

# FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION



# PRINCIPLES OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

1. “Sola Scriptura”– The Bible is the only rule of faith and practice. Rev. 22:18-19; 1 Cor. 4:6  
- Is claiming “We follow Scripture” enough?  
Lk. 6:46; Mt. 7:21ff

“fundamentally an authoritative declaration of the truths that are to be believed.” ([newadvent.com](http://newadvent.com))

“For confessional Lutherans, there is no other collection of documents, statements, or books that so clearly, accurately, and comfortingly presents the truths of God's Word and reveals the biblical Gospel as does our Book of Concord.” (<http://bookofconcord.org/faq.php#q130>)

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2. “What is not contrary to Scripture is for Scripture and Scripture for it.” (M. Luther)

Thus he approved of infant baptism, sprinkling, instrumental music, etc.

Not all agreed: “If they [images, dh] are not commanded, then they should not exist.” (U. Zwingli)

\* Lev. 10:1-2; 2 Sam. 7:1-7; 1 Cor. 2:12-13

Example: Lord’s Supper

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2. “What is not contrary to Scripture is for Scripture and Scripture for it.” (M. Luther)

Example: Lord’s Supper

- \* replace bread, juice with Coke, potato chips?
- \* bread + peanut butter or honey?
- \* LS + Passover meal?

**When God is specific, not +, -.**

**When God is general, not +, -.**

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## 3. Justification by faith alone.

Jesus on works (Mt. 11:29-31; Jn. 6:27)

James on faith alone Js. 2:14, 24 (Heb. 11:6)

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## 4. Priesthood of all believers

- “the Catholic clergy alone are entitled to the designation “priest”, since they alone have a true and real sacrifice to offer, the Holy Mass... and the (virtual) power of forgiving sins”

[www.newadvent.org/cathen/12409a.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/12409a.htm)

- 1 Pet. 2:5, 9; Heb. 10:19-22

**MATT. 23:8-10**

~~Reverend, Doctor, Your Holiness, Your Grace,  
Your Excellency, Father, Holy Father, etc~~

# Conclusion

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- Consider the good and harm caused by the Protestant Reformation
- *Understand the will of the Lord (Eph. 5:17)*
- *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only (James 1:22-24)*
- *"You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. (John 15:14)*