

SECRETS BEHIND THE SLOGANS

*Things most people don't know about the Reformed tradition,
even if they know the mottos and clichés*

three lectures and one sermon prepared for
the 2007 Exploring Our Reformed Faith Seminar
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by

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1. *Sola fide* = “by faith alone.”

What's supposed to be *in* that faith alone by which we are saved?

John Calvin's understanding of the difference between Christian essentials and Reformed distinctives, as well as his advice on what is and isn't worth arguing about.

2. *Sola scriptura* = “scripture alone.”

Did the Protestant Reformers read nothing but the Bible?

What we can learn from Calvin and others about reading the Bible with the church — the whole church — and how it is that really old writers might have some really fresh ideas.

3. *Sola gratia* = “by grace alone.”

Do you *really* want to be saved by grace alone?

Reflections on modern Presbyterianism's best-kept secret: predestination.

4. *Soli deo gloria* = “glory to God alone.”

Does all the talk about God's glory really just mean that God is vain?

*A sermon on why God's glory is also our best hope.**

*Drawing on WSC Q.1; and also on Psalm 8, John 17:20-24, Eph. 1:11-12, & Rev. 21:22-23.