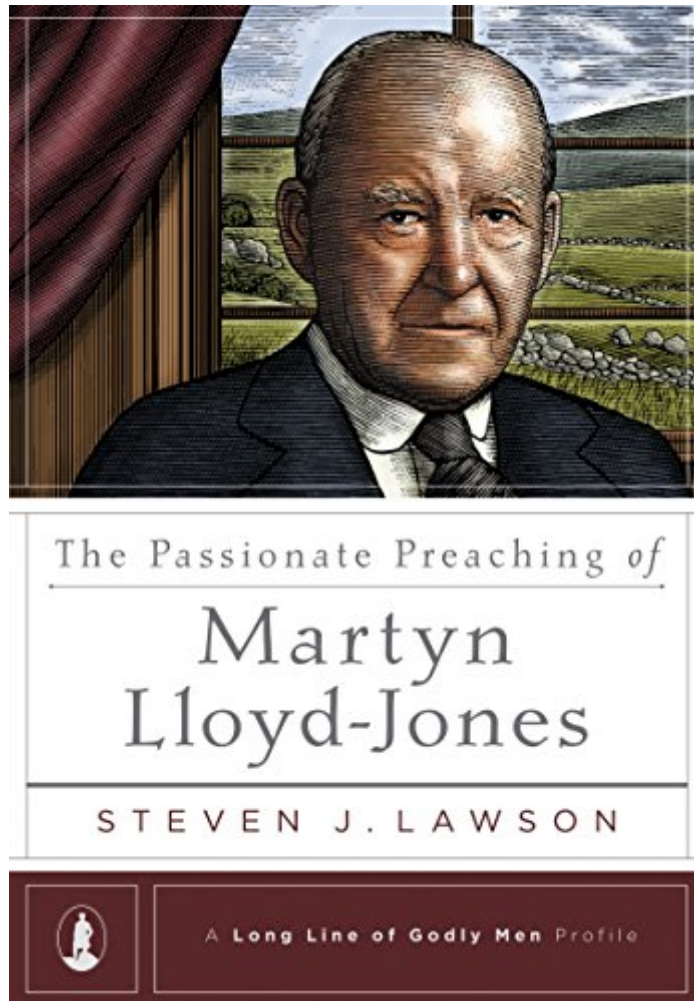


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# The Passionate Preaching Of Martyn Lloyd-Jones



## Synopsis

Summary From the pulpit at Westminster Chapel in London, Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones set a new standard for faithful and passionate preaching, a standard that continues to be relevant today. Lloyd-Jones was a physician by training and had begun a promising career in medicine before sensing an irresistible call to preach. Surrounded by theological liberalism, he began a pulpit ministry that would exert profound influence on both sides of the Atlantic.

## Book Information

File Size: 2196 KB

Print Length: 154 pages

Publisher: Reformation Trust Publishing (February 22, 2016)

Publication Date: February 22, 2016

Language: English

ASIN: B01C7E9264

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #247,386 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #130

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Religion & Spirituality > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching #331 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching #71649 in Books > Religion & Spirituality

## Customer Reviews

Steven J. Lawson. *The Passionate Preaching of Martyn-Lloyd Jones*. Sanford: Reformation Trust, 2016. \$16.00 I will never forget reading the first installment of Steven Lawson's series in the Long Line of Godly Men Profiles. *The Expository Genius of John Calvin* riveted my attention and engaged my mind. This book captivated my imagination and challenged my studying habits. The first volume reminded me about the importance and preciousness of our Christian heritage and the great men of God who lined the halls of church history. Since that first book, nine additional books have been added to the series, including the latest, *The Passionate Preaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones*. Dr. Lawson includes an illuminating biographical summary of the great Welsh preacher and demonstrates how God not only regenerated his sinful heart, but also how he ordered his steps

to serve as pastor of Westminster Chapel in London for most of his adult life. A sizable portion of the book is devoted to the preaching of Lloyd-Jones. His passion for the Word of God is explained and his theological convictions are explored. For anyone who has any doubts that Lloyd-Jones was a fiery five-point Calvinist, those doubts will be extinguished here. He was a committed Reformed theologian whose sermons were drenched in the doctrines of grace. Dr. Lawson helps readers understand the important role that theology played in the ministry of Lloyd-Jones. His sermons were doctrinally driven and theologically charged. Unlike many preachers in the present day, there was no ambiguity in Lloyd-Jones. His listeners knew exactly where he stood. The highest authority in his life was the Bible. Additionally, the author clearly articulates the passion that Lloyd-Jones had for preaching expository sermons.

There are several biographies available on the Doctor, *The Passionate Preaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones* by Steven J. Lawson stands apart in its laser focus on his preaching ministry. Lawson in the work demonstrates clearly that Lloyd-Jones stands as a much needed model of expositional ministry for our day. Lawson begins the book with a summary overview of Lloyd-Jones's life and ministry. In his second chapter he addresses Lloyd-Jones's call to the preaching ministry and the self-understanding the Doctor had of the preaching ministry. The third chapter addresses the importance of Lloyd-Jones's emphasis upon biblical authority in light of the spiritual and theological decline which was characteristic of the church in Lloyd-Jones day. Lloyd-Jones did not merely verbally assent to the authority of Scripture but as Lawson demonstrates lived a life reflective of that commitment. Chapters four and five delve into the nature of his preaching and his preparation. Chapters six and seven address the God-focused nature of his preaching and the commitment to sound doctrine which framed his preaching ministry. Chapter eight addresses how his understanding of the doctrines of grace shaped his preaching ministry. The final chapter in my opinion focuses on an important emphasis upon the work of the Spirit in preaching. Lloyd-Jones had an understanding of divine unction which is often neglected in works on preaching. Lawson's work in focusing on the preaching ministry of the doctor is commendable. Lawson does wonderful job of distilling from various sources the things that set Lloyd-Jones apart as a model preacher. In light of the decline of preaching in America this work could not be more timely. Lawson demonstrates areas where preachers would do well in imitating the Doctor.

Early on in my Christian life I was introduced to the teaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones. From that point on he has been one of my heroes of the faith. Whether reading his works or listening to him preach I

always find encouragement. He has been a man that God has used greatly in my life. For this reason I am pleased to see that Steve Lawson has written a short biography of Lloyd-Jones for the A Long Line of Godly Men series from Reformation Trust. As states in the Foreword, "this Long Line of Godly Men Profiles series highlights key figures in the agelong procession of these sovereign-grace men. The purpose of this series is to explore how these significant figures used their God-given gifts and abilities to impact their times and further the work of Christ." I have now read a few titles in this series and have found them a blessing. One of the most encouraging features of The Passionate Preaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones is its accessibility. I own Iain Murray's two-volume biography on Lloyd-Jones, but recognize that because of its massive size will have a limited readership. However, this work by Lawson is much smaller in size and gives a very accessible, sweeping overview of the life of Martyn Lloyd-Jones. Many people are turned off by reading about history and the titles in this series are helpful in that they are very well written and not daunting in size. For those who may not know Lloyd-Jones was a promising young physician before becoming a pastor. Lawson focusing in on the turning point in his life by stating, "as a young physician, Lloyd-Jones came to the realization that in his medical practice, he was helping his patients to recover physically only to return to a decadent life spiritually."

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