

**Sovereign Grace Church**  
**“The Solas” outline**  
October 29, 2017 - Reformation Sunday

*The 31<sup>st</sup> of October this year will mark the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. This is not getting a tremendous amount of press in the mainstream media. The reason for this is undoubtedly the overwhelming educational, cultural and political hegemony of secular materialism as the dominant world view for interpreting world events. But this world view, as socially dominant as it currently is, is stumbling upon hard times. As a world view it is rather “thin”. Because it stresses an epistemology which relies on our five senses and an ontology which holds that only matter exists, Reality becomes somewhat truncated. Ultimately such a world view cannot give a satisfying account of the mind, thoughts, ethical standards, logic, mathematics, beauty, love or even truth.*

*The biblical worldview, on the other hand, can give coherent and satisfying accounts for all of these things plus matter. Today, celebrations like that of the Reformation are attended by small minorities of people, even among Christians. This is not because the celebration of the Protestant Reformation is illegal....rather it is because there is such little interest. However, this will not always be so! Because of the clear supremacy of the biblical world view and the answers it gives to living life fully as a human being its days of minority status are undoubtedly numbered. Times of refreshing will come and should Christ delay His Final coming His Spirit will indeed bring forth future revival and times of spiritual renewal. To that end we celebrate these occasions to keep the truth in the public eye in anticipation of the Spirit's mighty work, both now and in the future.*

**1. Grace Alone**

**Eph. 2: 8-9; 1: 4-5; Jn. 3: 8; Phil. 2: 12b-13; Deut 4: 29**

**2. Faith Alone**

**Eph. 2: 8-9; Jms 2: 24; Gal. 2: 16; II Cor.**

**3. Christ Alone**

**Ac. 4: 12; Jn 14:6; I Tim. 2:5; Rom. 4: 22-25**

**4. God's Glory Alone**

**I Cor. 10: 31; Rom. 11: 36; Jn 17: 22; I Cor. 6: 17; II Pet. 1: 4; I Pet. 2: 5; Isa 42: 8**

**5. Scripture Alone**

**II Tim. 3: 14-17**

**Questions for Conversation and Reflection**

- 1. How does your family celebrate the Reformation? How does your church? Does your community celebrate it? Why not?**
- 2. How difficult is it to meaningfully celebrate biblical holidays in a culture which tends to transform them into merely secular occasions for mythical frivolity and taking a day off of work? Why has the celebration of the Reformation not suffered similar indignities?**
- 3. Is there a need for a renewed Reformation in our day? What might be some reasons for such a need? Would a reformation necessarily mean a division? Are division always wrong?**
- 4. What is the difference between a revival and a reformation? What are some potential problems with each? Do we need both?**
- 5. How can we retain our Reformational heritage in the midst of a culture which sees any deviation from the status quo as hatred? Why is such a charge unjust and unwarranted? What should motivate our desire to celebrate our Reformed heritage?**