3. The fruits of the Lord Jesus' work on the Cross

Reconciliation for Christ's people

e.g. 2 Corinthians 5:19-21

Open demonstration of God's justice

Romans 3:25-26, "... whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- "propitiation": turn aside the wrath of God
- "to show God's righteousness"

Public victory over Satan.

Colossians 2:13-15, "And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him."

Jesus' death – and God's justice

Isaiah 53:4-6

Discuss while waiting to begin

- 1. Why did Jesus die on the Cross?
- 2. Read & discuss 1 John 1:9. What encourages you? Puzzles you?

1. Approaching the Cross of Christ

God's holiness... our sin

Christ's person and action as our High Priest

Hebrews 5:1, "... to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins."

John 10:18, "I lay down my life of my own accord."

"The Lord Jesus, by His perfect obedience, and sacrifice of Himself, which He through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, has fully satisfied the justice of His Father; and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for those whom the Father has given unto Him."

Westminster Confession 8.5

2. The Lord Jesus fully satisfied the justice of his Father

Penal Substitutionary Atonement

• "Atonement": at-one-ment

"Penal": Jesus was punished

"Substitution": Jesus was punished in place of another

Taught in scripture

Isaiah 53:4-6

1 Peter 2:24-25, "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. "For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."

Also:

- Exodus 12: the Passover
- Leviticus 16: the Day of Atonement
- The whole sacrificial system (Leviticus 1-7)
- Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Mark 10:33-45, 15:33-34
- John 3:14-18, 11:47-52
- Romans 3:21-26, 4:25, 5:8-10, 8:1-3
- Galatians 3:10-13
- 1 Peter 2:21-25, 3:18

How IS it just? Because the Saviour bore the sin and punishment of those joined in union with Him.

Covenant relationships... and union with Christ

 e.g. Romans 6:5, "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his"

It is personal: an "effectual" atonement

- God the Father has given a people to Jesus (John 17:2)
- God the Son gives Himself for His people (John 10:14-15)

A double exchange – of both righteousness and wickedness

- "imputation"
- 2 Corinthians 5:21, "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."