Series: Rediscovering the Reformation

**Only Jesus Can Rescue You**

1 Timothy 2:3-7, November 26, 2017

**Solus Christus**: The gift of salvation that God makes available by His grace comes through faith in Jesus Christ and no other.

**Soli Deo Gloria**: Because God has freely provided everything for the salvation of undeserving sinners, He alone deserves glory.

Intro: All roads lead to Rome?

1. God wants you to be saved through the truth. (vv. 3 – 4)

a. God wants you to be saved.

* vv. 3 – 4 *God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved*
* Matthew 23:37 *How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!*

b. You can only be saved through the truth.

* v. 4 *desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth*
* Ezekiel 18:32 *For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.*

c. Many reject the path of truth that would save them.

* Matthew 7:13-14 *Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

Q. “All roads lead to Rome” isn’t true in most areas of life. Why is it popular to think that it’s true with regard to heaven?

Q. If God wants all people to be saved, how do you know they won’t be?

Q. What’s “narrow” about the way that “leads to life?”

2. There is only one God who alone deserves the glory. (v. 5)

1. There is only one God.
* v. 5 *For there is one God*
* Deuteronomy 6:4 *The LORD our God, the LORD is one.*
1. God alone is worthy of glory.
* Isaiah 42:8 *I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.*
* 1 Corinthians 10:31 *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*
1. God is dishonoured when we give glory to another.
* Acts 14:11 *And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!”*
* Acts 14:15 *“Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.*
* Acts 14:18 *Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.*
* Catholic Catechism #956: The intercession of the saints. "Being more closely united to Christ, those who dwell in heaven fix the whole Church more firmly in holiness.... They do not cease to intercede with the Father for us, as they proffer the merits which they acquired on earth through the one mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus.... So by their fraternal concern is our weakness greatly helped."

Q. According to Isaiah 42:8, what’s wrong with saying that there’s one God but we all just call him different names?

Q. Why is God so concerned about His glory? Isn’t that proud?

Q. What’s wrong with praying to “saints?”

3. There is only one Mediator through whom we can be saved.

(vv. 5 – 7)

1. Jesus is the only path to God.
* v. 5 *there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus*
* John 14:6 *Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*
* Acts 4:12 *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*
1. Jesus is the only One who paid to set us free.
* v. 6 *[Jesus] gave himself as a ransom for all*
1. Trusting in any other Mediator is a rejection of the Mediator.
* Catholic Catechism #969: Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation .... Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix."
* Catholic.com: Mary’s title of mediatrix arises from her cooperation in the Incarnation and in the Redemption of mankind.
* The Rosary is arranged in sets of ten *Hail Marys* with each preceded by one *Our Father* and followed by one *Glory Be*.

Q. What’s wrong with believing in different paths to salvation?

Q. What did Jesus have to do to pay our ransom?

Q. What’s wrong with praying to Jesus and Mary?

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study Luke 1:1-4.

**Notes:**