

**Sermon: The Rediscovery of the Gospel**

Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor;

Date: **October 29, 2017**, 500<sup>th</sup> Reformation Anniversary

**Bible text explored: Romans 1:16–17**

<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup>For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.” [ESV]

**Review and application:**

*The early Church was gradually reshaped into the medieval Church, which retained a sense of God’s justice but forgot the essentials of the good news.*

1. As an ordained priest, why did Martin Luther—for years driven to fasting, long hours in prayer, and frequent confession—grow to hate “the righteousness of God.”?
2. The rediscovered gospel was based not on tradition, but on *Scripture alone*. How did the Spirit use Luther’s assignment as professor of biblical studies at the University of Wittenberg, and his lectures on Romans, as summarized in today’s text, to become “the gate of paradise” for him?
3. How can the good news, about *Christ alone*, make both Jews and Gentiles right in his sight? (See *Rom. 3:23-26*)  
How does this power erase guilt?  
How does it credit us with righteousness?  
Why is it by *grace alone*? (See *Rom. 11:5-6* and *6:14*.)
4. Why is *faith alone*—“everyone who believes”—a key element of Luther’s rediscovery? (See *Rom. 4:22; 5:1-2*.)
5. How does the good news give *glory to God alone*, and make us confident? (See *Rom. 8:37-39*.)
6. To what extent has the gospel been forgotten in the European countries in which the Reformation was born?  
What has become of the Puritan heritage that marked the birth of our nation?
7. Paul said he was “not ashamed of the gospel,” or bold (see *Rom. 15:15*). It took immense courage for Luther to nail his 95 theses on the Wittenberg church door. Pastor Moody said that our commitment to God is in proportion to our conviction regarding the truth of God’s Word. How sure am I of who I am?
8. A guilt-ridden monk became a man of God on fire. Are we as confident as Paul that “the power of God” really works?  
Is my engagement with the gospel more as an observer or as a participant?  
How can I envision personally investing in the gospel with my life?