

What fears do you have of sharing the gospel with unbelievers? Why?

How many of those fears are related to your own comfort?

Read *Matthew 28:19-20*. Is there an option to spreading the gospel?

Why wasn't Paul ashamed of the gospel (*Romans 1:16*)?

How important is your comfort in comparison with Jesus' commission for you to share the gospel of the kingdom?

Read the words of Isaac Watts hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (#185). As you survey the cross of Christ, what meaning does it have for your life right now?

How can we pray for you this week?

Notable Quote

Test your view of the Cross. Where does this statement about 'declaring' His righteousness and so on come into your thinking? Is it something that you just skip over and say: 'Well, I don't know what that means. All I know is, that God is love and that He forgives.' But you should know the meaning of this. This is an essential part of the glorious Gospel. On Calvary God was making a way of salvation so that you and I might be forgiven.

But He had to do so in a way that will leave His character inviolate, that will leave His eternal consistency still absolute and unbroken. Once you begin to look at it like that, you see that this is the most tremendous, the most glorious, the most staggering thing in the universe and in the whole of history. God is there declaring what He has done for us. He is declaring at the same time His own eternal greatness and glory... God was declaring publicly once and forever His eternal justice AND His eternal love. Never separate them, for they belong together in the character of God.

—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *The Cross: The Vindication of God*—



Message #22: God is Just & the Justifier!

May 18, 2014

Sermon Notes

Romans 3:25

Displayed publicly—

Propitiation—

In His blood—

Through faith—

Romans 3:26

Righteousness—

Just—

Justifier—

Faith in Jesus—

How would you answer the person who asked, *Why can't God just forgive everyone's sins? Why did Jesus have to die? Why do we have to believe in Him?*

How was our righteousness paid for?

In what ways was Jesus *displayed publicly*?

Why is the concept of God's wrath against sin essential to the gospel?

What does the word *propitiation* mean?

Who is the source of salvation? The agent? The satisfaction? The sacrifice? The appropriation?

What does the phrase *in His blood* (3:25) mean? Does this mean Jesus didn't have to die but to simply shed some of His blood?

What do these verses teach about the blood of Jesus?

Matthew 26:28—

John 6:53-56—

Acts 20:28—

Romans 5:9—

Ephesians 1:7; 2:13—

Colossians 1:20—

Hebrews 9:13-14—

1 John 1:7—

Revelation 1:5—

What effect does His blood have for you?

How could God *pass over sins previously committed*?

What do these verses add to your understanding?

Psalm 78:38-39—

Acts 17:30-31—

How does this demonstrate God's righteousness?

Some have argued that Old Testament saints weren't truly forgiven. Why is this an error? How were they forgiven?

What was the purpose of the Old Testament sacrifices?

How can God be *just* and still be *the justifier* of sinners?

Faith is mentioned in both *verses 25 & 26*. What does *through faith* mean?

What does *has faith in Jesus* mean?

How would you explain to an unbeliever what it means to have faith in Jesus?

What verses would you use?

Do you tend to forget God's justice or God's justification? How does forgetting one or the other affect your feelings, outlook, &/or actions?

How does the cross of Jesus show both God's love & His wrath?