

24 September 2017 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Jonah 3:10–4:11; Ps. 145:1–8; Phil. 1:21–30; Mt. 20:1–16.



INTRO: Review: *Sola Scriptura* (Divinely inspired; *only infallible source and norm for all matters of faith, doctrine and life*; and interpretation). *Sola fide*: “the principle article of the Reformation.”



I. OPENS THE DOOR/DECLARES US RIGHTEOUS.

Hebrews 11:6, “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” **Cf. Matthew 7:7.**

Matthew 16:16, “Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’”

1 Peter 1:18-19, “knowing that you were **ransomed** (redeemed) from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but **with the precious blood of Christ.**”

MSG: “It cost God plenty to get you out of that dead-end, empty-headed life you grew up in. **He paid** with Christ’s sacred blood.”

LOL: “Faith in justification is entirely receptive. Faith does not contribute to the righteousness by which the sinner is justified. It receives the righteousness that God offers in the gospel.”

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

LOL: “Justification is not a verdict that lies uncertainly in one’s future. It is the believer’s present and abiding possession.”

Hebrews 11:1, “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Traditional acts of chivalry are being frowned upon because "standards have slipped" and a noble gesture is seen as suspicious, according to researchers.

Keith Green, “Most people don't find out 'Till it's too late, That someone has to pay the price; You can pay it yourself (Ha!), Or let someone else, But who would be that nice, To pay a debt that isn't his; Well, I know someone like that, And He's your best friend, He really is; He really loves you.”(*Altar Call*).



II. KEEPS THE DOOR OPEN AND LEADS US THROUGH. SOLA: THAT FOUR LETTER WORD.

Luther, “It is a fact that these four letters sola are not there. And these blockheads stare at them like cows at a new gate. At the same time they do not see that it conveys the sense of the text; it belongs there if the translation is to be clear and vigorous.”

Galatians 3:1-3, “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

Hebrews 11:8, “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.” Cf. FAITH = R-I-S-K.



III. TAKES US HOME.

John 14:1, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.” **2 Timothy 4:7**, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

CONCLUSION: Luther: “**Night and day I pondered** until I saw the connection between the justice of God and the statement that ‘the just shall live by his faith.’ Then I grasped the truth that the justice of God is that righteousness by which through grace and sheer mercy God justifies us **through faith**. Thereupon **I felt myself to be reborn and to have gone through open doors into paradise.**”