"The Battle for the Gospel" (The book of Galatians)

Introduction

➤The biblical book of "Galatians" is actually a letter, written by the apostle Paul to "the churches of Galatia" (1:2). There is great scholarly debate as to who, or what, were the "churches of Galatia", but for our purposes it is sufficient to say that Paul was writing to Christians who were in the midst of a battle for the Gospel.

Consequently, Paul's writing style is confrontational, powerful, blunt, biting and concise (only six fairly short, but extremely dense, chapters). With great faithfulness and conviction, the apostle Paul is defending the truth of the Gospel, calling out those who were seeking to distort the Gospel (proclaiming a "different" gospel), and chiding Christians for being so easily deceived by (or accepting of) this false gospel.

Gal 1:6-9, 11 ~ "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. ... ¹¹For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel."

The apostle Paul even had a verbal confrontation with the apostle Peter (who was also known as "Cephas" [the term Cephas means "rock" in Aramaic, which is translated "Peter" in Greek]; see Jn.1:42):

Gal 2:11-16 ~ "But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹²For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. ¹³And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, 'If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?'

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Throughout this letter, Paul repeated reminded these Christians of the truth of the Gospel and reprimanded them for being so easily deceived by (and willing to embrace) a false gospel:

Gal 3:1-6 ~ "O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ²Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ⁴Did you suffer so many things in vain – if indeed it was in vain? ⁵Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith – ⁶just as Abraham 'believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness'?"

Gal 5:2-4 ~ "Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace."

Gal 5:7-12 ~ "You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? ⁸This persuasion is not from him who calls you. ⁹A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ¹⁰I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. ¹¹But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. ¹²I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!"

➢ In saying these things, the apostle Paul is neither out-of-line nor out-of-control. He is faithfully discharging his duty as an apostle of Christ – faithfully, passionately, unwaveringly proclaiming the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel is not a secondary or peripheral issue. It is first and foremost in our understanding of what it means to be saved and receive Jesus Christ as our Savior.

The true Gospel teaches that a person is saved by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

Gospel themes in the book of Galatians:

To be sure, here are many different ways a person could preach through the book of Galatians in one sermon. I have chosen to highlight three major themes, which are connected to the main theme, in order to unpack their meaning and underscore their importance. Again, the overarching theme of the book of Galatians is the Gospel of Jesus Christ – that a person is saved by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

Gal 2:16 \sim "yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

➤This morning, I want to briefly examine each one of these truths as is revealed in the book of Galatians. My hope is that this sermon will be a sufficient introduction to and overview of Paul's letter to the Galatians, and also a means of stirring our hearts with eagerness and zeal for this God-inspired book of the Bible.

A. Salvation is by God's grace alone ~ The absolute necessity and sufficiency of God's saving grace.

The saving grace of God is truly amazing. It is without question the greatest gift anyone could ever ask or hope for. That is because every person stands in desperate need of God's forgiveness and mercy. The Bible clearly declares that every human being (other than Jesus Christ) who has ever lived, or will ever live, has sinned against God and deserves to be condemned and punished by God for eternity (cf. Rom.3:10-12, 23, 6:23; Jn.3:18,36; 1Jn.1:8). In addition, as the Bible makes it apparent, no one can earn God's forgiveness, nor can anyone save themselves, nor is there any other Savior other that God's one and only Son Jesus Christ (cf. Jn.3:16-18, 14:6; Acts 4:12). Clearly, there is no salvation apart from God's grace (Ps.130:3; Jer.2:22).

That's the bad news. Actually, that's the worst news ever! But the good news – or we could say the best news – comes by way of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (the word Gospel" literally means "good news"). The good news is that God's grace has been extended to everyone who is willing to repent of their sins and put their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. God's grace is powerful enough to completely and eternally forgive the worst of sinners. Through the grace of God, every believer stands before God *as if* they had never sinned (cf. Rom.6:23, 8:1; 2Cor.5:21). That is truly *amazing* grace!

➢ In the book of Galatians, the apostle Paul revealed three truths with regard to God's saving grace. While these truths are overlapping, and intertwined, it is helpful to isolate each one in order to understand it more fully. Each of these are distinct yet inseparable truths concerning God's saving grace.

1. God's saving grace is <u>unprovoked</u> (1:1, 4, 6, 15; 3:22)

➢ In other words, we did not in any way initiate God's salvation. God's saving grace did not originate with our sin, or our need for salvation, but with God's sovereign will (*"before the foundation of the world"*; Eph.1:4; cf. 2Tim.1:9; Tit.1:2; 1Pet.1:20). From first to last, salvation is God's idea – God's divine will, God's sovereign love and God's saving grace (Jn.1:12-13; Rom.5:8, 10).

Gal 1:1 \sim "Paul, an apostle – not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead"

Gal 1:15 ~ "But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace"

Gal 1:4 ~ "who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father"

Gal 1:6 \sim "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel"

Gal 3:22 ~ "But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe."

2. God's saving grace is <u>undeserved</u> (1:6; 3:10, 23, 28; 4:4-5, 8)

➤We need to understand is that every believer (indeed, every person) is utterly unworthy of God's grace. No one *deserves* to be saved. In fact, no one deserves anything good from God. No one has any inherent worth, value or goodness that makes a candidate for deserving of God's saving. As stated in the introduction, every single person (other than Jesus Christ) who has ever lived or will ever live has *"sinned and fallen short of the glory of God"* (Rom.3:23). The Bible emphatically states "there is no one righteous, not even one" (Rom.3:10), and *"just as sin entered the world through one man [Adam], and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned"* (Rom.5:12; cf. 1Jn.1:8,10). Thus, no one can claim that they – in and of themselves – deserve to receive God's grace, or that they deserve to be forgiven or saved by God. Clearly, salvation is by God's grace alone.

Gal 1:6 \sim "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel"

Gal 3:10 \sim "For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, 'Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.""

Gal 3:23 ~ "Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed."

Gal 3:28 \sim "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Gal 4:4-5 ~ "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."

Gal 4:8 \sim "Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods."

➢Not only can no one honestly claim to deserve to be forgiven by God, so too no one can truthfully claim to deserve anything from God but His judgment and wrath. As everyone has sinned, so too everyone deserves to be punished for sin. No one can stand before God and honestly tell Him they are worthy of His grace. As the Bible makes abundantly clear, apart from God's grace everyone is dead in their sins and objects of God's holy wrath. Apart from God's grace (i.e. the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ), no one can be saved. Without the grace of God, all of us are helplessly and hopelessly condemned as sinners.

3. God's saving grace is <u>unearned</u> (2: 16, 21; 3: 6, 8, 11; 4: 10-11; 5: 2, 4, 6)

Not only are we completely undeserving of God's grace, but we also must realize that we cannot earn God's grace. In other words, everyone is equally unworthy of salvation and equally unable to attain salvation apart from God's grace. Theologians refer to this saving grace as the "unmerited favor of God." That is, the sinner cannot do anything to "merit" or earn God's saving grace. In fact, Scripture clearly describes exactly what the sinner has merited or earned in life: death (cf. Rom.6:23).

Gal 2:16 \sim "yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Gal 2:21 \sim "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose."

Gal 3:6, 8 ~ "just as Abraham 'believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness'? … ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'In you shall all the nations be blessed.""

Gal 3:11 \sim "Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for 'The righteous shall live by faith."

Gal 4:10-11 ~ "You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain."

Gal 5:2, 4, 6 ~ "Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ... ⁴You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ... ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love."

- There is nothing we can do to induce or compel God to save us by our own merit (Eph.2:5, 8-9). To be saved by grace *and* works is to negate the free gift of God's grace (Rom.11:6). To attempt to add "good works" to God's grace is to violate and nullify the saving grace of God in the sinner's life. Salvation is either all of God and all of grace, or not at all by grace. Just as no one deserves God's saving grace, so too no one can earn God's grace. Thus, God alone receives all the praise and glory for our salvation (cf. Rom.3:27-28; 1Cor.1:30-31).
 - ✓<u>Illust</u>: "You contribute nothing to your salvation except the sin that made it necessary" (Jonathan Edwards).

B. Salvation is through faith alone ~ *The inevitable and spiritual effects of true saving faith.*

- ➢ Faith is the only God-ordained means of receiving God's saving and grace (cf. Eph.2:8; Phil.3:9). True saving faith is more than the conscious admission that God or Jesus Christ existed. Nor is it simply a mental affirmation that history records Jesus lived on the earth and died on the cross. Nor is it a casual or superficial belief in the teachings of Scripture or Christian doctrine. True saving faith is more than a mental or intellectual exercise. It is the genuine belief and trust in God. To put it more specifically, in terms of Christian faith, one might define it in this way: true saving faith is the living conviction that Jesus in the Christ the Son of God, and the full trust and reliance upon Him as both Lord and Savior.
- ➢In studying Paul's letter to "the churches of Galatia", we can identify four aspects of true saving faith in Jesus Christ:

1. Saving faith produces a sincere renunciation of one's <u>old</u> life (2:20; 5:24; 6:14-15)

True saving faith is not "easy believism" or a mere mental assent to the "historical" Jesus. Saving faith is not merely believing that Jesus existed, or even that He lived a moral life, or even that He performed many miracles, or even that He died on a cross. True saving faith is believing in and receiving Jesus

Christ as Lord and Savior. This involves a dying to one's old (carnal, sinful) life apart from Christ, and seeking to live a holy life in and for Christ (see Rom.6:1-23; 2Cor.5:17).

✓ <u>Illust</u>: "The Gospel does not call us to receive Christ as an addition to our life, but as our life" (Paul Washer).

Gal 2:20 ~ "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Gal 5:24 \sim "And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

Gal 6:14-15 ~ "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation."

2. Saving faith produces a supreme devotion to Christ (1:10; 2:20; 3:11; 5:6, 24-25; 6:12, 14)

>Once again, this truth dovetails with the previous one. This is a "two-sided coin." Since true saving faith produces a renunciation of one's old life, it also produces a supreme devotion to Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ will not be used as a "lucky rabbit's foot" or a "get-out-of-hell-free-card." True Christians do not merely profess Christ, they also possess Christ; they do not merely proclaim to be a Christian, they actually seek to follow Jesus Christ. Genuine obedience is the result and evidence of the existence of a true and saving faith.

Gal 1:10 ~ "For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."

Gal 2:20 ~ "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Gal 3:11 ~ "Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for 'The righteous shall live by faith.""

Gal 5:6 \sim "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love."

Gal 5:24-25 ~ "And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

Gal 6:12, 14 ~ "It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ... ¹⁴But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

3. Saving faith produces a sanctifying <u>love</u> for others (5: 6, 13-14, 22; 6: 2, 10)

➤As the apostle Paul makes abundantly clear in his letter to the churches in Galatia, a true saving faith in Jesus Christ produces a sanctifying love for other people. True Christians love God first and foremost (as this is *"the great and first commandment"*, Matt.22:38), and in this they love all that God loves (see Matt.22:34-39; Jn.13:34-35; 1Jn.4:7-12).

Gal 5:6 \sim "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love."

Gal 5:13-14 ~ "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Gal 5:22 ~ "But the fruit of the Spirit is love ..."

Gal 6:2 ~ "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Gal $6:10 \sim$ "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

4. Saving faith produces spiritual <u>fruit</u> (5: 16, 18, 22-23, 25)

➤When hearing of "spiritual fruit" many Christians immediately of what is called "The Fruit of the Spirit" (see Gal.5:22-23). Unfortunately, many limit spiritual fruit only to those things identified as the Fruit of the Spirit (which was never intended to be an exhaustive list, as Paul referred to them "such things"). To put is simply, spiritual fruit is doing all that pleases and complies with the Spirit of God – neither "grieving" (Eph.4:30; sins of commission), nor "quenching" the Spirit of God (Jms.4:17; sins of omission). Spiritual fruit is walking (living) according to Spirit's leading, instruction and power.

Gal 5:16, 18 ~ "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ... ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law."

Gal 5:22-23 ~ "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

Gal $5:25 \sim$ "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

C. Salvation is in Christ alone ~ The exclusive and all-sufficient atonement of Jesus Christ.

- ➤Christ death on the cross was a voluntary and vicarious death for sinners. In other words, when Christ died on the cross He bore the full penalty of God's wrath for us. On the cross Jesus literally took the place of all sinners who would ever believe. The death Jesus died fully paid for the sins of those who would believe. Christ fully paid the penalty of sin for all believers and imputed His perfect righteous to them in exchange (2Cor.5:18-21; Rom.5:9; Is.53:4-6).
- ≻This awesome Gospel theme is detailed in the book of Galatians in at least four ways.

1. Christ alone is our <u>sinless</u> substitute (1: 3-4; 2: 20; 3: 26-29)

➤The Bible emphatically and repeatedly states that Jesus Christ was, is and will always be sinless (see Is.53:9; 2Cor.5:21; Heb.7:26; 1Pet.2:22-24; 1Jn.3:5). Jesus is the only person to be absolutely sinless. Jesus is the Savior, He never needed a Savior! He perfectly fulfilled all of God's requirements, obeyed all of God's commands. He, therefore, died on the cross not for His own sin but for the sins of all who would ever believe. This is referred to as His "substitutionary death" (or the "substitutionary atonement" of Christ). Meaning, Jesus died in our place for our sins. God treated Jesus as if He had lived our sinful lives, and God treats those who are saved as if they lived Jesus' perfect life. This has been called "the great exchange" – Christ bearing the punishment and death for our unrighteousness while we receive the glory and reward for His righteousness (see Is.53:4-6; 2Cor.5:21)

Gal 1:3-4 ~ "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father"

Gal 2:20 \sim "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." **Gal 3:26-29** ~ "for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."

2. Christ alone bore the <u>curse</u> for our sin (2:16; 3:10, 13-14)

➢ In dying on the cross for our sins, Jesus fully bore the wrath of God in our place. The Bible illustratively speaks of unrepentant sinners, those who are justly condemned by God and under His wrath, as cursed of God (quoted from Deut.27:26). This functions as the stark opposite of being blessed by God. Everyone who is under the law of God, and not saved by God's grace in Christ, is cursed because they cannot be saved by works of the law. Therefore, apart from the saving grace of God through faith alone in Christ alone, they are justly condemned by God as lawbreakers (i.e. sinners). Though His substitutionary death on the cross, Jesus Christ (alone) bore the curse for our sin.

Gal 2:16 \sim "yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Gal 3:10 ~ "For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, 'Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.""

Gal 3:13-14 ~ "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' - ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith."

3. Christ alone has set us <u>free</u> from the penalty and power of sin (2:4, 16; 5:1, 13)

Through His sinless life and substitutionary death, Jesus has set us (believers) free from the penalty and power of sin. The penalty of sin is are the consequences of God's judgment against our sin (Jn.3:36; Rom.5:12; 6:23). The power of sin is its ability to enslave the (unrepentant) sinner in sin (Rom.8:7-8; Eph.2:3). Apart from Christ, sinners remain under God's wrath, and unable to remedy their sinful condition.

Gal 2:4 \sim "Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in – who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery"

Gal 2:16 \sim "yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Gal 5:1 ~ "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

Gal $5:13 \sim$ "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

4. Christ alone is the <u>fulfillment</u> of God's promised salvation (3: 9, 17-19, 26-29; 4: 4-7, 28)

➤The blessing of God's salvation in Christ is the fulfillment of God's promise through Abraham (see Gen.12, 15). Christ is the fulfilment of God's promise to save all those who truly believe in Him – who would be counted righteous by faith (see Gal.2:16; 3:6; cf. Rom.4:3-11; 5:1). This covenant, between God and Abraham, is perfectly and eternally fulfilled in Christ – through His life, death and

resurrection. So that those who are truly in Christ are "*heirs according to promise*" (Gal.3:29; cf. Rom.8:15-17; Tit.3:7; Heb.6:13-20).

Gal 3:9 ~ "So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith."

Gal 3:17-19 ~ "This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. ¹⁹Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary."

Gal 3:26-29 ~ "for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."

Gal 4:4-7 ~ "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."

Gal 4:28 ~ "Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise."

Conclusion

➢In his letter to the Galatians, Paul was engaged in a battle for the Gospel – the same Gospel for which Christians must defend, proclaim and live today!

The true Gospel teaches that a person is saved by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.