ON WHAT DO WE STAND? Sola Scriptura and the Sufficiency of God's Word

Romans 1:16–17

- What did the Reformation do?
 - 1. Recovered the Gospel
 - 2. Reestablished the Word of God
 - 3. Reformed the Church

Tradition and Truth

Tradition 1

Tradition 2

Tradition 0

(Errant) Objections to the Reformation

- 1. Reformation "was a revolution in how to read" the Bible (Diarmaid MacCulloch)
- 2. Reformation led to interpretive anarchy (Brad Gregory)
- 3. Reformation caused "pervasive interpretive pluralism" (Christian Smith)
- 4. Reformation created tribalism. (Peter Leithart)
- ** All of these objections respond to a wrong view of Sola Scriptura.

BUILT ON THE WORD: A Theological Vision of Scripture, Church, and Ministry - D. Schrock Solo Scriptura – Sola Scriptura . . . wrongly Translated

Sola Scriptura – The Bible Alone . . . rightly Translated

- 1. The Bible is the word of God written in human words inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- 2. God both authors and authorizes the Bible.
- 3. God's word is God's discourse.
- 4. Different types of discourse exercise authority in different ways over different domains.
- 5. All divinely authored discourse serves the same ultimate divine end.

** 1 Corinthians 3:11 . . . Again

BUILT ON THE WORD: A Theological Vision of Scripture, Church, and Ministry - D. Schrock The Bible is Creates Community . . . The Bible Is Never Against the Church

- 1. The Bible is written in community
- 2. The Bible is received in community
- 3. The Bible is translated in community
- 4. The Bible is interpreted in community
- 5. The Bible is applied in community
- 6. The Bible is acted out in community

Retrieving the Reformation Rightly

- 1. The Reformation was not a hopeless pursuit of individualism
- 2. The Reformation was not a revolution in reading the Bible
- 3. The Reformation did not invite interpretive anarchy or endless plurality
- 4. The Reformation did not create tribalism.

** If your defense of Sola Scriptura minimizes the Church or promotes theological self-sufficiency, you're doing it wrong!

What do we do now?