 5-6 dozen baked goods and some juice or punch each Sunday.

July 7 Helen Miller
July 14 (Deacons)
July 21 (Session)
July 28 Gary & LaJeanne Riegler

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

The sign up sheet for Children's Sermons is available on the Sign-Up Center table.

July 7	Anna Lee Dickerson
July 14	Beth Vehre
July 21	Ginny Bertram
July 28	Karen Henninger



Guard duty is provided each Sunday during worship by an Elder or Deacon. Sign up in your respective meeting.

July 7	Bruce Stoltz
July 14	
July 21	
July 28	



Nursery Volunteers are always needed for the Nursery to allow those that regularly volunteer to attend worship services. Sign-up at the Sign-Up Center!

July 7	Marnelise and/or Ginny
July 14	Marnelise and/or Ginny
July 21	Marnelise and/or Ginny
July 28	Marnelise and/or Ginny



Acolytes Acolytes need to be at the back of the church five minutes before worship begins. Parents, please be available to light their lighter if needed. If you cannot Acolyte on your scheduled day, please contact the Youth Deacon that scheduled you.

July 7	Carson Henry
July 14	
July 21	Annie Hayes
July 28	Lilly Hayes



If you need to find a substitute, call someone in your area of expertise. If that fails, call Chris Mumaw.

July 7 (T1)	Chris Mumaw, Dan Hawley, Donn Thornhill & Steve Headley
July 14 (T2)	Molly Mumaw, Chris Mumaw, Jay Mumaw & Glenn Mitchell
July 21 (T3)	Molly Mumaw, Chris Mumaw, Jay Mumaw
July 28 (T4)	Dan Hawley & Barry Hounshell

Kay Girbert's new address is: 7460 Courtyard Way, Fishers, IN 46038. Kay's phone number is 937-564-5006.

PRAYER CONCERNS



Prayer Concerns Known To Us At This Time Include: Lindsey Ricker - Tina Smith's niece; Greg Shields; Mary Bankson - Holly Finnarn's mother; David Keller, son-in-law of Susan Gray; Kody Ketring - a friend of Phyllis Royer; Paulette Garrison;

Tim E. Walters - Tony Walters' son; Paulette Shields; Dana Holzapfel - Jeff & Diane Amick's sister-in-law; Craig Brawley - son of Sandra Brawley; Freda Condon; Ray Lear; Jordan Bailey - grandson of Dale & Anna

Lee Dickerson; Teresa & Grace Shaaf; Sherri Warvel; Dave Homan; Gene Mikesell; Lena D. Marcantonio—friends of Don Lockhart; and Julie Gads, Sherlin Butts' sister-in-law; Phyllis Trittschuh; Brandon Ervin; and Paige (Tester) Ervin.

Please Continue to Pray for The long-Term Needs of The Following: Pat Foreman - Anna Lee Dickerson's sister; and Jay Montebon - a friend of Dan Hawley.

July Global Workers Prayer List

July 7 Jeff & Lynne with their children are in Southeast Asia. Pray for boldness to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with faith and obedience responses to the gospel.

July 14 Stephen & Belinda are in the United States and Muslim World. Pray for ETC training, funding for Building and Operations. Also pray for the outreach in Germany with more teams and partnering churches.

July 21 S & A with their children are in South Asia. Pray for new believers, and an increasing witness and effective evangelism among refugees. Let the Lord use them for his kingdom.

July 28 Jacqy is in the Middle East. Pray for harvest fields God prepared in advance; multiplication of the Church and a team of supporters. Rev. Jeff Kim and Veronique with their children are in France. Pray for Jesus' Kingdom to come more fully into their lives through their calling and for growth and development throughout France. Pray for many new converts.

Calling all artists: Main Street Greenville is pleased to announce the incorporation of an art contest to the longstanding event, First Friday: Artisan Stroll. This juried contest is open to all accepted participants of the Artisan Stroll, although participation in the contest is not a requirement to display your work at the Artisan Stroll. For more details, see the flyer on the Sign-Up Center table or contact Nancy Person at 937-417-1880.

The Women's Association/Tuesday Gals discontinued meetings in August 2017 due to lack of participation. There was a balance of \$1,048.14 in the checking account which has been used to purchase new furniture for the narthex. This purchase was also aided with an anonymous contributor to complete the purchase of \$1570.0. The furniture will be delivered mid to late July and the old furniture will be available to purchase or to give to someone in need. We believe this addition will enhance the appearance of our entryway.

IMPORTANT DATES



- 07/01 Randy Tester
- 07/03 Sandra Buschur
- 07/04 Germaine Wallace
- 07/09 Betty Graham
- 07/10 Jane Flowers
- 07/12 Anne McKinney
- 07/15 Leslie Greendyke
- 07/16 Jan Demuth
- 07/17 Gloria Horner
- 07/19 Amanda Bowman
- 07/20 Austin Anthony
- 07/22 Melanie Koontz, Frank Gilmore
- 07/23 Don Stevenson, Chad Henry
- 07/25 Gene Henninger
- 07/26 John Vehre
- 07/27 Derek Lockhart
- 07/30 Hendrik van der Walt



- 07/04 Bill & Gloria Boltin
- 07/14 Ed & Cathy Cornell
- 07/19 Russ & Phyllis Royer
- 07/28 Craig & Susie Leland

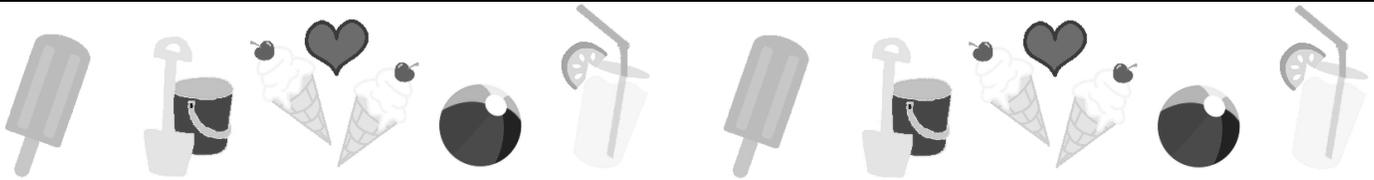
Save the Date!

VBS is August 5—9, 2019

Sunday, August 11

VBS Sunday Celebration

First Presbyterian Church
will host the
Darke County Fair Faith Tent
Tuesday, August 20, 2019
Watch for the sign-up sheet in the
narthex soon!



ELDER & DEACON MEETING TIMES

The monthly Deacons meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

(No Deacon Meetings are held in June or July)

The monthly Finance meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

The monthly Session meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		8:00 Men		INDEPENDENCE DAY - OFFICE CLOSED		
				Wiley Rental	6-9 First Friday Heat Wave	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00 Worship		8:00 Men				
11:00 Coffee Hr						
				6:00 Finance		
7:00 Concert in Park				7:00 Session		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00 Worship		8:00 Men				
11:00 Coffee Hr						2:30 - 8:00 Cotey rental
7:00 Concert in park						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 Worship		8:00 Men		Youth boating trip		
11:00 Coffee Hr						
7:00 JAZZ concert in Park				SIDEWALK SALES - ANNIE OAKLEY DAYS		
28	29	30	31			
10:00 Worship		8:00 Men				
11:00 Coffee Hr						

MINISTRY NEWS



THIS YEAR'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE GREAT!

August 5 - 9, 2019

6:00—8:00 PM

The 2019 theme is "ROAR," created by Group, Inc.

Life can get pretty wild...come spend a week with us in the African savanna and return home with souvenirs and new gear!

Attendees and parents will be invited to join us for church on Sunday, August 11 to ROAR SOME MORE for the congregation!

Register at: www.vbspro.events/p/events/greenvillepres
(find a link on www.greenvillepres.org/outreach)

Goodie Bags † Arts & Crafts † Games & Music



VBS Volunteers are needed!

Please mark your calendars now.

Talk to Pastor Andrew or Angie Spurlock or sign up at the sign up center if you would like to volunteer for VBS this summer

There will be a VBS Volunteer meeting on Sunday, June 30 following worship.

Save your empty paper towels rolls and donate them to First Presbyterian Church for one of the craft activities for the upcoming VBS August 5 - 9th. You can drop your empty rolls off in the office.

Attention Youth Group Members: Let's go BOATING! On Thursday, July 25, Paige Ervin and Pastor Andrew Gilman are taking the youth group on a boating adventure at Indian Lake. Jeff & Diane Amick will be our gracious hosts for the day, providing the boat, a boat captain and lunch. Please RSVP to the church office on or before Friday, July 19, 2019 so proper transportation can be arranged. **If you are interested in driving (and transporting youth group members), please contact Pastor Andrew or Paige Ervin.*

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR— July

July 1 Ps. 26-31	July 17 Ps. 106-107
July 2 Ps. 32-35	July 18 Ps. 108-114
July 3 Ps. 36-39	July 19 Ps. 115-118
July 4 Ps. 40-45	July 20 Ps. 119:1-88
July 5 Ps. 46-50	July 21 Ps. 119:89-176
July 6 Ps. 51-57	July 22 Ps. 120-132
July 7 Ps. 58-65	July 23 Ps. 133-139
July 8 Ps. 66-69	July 24 Ps. 140-145
July 9 Ps. 70-73	July 25 Ps. 146-150
July 10 Ps. 74-77	July 26 Prov. 1-3
July 11 Ps. 78-79	July 27 Prov. 4-6
July 12 Ps. 80-85	July 28 Prov. 7-9
July 13 Ps. 86-89	July 29 Prov. 10-12
July 14 Ps. 90-95	July 30 Prov. 13-15
July 15 Ps. 96-102	July 31 Prov. 16-18
July 16 Ps. 103-105	

Shout-Outs

Dear Choir and Congregation, I want to thank you for the wonderful tribute you gave me last Sunday on my last day of directing the choir. I meant it when I said it's been a "joy" and not a "job." Over the 32 years I have always noticed the dedication of the choir members and their willingness to give it their all – something of a rare gift in today's world. A special thanks to Cathy Cornell for organizing it and doing research – it was much appreciated! Sincerely, Marilyn

Dear Scholarship Committee and Church family, I wanted to say thank you so much for supporting and encouraging me during my time in college. Your kind words, encouragement, love, prayers, and the church scholarships have all been things that have helped me conquer my last three years of college. I am now approaching my last semester of college, a big milestone – student teaching. I can honestly say that even though I am anxious, nervous and know there are challenges ahead, I know that I have an awesome support system here at the church in which will help me through. Thank you so much for all you do for the youth (and for all). It does not go unnoticed. I love you all big bunches. With love and thanks, Ally Hayes

"I would like to thank my church family for the cards, prayers and meals that were generously given during my recent hip surgery. Your support and encouragement are very important to me. The replacement of the other hip is scheduled for September 3rd". Sincerely, Terri Fryman





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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Greenville, OH 45331

Phone: 937-548-3188
Fax: 937-548-0152
E-mail: info@greenvillepres.org

Return Service Requested

WWW.GREENVILLEPRES.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
GREENVILLEPRES

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

CHURCH BUSINESS HOURS

Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. for lunch
Closed Saturday



ELDERS

Ginny Bertram, Bruce Stoltz, Gary Riegle, Helen Miller, Ray Laughlin, Darrell Fryman, Hendrik van der Walt, Peter Haviza, George Luce, Pam Bowman, Don Stevenson, & John Vehre, Clerk of Session

DEACONS

Diane Amick, Mindy Rehmert, Linda Stoltz, Phyllis Trittschuh, Margaret Hayes, Webb Flowers, Becky Luce, Karen Henninger, Anna Lee Dickerson, Kelly Hounshell, Beth Vehre, Carson Henry (Youth Rep) & Lilly Hayes (Youth Rep)

STAFF

Andrew Gilman, Pastor
Marnelise van der Walt, Financial Secretary
Paige Ervin, Youth & Family Life Director
Angela Spurlock, Administrative Assistant
Donn Thornhill, Property & Maintenance
Terri Fryman, Organist
Doug Klinsing, Choir Director
Lori Conway, Custodian