### The Reformation and the Solas

### "Pre-Reformers"

### Emergence of the Sola Scriptura principle



### Martin Luther

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### Five "solas"

"Sola" is Latin for "only" or "alone"
Five Latin "sola" statements emerged out of the Reformation:

- Sola Scriptura ("by Scripture alone")
- Sola Gratia ("by grace alone")
- Sola Fide ("by faith alone")
- Solus Christus or Solo Christo ("Christ alone or through Christ alone")
- · Soli Deo Gloria ("to the glory of God alone")





True or False:

Martin Luther was the first Reformer.





# "Pre-Reformers"

### Emergence of the Sola Scriptura principle

We often think of Martin Luther as the first Reformer, but others before him began to emphasize the preeminence of Scripture, challenging the authority and practice of the RC Church:

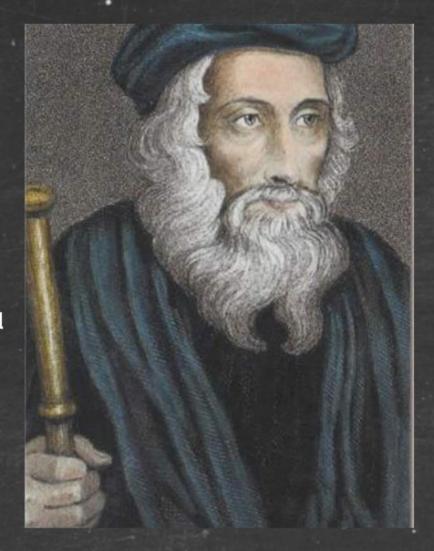
### John Wycliffe (1329-1384)

- An English Reformer who insisted that Scripture alone should be the final authority concerning doctrine
- · Scripture should be translated into the language of the people
- · Did not believe monasticism or transubstantiation were biblical

### Jon Huss (1372-1414)

- Bohemian Reformer, influenced by Wycliff
- · Translated Scripture into Czech
- Questioned papal authority and the selling of indulgences

Huss was tried and condemned at the Council of Constance and burned at the stake. Wycliffe had already died, so the church dug up his remains and burned them





### "Humanism" of the 14th-16th Century

- Intellectual and educational movement
- Emphasis on the recovery and study of classical literature
- Christian humanism led to the study of the Hebrew OT, the Greek NT, and other early Christian works (e.g. Irenaeus & Augustine)
- Erasmus, the "Prince of the Humanists" (1466-1536) never broke from the RC Church, but compiled the first printed Greek NT, accompanied by a fresh translation into Latin

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(1483-1546)



Romans 3:21-22 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...

"I greatly longed to understand Paul's Epistle to the Romans and nothing stood in the way but that one expression. "the justice [righteousness] of God," because I took it to mean that justice whereby God is just and deals justly in punishing the unjust. My situation was that, although an impeccable monk, I stood before God as a sinner troubled in conscience, and I had no confidence that my merit would assuage him. Therefore I did not love a just and angry God, but rather hated and murmured against him. Yet I clung to the dear Paul and had a great yearning to know what he meant.



"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 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. The whole of Scripture took on a new meaning, and whereas before the "justice of God" had filled me with hate, now it became to me inexpressibly sweet in greater love. This passage of Paul became to me a gate to heaven. (Roland H. Bainton, Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther)



# Sola Scriptura Unlocked Everything!

- Salvation is by Grace alone,
- through faith alone,
- because of the finished work of Christ alone, and all
- to the glory of God alone

This is the Gospel that the Martyrs of the Early Church were willing to die for. Many Reformers would pay the same price for their rejections of RC doctrine that contradicted these principles.





"Since then your sere Majesty and your Lordships seek a simple answer, I will give it in this manner, neither horned nor toothed. Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen." (http://www.goodreads.com/author/ quotes/29874.Martin\_Luther?page=1)



# Ulrich Zwingli

Swiss Reformer - True or false?

Zwingli was a protege of Luther who desired to replicate Luther's reformation in Switzerland.





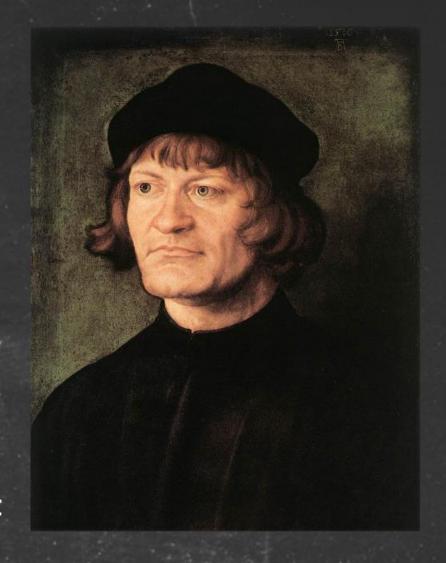
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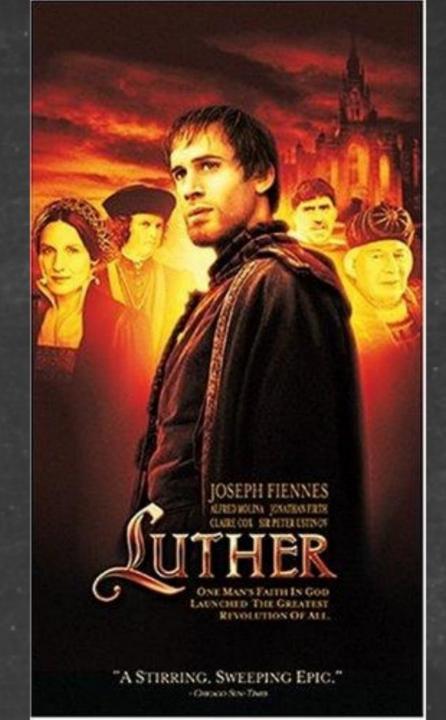
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# Question: Was John Calvin a French Reformer or a Swiss Reformer?





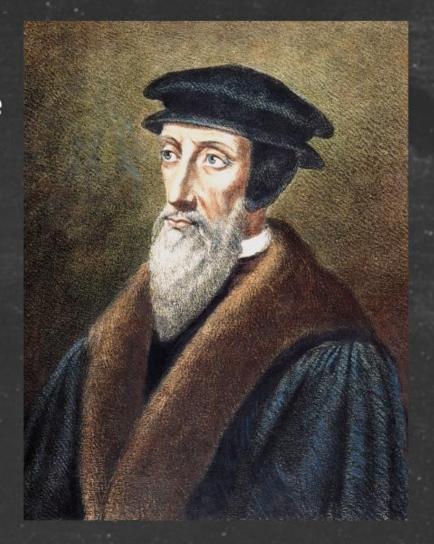
### John Calvin

French Reformer - Studied theology and law. When anti-Protestant movements were on the rise in France, he fled Paris and settled in Basil, where he wrote the first of many editions of his "Institutes of the Christian Religion".

This was originally meant to be an apology of the Protestant faith for Francis I to bolster French toleration. Started with only seven chapters. The final edition had eighty.

Only reluctantly led the Reformation movement in Geneva, and with great conflict.

(1509-1564)



True or False: John Knox was a protege of John Calvin who wanted to replicate the movement in Geneva in his home land of Scotland.

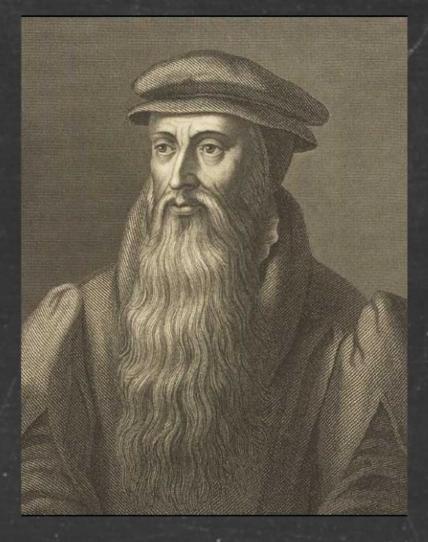


## John Knox

Scottish Reformer - Originally ordained as a priest. Knox was convinced of the corruption of the RC Church by itinerant preacher and martyr, George Wishart. As Knox began to teach and preach against the RC Church, he found himself imprisoned and exiled on numerous occasions.

During one of these exiles, he came to Geneva, where he studied under John Calvin. His training in Geneva empowered Knox to successfully lead the Scottish Reformation and lay the foundation for the Church of Scotland, where Presbyterianism today finds its roots.

(1513-1572)





True or False: The Baptist movement descended from the Anabaptist movement.





### Further Movements

### **Counter Reformation**

- Council of Trent
- Jesuits
- "Index of Prohibited Books"

### **Anabaptist movement**

- "Re-baptists"
- Denied validity of infant baptism
- Persecuted by Catholics and Protestants

### Separatism

 Churches and groups that removed themselves from denominations and authorities to protect their doctrine, worship, or polity (e.g. Mennonites)

### **English Puritanism**

- · A push to further the Reformation movement in England
- Division over polity
- Many became Baptists, Independents, Quakers, Presbyterians, and other Protestant forms





