

Solo Scriptura and the Radical Reformation

Acts 8.26 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. 27 So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, 28 was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. 33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." 34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

* Whom did the Reformers initially have to fight and why?

* How did the Church of Rome respond?

* How are the Reformers often portrayed, and how were they in fact?

* Why did the Reformers quickly find themselves fighting on two fronts? Who was the second front?

* What is the difference between *sola scriptura* and *solo scriptura*?

* Give examples of what some of the radical reformers believed?

– Sebastian Franck

– Caspar Schenkfeld

– Thomas Muntzer

– Melchoir Hofmann

– Menno Simons

– Jan Matthys

– Faustus Socinus

* What does our from Acts 8 teach us about *solo scriptura*?

* What is the deception inherent in *solo scriptura*?

* How does Prov 11.14 & 24.6 bear on *solo scriptura*?

* What about Luke 24.25-26?

* How did the Reformers view the testimony of the early church? What about the early church creeds?

* How do the early creeds function to establish the boundaries of orthodox faith?

* How did Jesus start the practice of confessing the faith (Mat 16.13-18)?

* What has been the historical effect of *solo scriptura* on Protestantism?

* How does Michael Horton sum up the problem with *solo scriptura*?