



The five *solas* are five Latin phrases popularized during the Protestant Reformation that emphasized the distinctions between the early Reformers and the Roman Catholic Church.

## #2- *Sola Gratia* - Grace Alone!

### *Titus 3:4-8*

One of the great truths which was uncovered at the time of the Reformation was the fact that men are saved **by grace alone**. Salvation is of the Lord (Jonah 2:9)—all of God and none of man. Because God’s perfect justice was satisfied due to the finished work of Christ on the cross, God is now free to be gracious to hell-deserving sinners. Grace is God’s favor and kindness freely bestowed on those who are totally undeserving of God’s merciful benefits. God’s grace is defined in Titus 3:4 as “the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward **man**,” even the man who is described in verse 3 as “foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.” It is also defined in Ephesians 2:7 as “His kindness toward **us** through Christ Jesus;” with the “us” being in context those who were dead in trespasses and sins (verses 1 and 5). We are not worthy of the least of His favors, but God was willing to die for the ungodly (Rom. 5:8).

While all religions are based on man achieving salvation by his own works, grace excludes any kind of human works or meritorious efforts: “If by grace, then is it no more of works...if

it be of works, then it is no more grace” (Rom. 11:6; Eph. 2:8-9). Religion is man seeking to bring Himself to God, which is an impossibility. Salvation is God sending His Son to the cross so that “**He** might bring us to God” (1 Pet. 3:18).

Not only is our salvation totally dependent upon the grace of God, but so also is living the Christian life: “By the grace of God I am what I am” (1 Cor. 15:10; see 2 Cor. 9:8). We are debtors to God’s grace!

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***Titus 3:4-8:*** But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, (5) not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (6) which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; (7) that being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (8) This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

