

Series: TRUE NORTH

Title: Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)

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Date: December 7-8, 2019

Background on Sola Scriptura

Before the reformation the Church believed the average person was dangerously incapable of interpreting the Bible correctly. Only the priests could do that. The Bible was kept from the people and was secluded in Latin. Luther defied the church by translating the Bible into German believing the common man could understand it and would see the need for reform. This is also why Wycliffe, Tyndale and others would later be martyred for translating the Scriptures into English. For the reformers, the final authority for truth and living is Sola Scriptura.

1. Is it possible for a contemporary church to stay in tune with its culture and still be true to Scripture? Think of some examples where that's worked well and not so well.
2. See if you can recall and summarize *the story* of the Bible in its five parts.
3. Read 2 Timothy 3:16 & 17 and 2 Peter 1:20-21. How is Scripture unique from other literature? How is it useful?
4. Look at Matthew 5:17-19 and Mark 7:19.
 - a. How did Jesus view the authority of Scripture? How did he view his own authority over the Law?
 - b. Did he *extend* all the Old Testament laws for his followers or did he *fulfill* them and establish a new covenant?
 - c. How does 1 Corinthians 9:19-21 help clarify this?
 - d. What do you tell a parent who tells their child not to get a tattoo based on the Levitical Law?
5. In Psalm 119:147 the author describes his relationship with Scripture as something he experiences all day long, before dawn and on into the late night. How does someone develop a friendship with Scripture like that?
6. How do the beginning and the end of Luke's gospel show the story of Jesus is true, and isn't a legend?
7. How does the resurrection speak to the authority of Scripture?

Take some time to pray that the 2,000 language groups who do not have God's word will get it. And pray that those of us who have it will be transformed by it.