


THE THREE SOLAS

The three solas summarize the three basic principles of the Reformation. We are saved by grace alone; grace is received through faith alone; and faith is given by the Holy Spirit through Scripture alone. The following pages contain quotes from Luther and Bible passages you can use to reflect on the three solas.

S  L A G R A T I A

S  L A F I D E

S  L A
S C R I P T U R A



GRACE ALONE

SOLA GRATIA

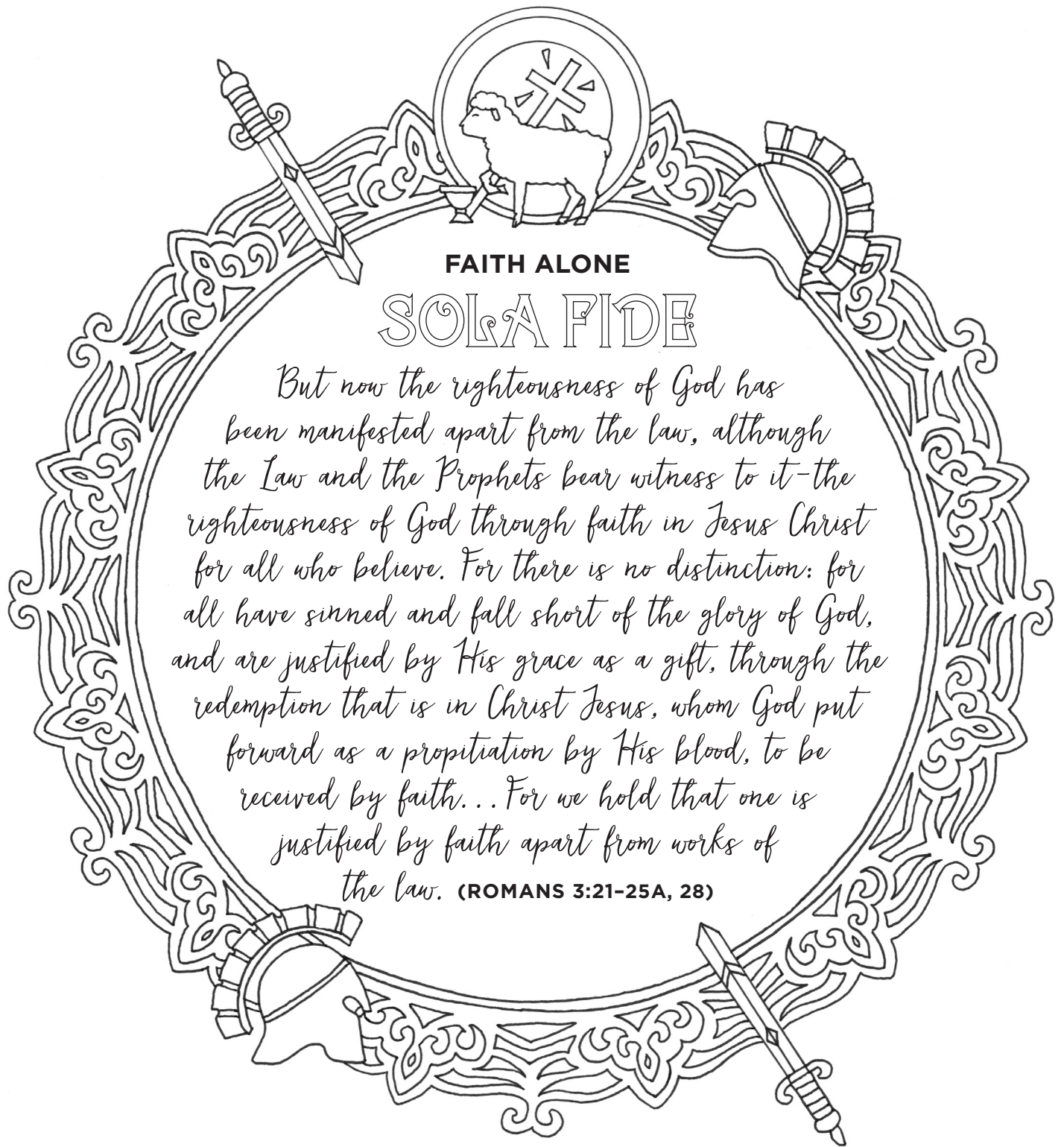
God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? "Lord, they have killed Your prophets, they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

(ROMANS 11:2-6)

WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE SALVATION PURELY THROUGH GRACE,

INDEPENDENTLY OF ALL GOOD WORKS, CERTAINLY WILL NEVER RECEIVE IT OTHERWISE. (LUTHER, AE 75:238)

IN MY HEART THERE RULES THIS ONE DOCTRINE, NAMELY, FAITH IN CHRIST. FROM IT, THROUGH IT,



FAITH ALONE

SOLA FIDE

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith... For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (ROMANS 3:21-25A, 28)

AND TO IT ALL MY THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT FLOWS AND RETURNS, DAY AND NIGHT. (LUTHER, AE 27:145)



SCRIPTURE ALONE

SOLA SCRIPTURA

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

(2 TIMOTHY 3:14-17)

THINK OF THE SCRIPTURES AS THE LOFTIEST AND NOBLEST OF HOLY THINGS,

AS THE RICHEST OF MINES WHICH CAN NEVER BE SUFFICIENTLY EXPLORED. **(LUTHER, AE 35:235)**