



“The main tension of the Bible’s story line seems to revolve around the question, *How can hopelessly rebellious, sinful people live in the presence of a perfectly just and righteous God?*... (The Bible’s story line is) about God’s work to make us right so we can live with him again. Now, understanding that story and its central features, it’s not hard at all to see why Jesus would make his final commission to his disciples the charge to ‘be my witnesses’ and declared that through them, ‘repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem’ (Acts 1:8; Luke 24:47). After all, the way for human beings to be reconciled to God – the great burden of the Bible – is by being forgiven of sin and declared to be righteous instead of guilty. And that declaration of righteousness, that justification of the ungodly, would come only through being united to the King who suffered and died and rose triumphantly in the place of his people.”

Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert

“Several years ago I called our people to fast for a twenty-four hour period once a week...during the month of January. We were facing huge issues of self-assessment and direction, and we needed the fullness of God’s presence with all his wisdom and purifying power.”

John Piper