

**“Divine Accomplishment”**  
**Ephesians 2:8-10**  
**Dr. Cliff McManis**

The Bible asserts that every person is religious, knows God exists, and worships something (Romans 1:18-23). The Bible also clearly teaches that apart from a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, people worship the wrong God, because they are trying to reach Him and appease Him in the wrong way...through their own self-effort. Humanity naturally tries to find God through “human achievement”—this is the earmark of false religion in all its various forms. The biblical alternative to finding God is through “Divine Accomplishment.” In Ephesians 2:8-10 Paul explains that attaining salvation is strictly through what God has done for us, not based on what we can do for Him.

1. The basis of salvation = God’s grace  
*“by grace you have been saved...it is the gift of God” (2:8)*
2. The means of salvation = faith  
*“you have been saved through faith” (2:8b)*
3. The antagonist to salvation = human works  
*“that not of yourselves...not as a result of works, so that no one may boast” (2:8c, 9)*

4. The Author of salvation = God alone  
*“we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus” 2:10a)*

5. The purpose of salvation = good works  
*“we are...created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them” (2:10b)*

**The Five Solas of the Reformation:**

*Sola Scriptura—Scripture Alone—the authority*  
*Soli Deo Gloria—For the Glory of God Alone—the purpose*  
*Sola Christo—by the Work of Christ Alone—the grounds*  
*Sola Gratia—by God’s Grace Alone—the basis*  
*Sola Fide—by Faith Alone—the means*

Human Achievement:

Human effort + religion/philosophy = salvation...maybe

Divine Accomplishment:

God’s grace + faith in Christ’s work alone = salvation...for sure

Roman Catholic Soteriology\*:

Human works + faith in Christ’s work → → God’s grace

Biblical Soteriology:

God’s grace + faith in Christ’s work → → good human works

\*Soteriology is the study of the doctrine of “salvation”