

Expository Apologetics and Preaching Evangelistically

Biblical preaching is not simply a matter of building up the church by instructing believers. It is a ministry of proclaiming what God has done in Christ. The Gospel should be at the centre of all true preaching. Yet the idea of preaching evangelistically can be daunting. How should we approach preaching the Bible to mixed audiences? How should we seek to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a culture that rejects any notion of Scriptural authority? This session will build our confidence in preaching the Gospel from the Bible. This session will help us know how to do so.

David Robertson is the minister of St Peter's Free Church in Dundee, Scotland (a church that is best known for being the church of Robert Murray McCheyne) and the Director of the Solas Centre for Public Christianity. He is the author of *Awakening* (a contemporary account of McCheyne's life) and *The Dawkins Letters*. The latter has resulted in him being invited to debate and discuss all over the UK and elsewhere in Europe. This has been done in cafes, bars, libraries, universities, pubs, restaurants, village halls, and even occasionally in churches! David is a chaplain at the University of Dundee, columnist, broadcaster and debater. His interests include history, reading, music, politics, theology and football – he supports Dundee FC although his other team is Barcelona! David is married to Annabel and they have three children; Andrew (26), Becky (24) and Emma Jane (15).

I. Introduction

1. The End of Preaching?

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II. What is Apologetic Preaching?

1. Defence/Proclamation/Explanation/Invitation

2. Rational/Emotional/Spiritual

3. Biblical/Contemporary/Christocentric

4. Radical/Real/Relational

III. Poor Preaching

1. Wrong Motivation

2. Poor Theology

3. Irrelevant

IV. Some Apologetic Questions

1. Where can I find God?

2. What is God like?

3. Why does God not act?

V. Some Apologetic books

1. Job.

2. Ecclesiastes

3. John

4. Colossians

VI. Some Apologetic Principles

1. Be Patient and Persevere

2. Keep a Good Conscience

3. Treasure the Word of God

Suggested Reading

John Stott – *I Believe in Preaching* – Hodder, 1982.

Sam Logan (ed) – *Preaching* – Evangelical Press, 1986

David Eby – *Power Preaching for Church Growth* – Mentor, 1996

Jack Hughes – *Expository Preaching with Word Pictures* – Christian Focus, 2001

David Robertson – *Awakening* – Christian Focue 2010