

Lutherans Stand on Scripture Alone

The Bible is the inerrant Word of God and contains all we need to know for our salvation and the Christian life. No other source of Christian teaching is necessary or possible. Luther declared, “The Word of God—and no one else, not even an angel—should establish articles of faith” (Smalcald Articles II:2:15).

At the Diet of Worms in 1521, the great Reformer expressed the conviction that guided the whole course of the Lutheran Reformation.

Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or 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 will not retract anything since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience (Luther’s Works 32:112).

Just as Lutheran teaching is bound by Scripture, Lutherans are also certain that the Holy Spirit will always accomplish his purpose when we proclaim his Word. As God has promised, my “word . . . will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:10, 11).

We take our stand with confidence because God’s Word cannot fail. That confidence inspires faithfulness in holding fast to Scripture and faithfulness in our proclamation of God’s Word to the world.

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Southeastern Wisconsin District Festival Service

November 5 ♦ 3:30 PM

Miller High Life Theatre

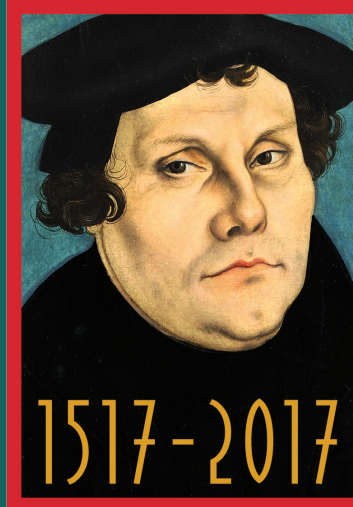
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