

Proclaiming the Scandal of the Cross: Contemporary Images of the Atonement

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Proclaiming the Scandal of the Cross explores the need for contextualized atonement theology, offering creative examples of how the cross can be proclaimed today in culturally relevant and transformative ways. Mark Baker brings together presentations of the atonement given in a variety of contexts, from Africa to suburban Los Angeles, from junior high Sunday school classes to coffee shops. The images and metaphors in these presentations have been developed by pastors, writers, and theologians, including Richard B. Hays, C. S. Lewis, Frederica Mathewes-Green, Brian D. McLaren, Luci Shaw, Rowan Williams, and many more, who are actively working out just how to make this life-transforming proclamation. These contributors reveal that Christians should embrace a whole constellation of perspectives on the atonement, all mutually reinforcing, because the language of the atonement must at once be metaphorical, pastoral, and salvific.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover
Proclaiming the Scandal of the Cross explores the need for contextualized atonement theology, offering creative examples of how the cross can be proclaimed today in culturally relevant and transformative ways. Mark Baker brings together presentations of the atonement given in a variety of contexts, from Africa to suburban Los Angeles, from junior high Sunday school classes to coffee shops. The images and metaphors in these presentations have been developed by pastors, writers, and theologians, including Richard B. Hays, C. S. Lewis, Frederica Mathewes-Green, Brian D. McLaren, Luci Shaw, Rowan Williams, and many more, who are actively working out just how to make this life-transforming proclamation. These contributors reveal that Christians should embrace a whole constellation of perspectives on the atonement, all mutually reinforcing, because the language of the atonement must at once be metaphorical, pastoral, and salvific.

Learn from these creative examples to proclaim the scandal of the cross in your own context and profit from the theology of the atonement as it applies across the whole spectrum of human experience.

"Imagine theology of the atonement actually lived out, preached, and debated as an actual part of life! Read *Proclaiming the Scandal of the Cross* and this is what you will find. I couldn't put it down and will recommend it to my students."--William A. Dyrness, professor of theology and culture, Fuller Theological Seminary

"Perhaps all of us shudder to think how narrow our earliest understanding of the atonement was. Mark Baker's book offers us a treasure chest filled with complementary truths presented in distinct and surprising packages. Each chapter--a gem of poetry, drama, story, or sermon--is a unique gift to enable us to see with fresh perspective and greater fullness what God has done for us in Christ at the cross and empty tomb. This collection is an outstanding contribution to widen our comprehension and deepen our adoration!"--Marva J. Dawn, author of *Talking the Walk* and *The Sense of the Call*; teaching fellow in spiritual theology, Regent College

About the Author
Mark D. Baker (PhD, Duke University) is associate professor of mission and theology at Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California. In addition to coauthoring *Recovering the Scandal of the Cross*, he has written three other books.

Users Review

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Emily Boyd:

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