

Salvation through Christ Alone

The Bible Only—Sola Scriptura



The Bible Banner



Glory be to God Alone

October 2021

By Faith Alone

Reformation and Conscience

By Grace Alone

The night was dark, the road a lonely one. A man named Kline, lying in wait for one whom he believed to be his enemy, and whom he had decided to kill, was startled to hear the voices of several children raised in singing.

The guilty conscience heard, "Jesus died for Auld Man Kline, and Jesus died for me." Terror-stricken, he fled to his home.

But the next time there was a Gospel meeting held Kline was present, and before long was able to sing with the children, "Jesus died for all mankind, and Jesus died for me."

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

Cultivate a Love of nature--Check out *Animals and Insects*-- the final section of our *Planet by Design* video series here -- <https://youtu.be/zK2TtLd9Ah8>

Homemade Fudgesicles

- 1/4 cup coconut oil
 - 1 tsp sea salt
 - 1/2 cup organic whole wheat flour
 - 3 cups organic soy or nut milk
 - 1 (13.66 oz./403 mL) can of organic coconut milk
 - 1 and 1/3 cup organic sucanat or coconut sugar
 - 1/3 cup roasted carob powder
- Melt coconut oil. Stir in flour, gradually add soymilk. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir 2 min or until thickened. Remove from heat. Cool. Pour into molds and freeze overnight.



Quotable Quotes

"When in 1529 the German princes assembled at the Diet of Spires, there was presented the emperor's decree restricting religious liberty, and prohibiting all further dissemination of the reformed doctrines.... Mighty issues for the world were at stake.

Those who had accepted the reformed faith met together, and their unanimous decision was,

'Let us reject this decree.

In matters of conscience the majority has no power.*

This principle we in our day are firmly to maintain."

{Acts of the Apostles, pg. 68} *Merle d'Aubigne, *History of the Reformation*, b. 13, ch. 5

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Editor's Note **RUNAWAY TRACTOR**

"Dallas, the tractor, the tractor!" I hollered as the tractor began to roll downhill with a trailer load of firewood in tow. Reacting immediately to my tone of voice as soon as I called his name, Dallas, who was returning from about 20 feet away where he had gone to get a second load of firewood, came on the run. Meanwhile, I grabbed ahold of the trailer in a largely futile effort to slow the tractor in its descent downhill. Everything seemed almost a blur from there on. The tractor raced faster and faster downhill, but as Dallas got close and grabbed hold on the steering wheel, he tripped causing him to land on his knees directly in front of the large back tire of the tractor. The awful thought that the tractor was going to run over him before he got it stopped flashed through my mind. But I didn't have long to panic because suddenly the tractor stopped.



Finally, remembering to breathe again, and asking if it was OK to let go, I walked around to the front of the tractor. "How did you stop it?" I asked.

"I didn't," he answered.

"Well, if you didn't stop it, then God did," I answered.

Walking around to the driver's side of the trailer, we could see the simple means that God had used: its wheel fender had run into a rotten stump and a small mound of dirt, bending the fender and effectively stopping the trailer.

"We'd better have a thank you prayer." I said.

After we prayed, there was more discussion about what had happened and how it took place. The tractor had been parked in gear (like it should be) and the motor turned off, but now it was found to be in neutral. If it had been in neutral at the beginning, it should have begun rolling as soon as Dallas got off, but he had already walked the equivalent of about 60 feet back and forth before it began rolling. What could have happened--a wrecked tractor, a dead husband or both-- hit me hard. Thanks to God's protective hand, we had little more than a temporarily strained back, a fender that was easily bent back into place, and the inconvenience of getting the trailer off where it was stuck.

My next question was, "What is God trying to teach us?" Sometimes when apparently bad things happen to us, God is trying to teach us something. Isaiah 30:20, 21 says *"And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers: And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."*

I won't take the time to share everything I learned, but one lesson stands out. Neutral is not always a good thing. In fact, where there is a decided slant one way or the other "neutral" could cause someone's death. This is because no one can maintain a neutral ground. Those who endeavor to do this will fulfill Christ's words, *"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."* Matt. 6:24. Those who begin their Christian life by being half and half, whatever may be their intentions, will at last be found enlisted on the enemy's side.

John the Baptist lost his head because all of the men at Herod's party remained neutral instead of standing for right. And then there is the story of Elijah on Mt. Carmel well-stated here. *"Elijah, with stern and commanding voice, cries out, 'How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.' Not one in that vast assembly dare utter one word for God, and show their loyalty to Jehovah. {RH, September 30, 1873 par. 8}*

"What astonishing deception and fearful blindness had, like a dark cloud, covered Israel. This blindness and apostasy had not closed about them suddenly, but it had come upon them gradually, as they had not heeded the word of reproof and warning which the Lord had sent to them because of their pride and their sins. They, in this fearful crisis, in the presence of the idolatrous priests and the apostate king, remain neutral. If God abhors one sin above another, of which his people are guilty, it is of doing nothing in a case of emergency. Indifference or neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime; and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God." {RH, September 30, 1873 par. 9}

It should be no surprise then that Revelation 21:8 reveals that along with whoremongers and murderers, the fearful (perhaps those who try to remain silent/neutral) *"shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone."*

Cowardice asks the question: Is it safe? Consensus asks the question: Is it popular? Conscience asks: Is it right?

Don't be a runaway tractor, get in gear and decide for God today. His way is the only "Way" that is safe.



Prophetic News Notes -- Vaccine Mandates and Religious Exemptions

Vaccine mandates and vaccine resisters around the world are making top news. Many are looking to see if religious exemptions will be allowed. I could give a whole Bible study on how health decisions and religion go hand in hand, but here are perhaps the top three texts connecting religion with what we decide to put into our bodies.

1 Cor. 3:16, 17 *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.*

1 Cor. 6:19, 20 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

1 Cor. 10:31 *"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."*

It is evident that religion and the laws of health go hand in hand. Attorney Jonathan Zirkle of the Liberty and Health Alliance counseled that a religious exemption is based on what you believe individually, not just what your church believes. He also stated that religious exemptions to the COVID "vaccines" could be based on a belief in "sanctity of life" and a pro-life status since there were aborted fetal cells used either in the testing or production of all the COVID "vaccines." Religious exemptions could also be based on the sanctity of your life and the body temple. If you don't smoke, etc., for religious reasons you already have a good start toward a religious exemption. Liberty and Health Alliance has some exemption resources available here <https://libertyandhealth.org/exemption-resources/> However, our disclaimer is that there may be recommendations for other pharmaceuticals on their site which we cannot support.

It is interesting along these lines that in Washington state headlines declare that officials *"sought to make religious vaccine exemption 'as narrow as possible'"*

If you are taking other pharmaceuticals instead of using harmless herbs and the 8 natural remedies, you may be setting yourself up for disaster or a much harder battle in some places.

The questions for religious exceptions in Washington are interesting because they link vaccines and medicine. *"On August 23, Q13 News obtained forms from two state employees – one with the Washington State Department of Transportation, the other with the Department of Social and Health Services. Both forms detailed what appeared to be the same process for determining a religious exemption. It relied on two 'yes or no' questions:"*

- 1) *You, [employee name], assert that you have a sincerely held religious belief or religious conviction that prevents you from receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.*
- 2) *You, [employee name], affirm/agree that you have never received a vaccine or medicine from a health care provider as an adult.*

Faulk, a government official, *"confirmed that the forms reflected the state's direction for confirming or denying religious exemptions. He added that the second question would likely require follow-up inquiries. 'The purpose of this question is to understand whether there was a history of declining medical treatment or vaccination based on an applicant's religious belief,' he said 'If they answer no, the HR professionals would engage in follow up questions to better understand the person's history, such as demonstrating changes they have made as an adult based on those beliefs. We understand people's religious views may change over time.'"*

In at least these two religious exemptions cited above, vaccines and receiving other medications from a health care provider are interconnected. This should actually come as no surprise since scientists have already created pills that can give injections via needles made of "compressed insulin."² Indeed, with the current pressure for everyone to receive the COVID "vaccine" the wise might well consider when other patented pills might be "spiked" with a COVID "vaccine." Indeed, a September 28 article states that *"Merck & Co and Pfizer Inc prepare to report clinical trial results for experimental COVID-19 antiviral pills."*³

In light of all of this, it is of interest that in the Greek New Testament, the word "pharmakeia" (meaning "medication" or "the use or administration of drugs" or "poisoning;" also where we get our word "pharmacy" from)⁴ is listed three times: once (translated as witchcraft) in Galatians 5:19-21 where *"the works of the flesh"* are listed, once (translated as sorceries) in Rev. 9:21 as something to be *"repented"* of, and last (translated as sorceries) in Revelation 18:23 where the Bible states that by Babylon's *"sorceries were all nations deceived."* Don't be deceived. There are many reasons to claim a religious exemption for your conscientious objection today.

1- <https://www.q13fox.com/news/emails-state-sought-to-make-religious-vaccine-exemption-as-narrow-as-possible>

2-- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/02/190207142206.htm> 3-- <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/covid-19-pill-developers-aim-top-merck-pfizer-efforts-2021-09-28/> 4-- <http://kingjamesbibledictionary.com/StrongsNo/g5331>





Health Advice from a Spider

“But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.” Job 12:7,8 The Bible tells us that we can learn many things from animals and the book of Proverbs declares spiders to be among *“four things which are little upon the earth, but ... exceeding wise... The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces. Proverbs 30:24, 28*

Recently, I was reading an article posted on Telegram by www.lightindarkness.site and I found that indeed, scientists have found spiders to be useful “teachers” since *“drugs administered to a spider affect its ability to build a web.”*¹ In fact, spider’s web patterns have been used to determine drug toxicities since 1948, when *“Swiss pharmacologist Peter N. Witt started his research on the effect of drugs on spiders.”*¹

“Witt tested spiders with a range of psychoactive drugs, including amphetamine, mescaline [a drug that is usually compared to LSD just a little weaker], strychnine, LSD, and caffeine, and found that the drugs affect the size and shape of the web... The webs were photographed for the same spider before and after drugging.” Witt found that even “at small doses of caffeine (10 µg/spider), the webs were smaller; the radii were uneven, but the regularity of the circles was unaffected.” However, “at higher doses (100 µg/spider), the shape changed more, and the web design became irregular.”

“Witt’s research was discontinued, but it became reinvigorated in 1984 after a paper by J.A. Nathanson in the journal Science...In 1995, a NASA research group repeated Witt’s experiments on the effect of caffeine,

*benzedrine, marijuana and chloral hydrate on European garden spiders. NASA’s results were qualitatively similar to those of Witt, but the novelty was that the pattern of the spider web was quantitatively analyzed with modern statistical tools, and proposed as a sensitive method of drug detection.”*¹

Scientists found *“Webs are visibly altered when spiders are exposed to chemicals... The changes in webs reflect the degree of toxicity of a substance. The more toxic the chemical, the more deformed a web looks in comparison with a normal web.”*²

Evidently, not everyone has taken heed to the lessons taught by the spiders however. For today, despite the toxicity spider web test for caffeine--which as you can see, created some of the most deformed web patterns-- caffeine is still a widely used drug around the world. Quite surprisingly,

considering its toxicity, caffeine is found not as a “street drug” but in “normal households” in things like coffee, tea, chocolate, pharmaceutical medications, energy drinks and many popular soda pops like Coke, Pepsi, and Mountain Dew. It is even found in some brands of bottled water and in some “health” and “nutritional” or “herbal” preparations and supplements (like Yerba Mate-- read the labels)!

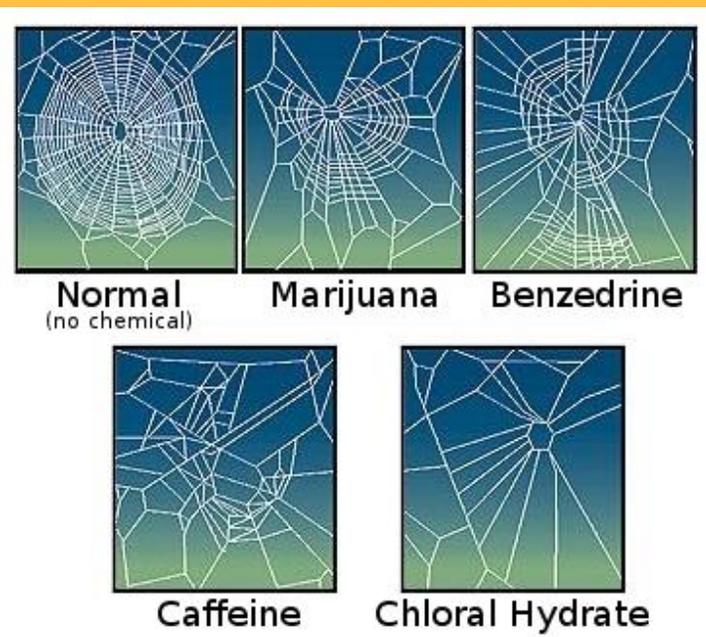
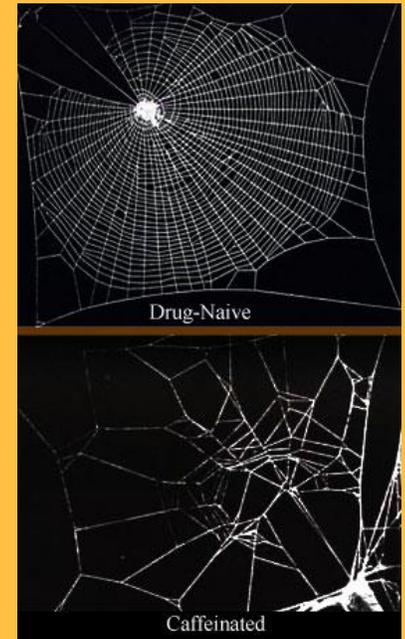
It’s time to heed the advice of the spider, and quit the caffeine today!

For more info on caffeinated foods, visit our newsletter archive health articles for

Feb. 2014 -- *The Chocolate Drug Store* <https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/February%202014%20.pdf>

as well as Feb. 2018 --- *The Coffee Cup and its Cousins* <https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/February%202018.pdf>

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Life Sciences

Using Spider-Web Patterns To Determine Toxicity

Webs are visibly altered when spun by spiders exposed to chemicals.

Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama

A method of determining the toxicities of chemicals involves recording and analysis of spider-web patterns. The method is based on the observation that spiders exposed to various chemicals spin webs that differ, in various ways, from their normal webs (see figure). Spider-web toxicity testing has potential as an alternative to toxicity testing on higher animals, which is expensive, time-consuming and becoming increasingly restricted by law.

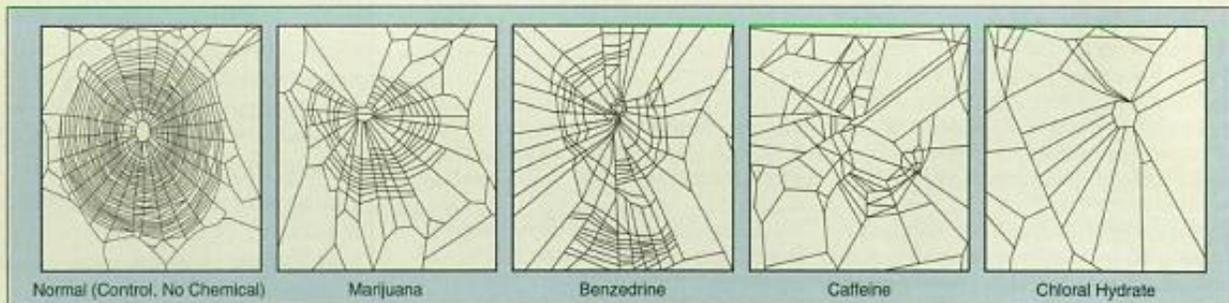
The changes in webs reflect the degree of toxicity of a substance. The more toxic

the chemical, the more deformed a web looks in comparison with a normal web. Inasmuch as the shape of a spider web resembles that of a crystal lattice in some respects, techniques of statistical crystallography are applied to obtain several quantitative measures of toxicity as manifested in the differences between photographs of webs spun under toxic and normal conditions.

The images of the cells are digitized and processed by an image-data-analysis program that computes various measures of the cellular structures of the

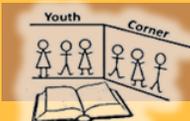
webs, including numbers of cells and average areas, perimeters, and radii of cells. It appears that one of the most telling measures of toxicity is a decrease, in comparison with a normal web, of the numbers of completed sides in the cells: the greater the toxicity, the more sides the spider fails to complete.

This work was done by David A. Noever, Raymond J. Cronise, and Rachna A. Felwani of Marshall Space Flight Center. For further information, write in 48 on the TSP Request Card. MFS-28921



The Web Spun by an *Araneus diadematus* (House Spider) is altered when the spider is exposed to chemicals. The alterations can be quantified and used as measures of toxicity.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effect_of_psychotropic_drugs_on_animals 2-- <https://ntrs.nasa.gov/citations/20100033433> (PDF, pg. 106)

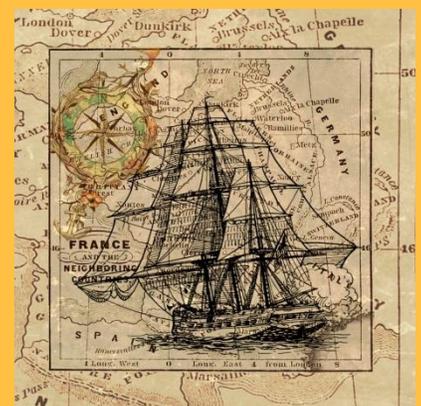


SHIPWRECK

"Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:" 1 Timothy 1:19

A ship once wrecked on the Irish coast. The captain was a careful one. In addition, the weather had not been of so severe a kind to explain the wide distance the ship had swerved from her course. The ship went down, but so much interest was attached to the disaster that a diver was sent down.

Among other portions of the vessel that were examined was the compass. Inside the compass box was detected a bit of steel which appeared to be the small point of a pocket knife blade. It appeared that the day before the wreck a sailor had been sent to clean the compass, and used his pocket knife in the process, and had unconsciously broken off the point and left it remaining in the box.



The bit of knife blade exerted its influence on the compass, and to a degree that deflected the needle from its proper bent, and spoiled it as an index of the ship's direction. That piece of knife blade wrecked the vessel.

Thus one trifling sin, as small as a broken knife point, as it were, may dull the conscience and cause a shipwreck of faith.



Study to Show Thyself Approved—Conscience?

At the Diet of Worms the Reformer, Martin Luther, was asked to retract some of his statements. He answered, *“Unless therefore I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture, or by the clearest reasoning...and unless they thus render my conscience bound by the Word of God, I cannot and I will not retract, for it is unsafe for a Christian to speak against his conscience.”* And then, looking round on this assembly before which he stood, and which held his life in its hands, he said: *“HERE I STAND, I CAN DO NO OTHER; MAY GOD HELP ME. AMEN!”*

You can have a pure conscience or a defiled one. *Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 1Timothy 3:9*
Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. Titus 1:15

Those with a good conscience will be honest but those with a seared conscience will speak lies
Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly. Hebrews 13:18
Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 1Timothy 4:2

A good conscience will manifest truth and not handle God’s word deceitfully— *But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God. 2 Corinthians 4:2*

Those with a good conscience will have Christ-like behavior— *Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation[behavior] in Christ. 1 Peter 3:16* also Heb. 9:14,10:22

That behavior of the conscientious will include keeping the commandments, charity, and faith— *Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: 1Timothy 1:5*

We are to strive to have a good conscience— *And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men. Acts 24:16*

Kids' Corner

Learning about Martin Luther for Reformation Day (Oct. 31)



Martin Luther liked to teach people about Jesus and the Bible. He also liked to show his faith by singing with his children and friends. One time, to encourage his friends to stand for the truth, Martin Luther wrote a song and sang in it in German. It said, “Our God is a strong tower.” Today, we still sing this same song in English as “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” You can encourage your friends by singing for Jesus too.

(Adapted, *History of the Reformation* by Merle D’Aubigne, Volume 4, Book 14, Chapter 2, pg. 543)



Martin Luther trusted Jesus to protect him. We can trust Jesus to protect us too. One day, a stranger, who had a pistol [gun] hidden under his coat said to Martin Luther “*Why do you go thus alone?*” meaning, *How can you be safe with no one to guard you?*

“I am in God’s hands,” replied Martin Luther. *“He is my strength and my shield. What can man do unto me?”*

When he heard this, the stranger turned pale and ran away shaking because he was so scared. Jesus protected Martin Luther, and He can protect you too.

(Adapted, *History of the Reformation* by Merle D’Aubigne, Volume 2, Book 6, Chapter 2, pg. 184)