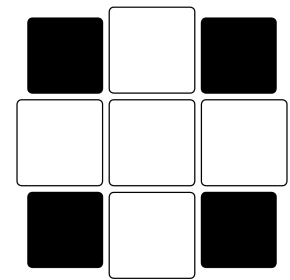


Sola Gratia

Scripture: **Ephesians 2:8–9**

Series: **The Five Solas**

Sunday, January 31, 2016



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Overview

The cultural value of “earning one’s keep” is not to be confused with the Kingdom value of grace. One can not work hard enough to earn their salvation, nor do our works somehow join together with grace to merit value. No matter how “good” we perceive ourselves and others to be, all deserve the just judgement of a perfect God for our sin, and thus all are in deep need of salvation. Going against our pride and “work hard enough to earn my way” mentality, salvation is a gift to be received and not a service to be purchased.

Corroborating Texts

Romans 6:23; Hebrews 6:1; 9:14; Ephesians 2:10; Galatians 2:16

Discussion Questions

1. How would you define grace? [grace is the undeserved favor of God—receiving that which we do not deserve]
2. What is the grace that God has given us? [salvation] What does salvation entail? [rescue from sin’s power and penalty; reconciliation and peace with God]
3. What are “works?” [anything done to or for God]
4. How did Pastor Joe distinguish “dead” works and “good” works—and which one saves? [dead works are done with out faith while “good” works are done in faith. Neither can save.]
5. What is the work that saves? [Our confidence is not on our works, but on Jesus’ perfect obedience.]
6. In what ways do you struggle to accept grace? [having coffee or meals paid for; money given; forgiveness extended; when someone volunteers to help with a home project, etc.]
7. Why do we struggle with accepting grace and fall back so often to a works-based salvation?
8. What is the danger when we believe that God turns off and on his grace and love?
9. In what ways do you tend to base your assurance on your obedience?