

REFORMATIONAL ROOTS: THE 5 SOLAS HEB. 13:7-9; 20-21

Ecclesia reformata, ecclesia semper reformanda: the reformed church is always reforming!

Baptists ≠ the Reformation

Baptist roots go back to the New Testament.

We share spiritual kinship with many groups outside the establish church throughout history.

Baptists are really part of the Radical Reformation: Puritans → independents → separatists → Baptists

However, Baptists cling to those core gospel doctrines from the Reformation as part of our heritage / roots.

I. Sola Scriptura: based on Scripture alone!

Hebrews 13:7 Remember them which have the rule over you, **who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end (τὴν ἑκβασιν τῆς ἀναστροφῆς) of their conversation.**

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a **discerner (κριτικὸς)** of the **thoughts (ἐνθυμήσεων)** and **intentions (καὶ ἐννοιῶν καρδίας)** of the heart. **Hebrews 4:13** Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

From these texts we discern:

- **Leaders lead**
- **Leaders do so by their public preaching & teaching of the Word of God**
- **Leaders also do so by modeling personal obedience to it!**
- **People are formed and transformed by the word!**
- **Only the Word of God can do this**
- **So, it is the Scripture alone and not...!**

The formal principle of the Reformation: Scripture is the source & norm. Scripture forms and gives direction to what is to be believed & practiced.

This is true:

➤ **Doctrinal**

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: **but the word of our God shall stand for ever.**

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, **but my words shall not (οὐ μὴ) pass away.**

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture...?

➤ **Personal**

John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. **Psalm 1:3** And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. **Proverbs 6:20** My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: **Proverbs 6:21** Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. **Proverbs 6:22** When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. **Proverbs 6:23** For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

Psalm 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalm 119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

Psalm 119:92 Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.

Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

➤ **Practical: ecclesiastical & evangelistic**

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

2 Timothy 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **2 Timothy 3:16** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: **2 Timothy 3:17** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. **2 Timothy 4:1** I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; **2 Timothy 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Acts 17:1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: **Acts 17:2** And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

Acts 17:17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

Acts 18:19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews.

Acts 20:6 And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days. **Acts 20:7** And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. **Acts 20:8** And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. **Acts 20:9** And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

Acts 24:24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. **Acts 24:25** And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

II. Sola Fide: through faith alone!

Hebrews 13:7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: **whose faith follow** (μυμείσθε τὴν πίστιν), considering the end of their conversation.

Material principle: articulus ecclesiae stantis et cadentis – the article by which the church stands or falls.

What should we make of “just faith” / faith⁺? (no alone?)

Hebrews 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. **Hebrews 10:39** But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author (τὸν ἀρχηγὸν) and finisher (τελειωτὴν) of our faith (τῆς πίστεως); who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Possible paradigms:
Works → salvation
Faith + works → salvation
Faith → salvation + no necessary good works
Faith → salvation → good works

Romans 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith **without** the deeds of the law.

Romans 4:1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? **Romans 4:2** For if Abraham were justified by works, **he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.** **Romans 4:3** For **what saith the scripture?** Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. **Romans 4:4** Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. **Romans 4:5** But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Romans 4:6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, **Romans 4:7** Saying, **Blessed** are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. **Romans 4:8** **Blessed** is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9** **Not** of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Philippians 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Acts 14:27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, **and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.**

Galatians 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; **but faith which worketh by love.**

Faith alone → justification → good works

Or

Faith + good works → justification

III. **Sola gratia: by grace alone!**

Hebrews 13:9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. **For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats,** which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Grace = God's unmerited favor, intervention, and activity on our behalf!

Most religions include grace – a grace you must cooperate with, a grace that assists you!

Grace plus

Never

Grace alone

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9** Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:4 **But** God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, **Ephesians 2:5** **Even** when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Romans 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. **Romans 11:6** And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

Romans 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to **the word of his grace**, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

2 Corinthians 12:8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. **2 Corinthians 12:9** And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee:** for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **2 Corinthians 12:10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

1 Peter 5:10 **But the God of all grace**, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. **1 Peter 5:11** To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto **the throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

Hebrews 13:25 Grace be with you all. Amen.

IV. Solus Christus: because of Christ alone!

Hebrews 13:8 **Jesus Christ** the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto **Jesus** the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead **our Lord Jesus**, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Hebrews 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, **through Jesus Christ**; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, **save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, **save Jesus Christ, and him crucified**.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**.

Acts 4:12 **Neither** is there salvation in any other: for there is **none** other name under heaven given among men, whereby we **must** be saved.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Hebrews 7:23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: Hebrews 7:24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. Hebrews 7:26 For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Hebrews 7:27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

So, why are you here in heaven? Why do you deserve to be here?

V. Soli Deo Gloria: to God alone be the glory!

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Hebrews 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; **to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

Romans 11:36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: **to whom be glory for ever. Amen.**

1 Peter 4:10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: **that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.**

1 Corinthians 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that **not** many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 1 Corinthians 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 1 Corinthians 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: 1 Corinthians 1:29 **That no flesh should glory in his presence.** 1 Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 1 Corinthians 1:31 **That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.** 1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Revelation 1:5-6 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; **to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.**

J.S. Bach: