

Reformation 500: 1517–2017
The Gospel Reclaims Music
Psalm 46
Page 492 in Chair Bible
The Lord's Day Morning
October 15, 2017

The two central truths recovered in the Protestant Reformation had enormous implications for every aspect of church life. First, the Bible is the final authority in all things because the Bible is the Word of God. Therefore, the standard by which we judge all things is Scripture alone (*sola Scriptura*). Second, we are justified by grace alone (*sola gratia*), through faith alone (*sola fide*), in Christ alone (*solus Christus*), to the glory of God alone (*solus deo Gloria*). These two great truths had countless implications for every area of church life.

In Luther's day, music in the church was mainly performed in Latin by professional singers, while the congregation listened and did not participate. But in Scripture, Luther found little basis for this performer–spectator approach to music. Luther was instrumental in returning congregational singing to the church. Christians who are the happy heirs of the Protestant Reformation understand these things:

1. Congregational singing is the _____ prescribed for the New Testament church.
2. Psalm 46 is _____ for the recovery of congregational singing.
3. Congregational singing faithfully _____ the Word of God–the “Our” songs.
4. Congregational singing faithfully _____ to the God of the Word–the “You” songs.
5. Congregational singing _____ passion and excellence.