



Series: What Is So Great About Christianity

Passage Ephesians 1:1-12

Title: *Soli Deo Gloria* – Glory to God Alone

Speaker: Pastor David Menard– 1/26/2020

Discussion Starter

How has this message encouraged you to reflect on living a life to the glory of God Alone? Are you on track or do things need to change a bit? What do you think your next big challenge is?

Source of Our Salvation and Justification (Ephesians 1:1-12)

- We see that God chooses us in Jesus Christ before the foundation of the world. Why would God do this and what does it mean to us? Which pillar of the five Solae does it point to?
- What are some of the ways we as Christians still try to earn God's favor? Why do we do it, and what does that reveal about our lack of understanding on God desire for us? What understanding should we have?
- We reviewed three pillars of Protestant reformation: In Christ Alone, by Grace Alone and by Faith Alone. Describe in your own words how these three tie together and connect with the fourth pillar, Glory to God Alone?
- Jesus gives us all these spiritual blessing by faith alone. What does that mean to you? Why didn't He require more than just faith alone? What were some of the false teaching of the times in which this letter was written? What are some of the false teachings we see in today's churches? Read Romans 4:16. Discuss the insights gained from this verse?
- How would explain the meaning of Glory and why is Glory to God Alone?
- Do you think it is okay for us to receive glory outside the realm of our salvation and justification? Why or why not? Read 2:8-9; 1 Corinthians 1:29, 31 and Psalm 115:1. What insights do these verses give us on this subject?

Prophecy of Our Salvation In Christ (Isaiah 42:1-9)

- How do we know that this scripture in verse 1-2 refers to Jesus and how does Jesus bring justice to the Gentiles?
- What is the significance of the bruised reed and the smoking flax in verse 3, and how do they tie into Jesus bringing forth justice for truth?
- Read verses 4-9. How do these verses describe the Glory of God Alone in Jesus?
- What are some of the keys and benefits of living life to the glory of God? What is the danger of living our lives to something other than the glory of God?
- How did Jesus model living life to the Glory of God for us during His time as a man on earth? Read Mark 10:45 and Philippians 2:3-11. What lessons can we learn from Jesus' example in these verses?
- When do you know if you are crossing the line when it comes to receiving praise when desiring to be excellent in your ministry or work versus desiring to do well to bring glory to yourself?