

# Lutheranism 101

## The Solas of Lutheranism

Have you heard the phrase “by grace alone, through faith alone, in Scripture alone”? This sometimes is referred to as the battle cry of the Reformation. But where did it come from?

Well, the Reformation rested upon three fundamental principles:

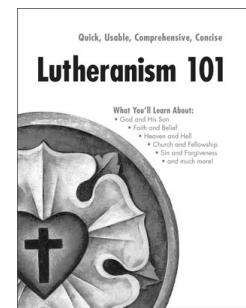
- Our salvation is entirely a gift of grace from God and not our own doing.
- We receive that grace through faith and not by any works we might do.
- The sole norm and rule of all doctrine is the Holy Scriptures.

These principles are referred to as the “three solas”: by grace alone, through faith alone, in Scripture alone. Although the word sola means “alone,” the irony is that the three solas are never alone! They are interconnected. And to these three many writers have added another sola—to Christ alone. As a unit these “Reformation solas” form a concise and useful outline of what Lutherans believe, teach, and confess.

As Lutherans, we desire to grow in our understanding of what we believe, teach, and confess. How can we do this? We attend worship services, Sunday School, and Bible

studies. We read and study the Word of God and learn from our pastors and teachers. We explore Luther’s Small Catechism and our Lutheran Confessions and discover how they explain God’s Word to us.

Whether you’re a lifelong Lutheran, a newcomer to the faith, or someone interested in learning what Lutherans believe, *Lutheranism 101* makes core principles simple. With a popular and fun style, easy-to-read articles, charts, and bullet points introduce major theological concepts.



Visit [lutheranism101.com](http://lutheranism101.com) to share why you are a Lutheran.

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the work of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8–9 ESV)*