

## Solus Christus: Christ Alone

**Introduction:** The blazing centre

### **I. Our salvation is in Christ, alone...**

#### ***i) The Person of Christ***

##### John 1:14-18

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.*

##### Hebrews 1:1-3

*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.*

#### ***ii) The Work of Christ***

##### Galatians 3:10

*Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree."*

*"And all the prophets saw this, that Christ was to become the greatest thief, murderer, adulterer, robber, desecrator, blasphemer there has ever been anywhere in the world."*

*- Martin Luther, Commentary on Galatians, 1535*

##### 2 Corinthians 5:21

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

*"Christ is full of grace, life, and salvation. The soul is full of sins, death and damnation. Now let faith come between them and sins, death and damnation will be Christ's, while grace, life and salvation will be the soul's; for if Christ is a bridegroom, he must take upon himself the things which are his bride's and bestow upon her the things that are his."*

*- Martin Luther, The Freedom of the Christian*

**...so do not trust in**

*A. Yourself*

*B. The Church*

“Christ... lives in the Church so that she is, as it were, another Christ.”

- *Pope Pius XII, Mystici Corporis Christi, 1943*

“As sacrament, the Church is Christ's instrument. She is taken up by him also as the instrument for the salvation of all, ‘the universal sacrament of salvation,’ by which Christ is “at once manifesting and actualizing the mystery of God's love for men.” The Church “is the visible plan of God's love for humanity.”

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church, I.2.3.IX.i (776)*

Through the Holy Spirit, Baptism is a bath that purifies, justifies, and sanctifies.

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church, II.2.1.1.ii (1227)*

*C. Anyone or anything else*

Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience - those too may achieve eternal salvation.

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church, I.2.3.IX.iii (847)*

“Christ distributes his own benefits through his Spirit, that is, by his own hand; they are not to be thought of as some treasure turned over to the church for it to dispense.”

- *John Webster, Word and Church: Essays in Christian Dogmatics*

## **II. Our life now is in Christ, alone...**

“First, we must understand that as long as Christ remains outside of us, and we are separated from him, all that he has suffered and done for the salvation of the human race remains useless and of no value for us.”

- John Calvin, *Institutes*, III.1.i

### **i) Sanctified in Christ**

#### 1 Corinthians 1:2

*To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together...*

#### 1 Corinthians 1:30

*...you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.*

### **ii) Safe in Christ**

#### Romans 8:39

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### **iii) Spoken for by Christ**

#### Hebrews 4:15

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathies with our weakness, but one who was tempted in every respect as we are, yet without sin.*

#### Hebrews 7:25

*Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.*

#### 1 John 2:1

*But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

**... so do not trust in**

A. Yourself

B. The Church

The seven sacraments are the signs and instruments by which the Holy Spirit spreads the grace of Christ the head throughout the Church which is his Body. the Church, then, both contains and communicates the invisible grace she signifies. It is in this analogical sense, that the Church is called a "sacrament."

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church, I.2.3.IX.1 (774)*

C. Anyone or anything else

"This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues... Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation .... Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix."

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church, I.2.3.IX.vi (969)*

1 Timothy 2:5

*For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

### **III. Our hope to come is in Christ, alone**

Titus 2:13

*...waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

1 John 3:2

*Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.*

"The Bride eyes not her garment, but her dear Bridegroom's face; I will not gaze at glory but on my King of grace. Not at the crown He giveth but on His pierced hand; The Lamb is all the glory of Immanuel's land."

- *Ann Cousin, The Sands of Time are Sinking*

**Conclusion:** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus