First Essay Assignment

As we’ve learned, every good essay has a thesis, which is an answer to a critical question. For this first paper, I will give you the critical question from which to develop your thesis. Drawing on the figures we’ve read though February 6, as well as your own reasoned arguments, answer the following question (which answer will be the thesis of your paper):

**Should contemporary Christian theology affirm the Reformation slogan of *sola scriptura* (“Scripture alone”)?**

Your essay should be approximately 1250 words and should conform to the style presented in *The MLA Handbook* and be typed double-spaced. (See the handout “Writing Critical Essays” for further information on writing this paper.) It is due at the beginning of class on Monday, February 11, at 10:00 a.m. *Late papers will be penalized a letter grade per day, including any fraction of a day.*

Please include a word count at the end of your text and attach a sentence outline to the end of your paper. Also, please place your name on a separate cover sheet and do not use your name in a running header. (Note: this is different from the MLA style requirements.) I don’t want to know whose paper I’m reading as I evaluate it.

In addition to the hard copy to be turned in at class, you are to submit your paper electronically to TurnItIn.com. I will give you directions for doing so.