

Semper Reformanda: The Biblical Heart of the Reformation
Week 3: *Sola Scriptura*

“I did nothing. The Word did it all” – Martin Luther

1. Biographical note: *Sola Scriptura* in the life of Ulrich Zwingli
2. *Sola scriptura* – The formal principle of the Reformation
 - A. Definition and summary
 - B. Reformation context in three recurring tensions
 1. The relationship between scripture and tradition (Romans 14, Mark 7, 2 Thess. 2)
 2. The desire to make the Bible available in the common language
 3. How the Bible was used in the life and worship of the church
 - C. The issue of authority
 - D. The issue of sufficiency (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
3. *Sola scriptura* is not a new concept, but has been demonstrated throughout history
 - A. The early church in the New Testament (compare Galatians 1 and Acts 17)
 - B. Irenaeus (d. 200)
 - C. Hippolytus (d. 236)
 - D. Athanasius (d. 373)
 - E. Cyril of Jerusalem (d. 386)
 - F. Augustine (d. 430)
4. **Christological focus:** Jesus’ view of the scriptures
 - A. Jesus and the sufficiency of scriptures (Mark 7, John 8, Luke 16, Matthew 4)
 - B. Jesus and the authority of the scriptures (Matthew 4, Luke 24)
5. *Sola scriptura* today
 - A. Undermined by Catholicism, cults, and even fellow evangelicals
 - B. Should be believed *and* applied
 - C. Treasure the Word of God!