

BIBLICAL DOCTRINE

(AN OVERVIEW)

* What are the **5 Sola's** of the Reformation?

* Sola _____ - "by _____ Alone"

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* Solus _____ or Solo _____ - "_____ Alone" or "Through _____ Alone"

* Soli _____ - "_____ to _____ Alone"

* What is the **T-U-L-I-P** Acronym and What does each Letter Stand for/

* The 5 _____ in the Theology of _____.

* **T** - _____: People are unable to choose God. God must intervene.

* Mark 7:21-23²¹ *For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, ²² thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within and defile a man.*"

* Rom 6:20²⁰ *For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.*

* 1 Cor 2:14¹⁴ *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

* **U** - _____: God chooses people based not on their quality, but out of his kindness and sovereign will.

* John 15:16¹⁶ *You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.*

* Rom 9:11-21¹¹ *(for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), ¹² it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger." ¹³ As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated." ... vss 14-21 continue under the title "**Israel's Rejection and God's Justice**"*

* Acts 13:48⁴⁸ *Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*

* **L** - _____: Jesus died and paid the price ONLY for the sins of the elect.

* Matt 20:28²⁸ *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*

* Heb 9:28²⁸ *so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.*

* **I** - _____: God brings his Elect to salvation through an internal call, which they are powerless to resist

* Rom 9:16¹⁶ *So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.*

* Phil 2:12-13¹² *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.*

* John 6:28-29²⁸ *Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered and said to them, "**This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.**"*

* **P** - _____: Salvation cannot be lost as it is a work of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. None God has called will be lost – they are eternally secure.

* John 10:27-28²⁷ *My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*

* Rom 8:1; 28-30¹ *There is therefore now **no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.***

* 1 Cor 10:13¹³ *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

* Phil 1:6⁶ *being confident of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ***

* Biblical Theology

* The organization of Scripture thematically by biblical chronology or by biblical writer with respect to the progressive revelation of the Bible. It shows us convictions about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and God's work in human history as revealed in the writings of scripture.

* It gives special attention to the teachings of individual authors and sections of Scripture

* Frames each teaching within the historical development of Scripture

* Answers questions like, "How does the teaching about prayer develop over the history of the Old Testament and then the New Testament?"

* Focuses on how the biblical authors and their original audience understood each doctrine.

* Systematic Theology

* Def #1: The organization of Scripture in a logical order of scriptural teaching, summarized using major categories encompassing the entirety of God's written revelation.

* Def #2: A discipline of Christian theology that formulates an orderly, rational, and coherent account of the doctrines of the Christian faith. It addresses issues such as what the Bible teaches about certain topics or what is true about God and His universe.

* It focuses on the collection and summary of all biblical passages on a subject, and attempts to summarize the teachings of Scripture in brief, understandable, and carefully formulated statements.

* **Makes use of biblical theology and often builds on its results.**

* Do Most in Evangelicalism support the teaching of Doctrine?

* Many individuals and their books argue that Structured Doctrine and the use of Systematized Theology to gain understanding are contrary to the spirit of Jesus' ministry.

* The idea that Christ would be anti-doctrine is a foundational belief of many, including cults

* No idea however could be further from the truth.

* The word doctrine simply means "teaching" – or a belief or set of beliefs that is taught.

* Could anyone who knows anything about the NT gospels say that Christ is anti-teaching?

* The central imperative of Christ's Great Commission is the command to teach.

* Matthew 28:18-20¹⁸ *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."¹⁹ Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**" Amen.*

* Unfortunately, cultists aren't alone in their bias against doctrine as some evangelicals have almost the same perspective.

* Because they view doctrine as heady and theoretical, they dismiss it as unimportant, divisive, threatening, or simply impractical.

Doctrine vs. Practical Application

- * Of course, Practical Application is vital. We never want to minimize its importance.
- * But if there is a deficiency in preaching today: There's too much relational, pseudo psychological, and thinly life-related content, and not enough emphasis on sound doctrine.
- * The distinction between doctrinal and practical truth is artificial because doctrine is practical!
 - * In fact, nothing is more practical than sound doctrine.

**** The Pastor/Elder or Church who turns away from Preaching and Teaching Sound Doctrine Abdicates the Primary Responsibility of an Elder ****

* *Titus 1:9*⁹ holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, **by sound doctrine**, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

**** The Pastor/Elder Teaches Truth – Teaches What is Error – Or Teaches Nothing at All ****

Building on the Truth

- * Practical insights – gimmicks – illustrations mean little if they're not clearly attached to divine principles.
- * There's no basis for Godly behavior apart from the truth of God's Word.
- * Before the preacher/teacher asks us to perform a certain duty, he must first deal with doctrine.
 - * He must develop the message around theological themes & draw out principles of the texts.
 - * Then the truth can be applied.
- * *Romans* provides the clearest example.
 - * Paul doesn't give any exhortation until he has given 11 chapters of theology.
 - * He scales incredible heights of truth, culminating in:
 - * *Romans 11:33–36*,³³ *Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!* ³⁴ *For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?"* ³⁵ *Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him?* ³⁶ *For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.*
 - * Then in *ch 12*, he turns immediately to the practical consequences of the doctrine he laid out in the first *11 chapters*.
 - * No passage in Scripture captures the Christian's responsibility in the face of truth more clearly than: *Rom 12:1–2*¹ *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.* ² *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*
 - * Doctrine gives rise to dedication to Christ, the greatest practical act.
 - * The remainder of the book of *Romans* goes on to explain the many practical ever-present workings of one's dedication to Christ.
 - * Paul follows the same pattern in *Gal*, *Eph*, *Phil*, *Col*, and *1 Thess*.
 - * The doctrinal message comes first and upon that foundation he builds the practical application, making the logical connection, in many cases, with the word “*therefore*”.
 - * *Rom 12:1*¹ *I beseech you **therefore**, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*
 - * *Gal 5:1*¹ *Stand fast **therefore** in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.*

* Eph 4:1¹ **therefore**, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called

* Phil 2:1¹ **Therefore** if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy

* Col 3:1¹ **If then you were raised with Christ**, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

* 1 Thess 4:1¹ **Finally then**, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God

Living by the Truth

- * Many have imposed an artificial meaning on the word "Doctrine".
- * They've made it something abstract and threatening, unrelated to daily living.
- * Such has brought about the disastrous idea that preaching and teaching are unrelated to living.
- * The New Testament church was founded on a solid base or foundation of doctrine.
 - * Many expositors believe 1 Tim 3:16 was sung as an early church hymn: ¹⁶ *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:*

*"God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels
Preached among the Gentiles
Believed on in the world
Received up in glory".*

- * Here, in condensed form, is the basis of all Christian teaching. Without it, no practical application matters.

Departing from the Truth

- * The next few verses of 1 Timothy describe what happens when men depart from the basis of biblical truth:
 - * 1 Tim 4:1-3¹ *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will **depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons**,² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,³ forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.*
 - * Lying, hypocrisy, a dulled conscience, and false religious practices all have roots in wrong, bad and poor doctrine.
- * In 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus, Paul commissions two young men to the ministry. His central theme is the importance of adhering to sound doctrine.
 - * Paul charged Timothy: 1 Tim 4:6⁶ *If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of **the good doctrine** which you have carefully followed*
 - * Paul then adds, 1 Tim 4:16¹⁶ *Take heed to yourself (Pay close attention to yourself) and to the **doctrine**. **Continue in them**, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.*
 - * Titus 2:10¹⁰ *not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the **doctrine of God our Savior** in all things.*
 - * We "adorn [or honor] **the doctrine of God**" by how we live.
 - * When it comes to affirming sound doctrine, **what we do** carries far more significance than **what we say**

**** Actions Speak Far Louder than Words ****

- * That's why it's disastrous when a pastor, seminary professor, or any kind of Christian leader fails morally.

- * The message he proclaims is that his doctrine becomes merely an intellectual exercise.

Hearing the Truth

- * True doctrine transforms behavior as it is woven into the fabric of everyday life.
 - * It must however be understood if it is to have its impact.
 - * No believer can apply truth he doesn't know.
 - * Those who don't know the Bible's principles for ...
 - * Marriage * Divorce * Family * Childrearing * Debt * Money
 - * Discipline * Work * Service to Christ * Responsibilities to the poor
 - * Care of Widows * Response to Governments * Eternal Rewards * Etc.
 - * ... will not be able to apply them.
 - * **Those who don't know what the Bible teaches about Salvation cannot be saved.**
 - * **Or what it teaches about Holiness are incapable of dealing with sin.**
 - * Thus, they are unable to live fully to God's glory and their own blessedness.
 - * **What are a few of the Absolutely Essential Doctrines:**
 - * The _____ of Scripture: If you do not believe in the authority of scripture - if you do not believe in all that scripture says – All is Lost.
 - * We must Believe that **ONLY the Bible is the Inerrant Revealed Word of God** – there is no other.
 - * Because, if you can undermine people's confidence in God's word then there is no absolute truth and, again - All is Lost.
 - * Satan knows that, that's why there's such an attack on the validity of scripture.
 - * Satan started it all in the garden when he lied to Eve, *Gen 3:1*¹ ... *did God say ...*
 - * _____, The Nature of _____: The writer of Hebrews says that he who comes to him,
 - * *Heb 11:6*⁶ ... *he who comes to God must believe that He is ...*

**** You Come to God, Only when you Come to the god Who is Truly God ****

 - * For example, if you deny the Trinity, you have invented a god who is one, and that's not the true God.
 - * You may be calling him god, but in actuality, since it's not the God of the Bible, you're worshipping Satan, demons, false gods who are concoctions of the kingdom of darkness.
 - * You must come to the **True God**: the **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**, who are one in nature and three in persons, because this is the God who is revealed in scripture.
 - * _____: His Perfection – Perfect Life
 - * That He is Virgin Born
 - * He is Fully God and Fully Man – Truly God and Truly Man
 - * That He Lived a Sinless Life
 - * That He Died a Substitutionary Death
 - * That He Rose Bodily From the Dead
 - * That it was the Father validating the sacrifice of the Son in whom He is well pleased.
 - * The validation of His having accomplished our redemption is the Father raising him from the dead
 - * That He Ascended into Heaven
 - * That He Reigns in Heaven and will return again
 - * Salvation Comes by _____ Alone Through _____ Alone
- * **Non-Essential Doctrines**
 - * No Divine Truth is Non-Essential when considering
 - * The full range of Divine Revelation
 - * The full scope of Divine Blessing
 - * That it is all distributed through All Divine Truth

- * However, We Would Hold that Some Doctrines are Not Necessary for _____
- * Form of Baptism: Some Sprinkle, Some Pour, Some Immerse
- * Varying Views on how a Church should be run and structured
- * Many differ on spiritual gifts and how they function

* To ensure our Doctrine is in line with Truth we need to ensure the bible we study aligns with the original writer's intended words - the better English translations of the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures include:

- 1) New King James Version (NKJV) – 1611
- 2) New American Standard Bible (NASB) - 1971
- 3) English Standard Version (ESV) - 2001
- 4) Legacy Standard Bible (LSV) [Master's University] – 2021

**** God intended His Word to abide forever (Preservation). Therefore, His written, Propositional, Self-Disclosure (Revelation) was protected from error in its Original Writing (Inspiration) & collected in 66 books of the Old & New Testaments (Canonicity) ****

* Through the centuries, tens of thousands of copies and thousands of translations have been made (Transmission) which did introduce some error.

* Because there is an abundance of existing ancient Old Testament and New Testament manuscripts, however, the exacting science of textual criticism has been able to reclaim the content of the original writings (Revelation and Inspiration) to the extreme degree of 99.99%, with the remaining one hundredth of one percent having no effect on its content (Preservation).

Truths Transmitted by God - to Us - Through His Word, The Bible

* The Bible Contains:

- * The Mind of God
- * The State of Man
- * The Way of Salvation
- * The Doom of Sinners
- * The Contentment of Believers (through Eternal Hope)

* It Gives: * Light to Direct You * Spiritual Food to Support You * Comfort to Cheer You

* Its: * Doctrine is Holy * Precepts are Binding * Histories are True
* Decisions are Immutable

* Continually: * Read it to be wise * Believe it to be saved * Practice it to be Holy

* Use it like: * The Pilgrim's Staff * The Pilot's Compass * The Soldier's Sword * The Christian's Charter

* Follow it like the traveler's map * It involves the Highest Responsibility * Will Reward the Greatest Labor

* Herein Heaven is Open, and the Gates of Hell are Disclosed.

* Christ is: * The Grand subject * Our Good: Its Design * The Glory of God: Its End

* It should: * Fill the Memory * Rule the Heart * Guide the Feet.

* It is

- * A Mine of Wealth
- * Health to the Soul
- * A River of Pleasure.
- * Given Here in this Life
- * Will be Opened at the Judgment
- * Is established forever

* It will Condemn all who trifle with its contents

* Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully.

* *1 Thess 2:13* ¹³ For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe

* Our Prayer: God help us to be loyal contenders of the faith. Let us stand with God and His Scripture Alone.