



Sermon Notes

Topic: Why the Cross Still Matters

Bible Passage: Leviticus 16:6-10

Preacher: Ps Paul Curtis

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Study Guide Overview

- Sin is a serious offense to God (2 Thess 1:8-9)
- Evil attracts God's wrath (Romans 2:5)
- Yet there is nothing we can do to bring justice as God requires (Ps 49:7-8)
- So Jesus became sin for us, taking on himself the guilt and shame (2 Cor 5:21)
- Dealing with sin once and for all for all those that believe (Heb 9:26-28)

Small Group Questions/Discussions

God introduced the Day of Atonement to provide a process by which the people's sin could be forgiven. Read Lev 16:6-10 and, in your own words, explain the significance of what takes place. The ceremony had very strict rules that had to be upheld. What does this reveal to us about the importance honouring God's holiness? What was at stake here for Aaron the High Priest (Ch 16v12-13)

How can you marry together the truth that God is love, yet His wrath is directed towards evil? Why do some people try to "water down" this aspect of God's character? What is your natural response when evil occurs? God gets angry when sin is committed. How is God's anger so much different than ours?

God is holy, so sin is an offense to Him. God is just, so there needs to be a price paid. What can we do about this? How do some people go about trying to make peace with God? Are we ever guilty ourselves of thinking that we can earn forgiveness? What's the other unsuccessful option, that we pursue to lessen the degree of sin's seriousness?

Jesus became sin for us. This was not just some symbolic gesture to appease God, but He literally became sin. He experienced our guilt and shame. He was out of relationship with God. Read 2 Cor 5:21. What is your response? Read Ps 38. These words of David are fulfilled in Jesus. This is a conversation between God the Son and God the Father. What is your response?

On the cross Jesus paid the price for our sin in full and forever. His words "it is finished", was a victory cry. No longer do we suffer the pain of guilt and shame. No longer are we judged according to our sin. We are set free, once and for all, by the blood of Jesus. Read Heb 9:24-28. What is your response? How is the power of the cross so superior to the sacrificial Day of Atonement? Why is the cross, always and forever, the most important aspect of our Christian faith?