

3ABN SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL
005 - WEDNESDAY – MAY 1, 2024

CHRIST ALONE, GRACE ALONE

Definition. The five solas of the Reformation, which distinguished the Reformers from the teachings of Rome, include:

1. **sola scriptura (Scripture alone),**
2. **solus Christus (Christ alone),**
3. **sola fide (faith alone),**
4. **sola gratia (grace alone), and**
5. **solus Deo gloria (glory to God alone).**

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV) “(8) For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, (9) not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Romans 3:23 (NKJV) “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

What do these verses teach about the plan of salvation?

Behavior Modification Hannah K. Scott; Ankit Jain; Mark Cogburn.

Behavior modification is a psychotherapeutic intervention primarily used to eliminate or reduce maladaptive behavior in children or adults. While some therapies focus on changing thought processes that can affect behavior, behavior modification focuses on changing specific behaviors with little consideration of a person’s thoughts or feelings. The progress and outcome of the intervention can be measured and evaluated. First, a functional analysis of the antecedents and consequences of the problem behavior(s) must be identified. This allows for the determination of specific target behaviors that will

become the focus of treatment. Then, certain variables can be manipulated via reinforcers and punishments to change problem behavior(s). The goal is to eliminate or reduce maladaptive behavior. This activity reviews the indications and contraindications for behavior modification and highlights the role of the interprofessional team in the management of patients with behavioral disorders.

Matthew 7.18 NKJV “A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit.”

Jeremiah 17.9 NKJV “The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?”

Isaiah 64.6 NKJV “But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.”

1. SALVATION IS A GIFT THROUGH CHRIST ALONE: God has provided salvation as a gift. His Holy Spirit leads us to accept by faith what Christ has so freely provided through His death on Calvary’s cross. Jesus, the divine Son of God, offered His perfect life to atone for our sins.

a. Acts 4.12 NKJV “(4.12) Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.””

2. DIVINE JUSTICE DEMANDS PERFECT OBEDIENCE: Christ’s perfect life stands in place of our imperfect lives. The divine law we have broken condemns us to eternal death. The Bible is clear.

a. 1 Samuel 15.22 NKJV “(15.22) So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.”

b. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV “(10.4) For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, (10.5) casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,”

3. THROUGH OUR SINFUL NATURE WE HAVE FALLEN SHORT: We have “fallen short” of God’s ideal for our lives. We have sinned. Left to ourselves we cannot meet the just, righteous demands of a holy God.

a. **Romans 3:23–24 (NKJV) “(23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (24) being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,”**

4. JUSTICE DEMANDS DEATH: As a result, we deserve eternal death.

But there is good news. The apostle Paul assures us, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”

a. **(Rom. 6:23, NKJV). It is a gift, undeserved; if it were by works, we would earn it, and if there is any one truth that shines out of the gospel, it is that we cannot earn salvation.**

A. We are not sinful by choice; we are sinful by nature:

a. **1 Corinthians 15:22 (NKJV) “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”**

B. We make sinful decisions by choice:

a. **Romans 6:12 (NKJV) “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”**

C. Jesus came to save us from our sin nature:

a. **John 1:29 (NKJV) “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”**

b. Romans 5:12 (NKJV) “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—”

D. Jesus also came to pay the debt for our sinful choices: **Matthew 1:21 (NKJV)** “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Adam’s **sin nature** was imparted to us **by default**, but the **righteous nature** of Jesus can be imparted to us **only by choice**. **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)** “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

“Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His.” —Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 25.

If salvation is the work of God in Christ, what role do our good works play in the Christian life? How can we affirm the importance of good works in our experience but without making them the foundation of our hope?

James 2:20–26 (NKJV) “(20) But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? (21) Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? (22) Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? (23) And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. (24) You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. (25) Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received

the messengers and sent them out another way? (26) For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

Faith is the **portal through** which **salvation is received**, **works** as a **confirmation** that **Faith is active**. Works is evidence that salvation is producing results in us. **“faith without works is dead.”**

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV) “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Your light is evidenced, through the combination of faith and works.