

Series: Doctrine of Salvation

Title: Reconciliation

Text: (Rom 5:9-10; 2 Cor 5:18-21)

A. Definition: 2B Brought from enmity to friendship. To Bring Peace where there was once hatred & strife.

God is not reconciled to Man, b/c God is not the Offender, but the Offended.

Man is Reconciled to God, b/c Man is the Offender.

B. The need for reconciliation:

In the Garden, Adam became Alienated from God.

(Gen 3:23-24) Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. 24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

In innocence, Adam, could have fellowship with God.

After he ate of the tree, a barrier of sin was erected, and their fellowship was broken.

Adam was Alienated from God, & also all of Adam's descendants, So everyone is in need to be reconciled to God, b/c we sinned in Adam.

In love, God desired man to be reconciled back 2 Him

Since man is unable to make matters right, God had to initiate the reconciliation.

God had to redeem man back to himself, through the work of Christ on Calvary; in so doing God brought believers up to "*His Righteous Standard*".

C. How reconciliation was obtained:

The Person of Reconciliation: The Mediator-Christ

Before man could be reconciled to God, there had to be a mediator to reconcile both parties.

(Gal 3:20) Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

If God was making an unconditional promise without requirement anything from the other party, there would be no need for a mediator.

The Law required a Mediator, B/c man had to keep up his end of the agreement.

This was the Weakness of the Law. (Rom 8:3)

It called for obedience from them that did not have the power to give it.

When God made his promise to Abraham, He was the sole contracting party.

This was the Strength of the Promise.

Everything depended on God, Nothing on Man.
No Mediator was needed.

Job, wanted someone to mediate between He & God.
(Job 9:32-33) *For he is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment. 33 Neither is there any daysman (Mediator) betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.*

The Only Person who could represent both God/Man
(1 Tim 2:5) *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*

He was Fully God and Man.

As the Only God there is, He is the God of all men.
As the God of all men, He desires all Men to be saved

This “One” is a Mediator between God and Man.
There is no other way for man to reconciled to God.
(Jn 14:6)

A Mediator is a “Go Between”, who stands between 2 parties, and communicates with both.

Through Christ, Himself man, God is able to approach man with forgiveness of sins.

Through Christ, Himself God, any poor sinner can approach God to receive forgiveness of sins.

Man Religion has put forth other mediators.

Mary, the Saints, Angels, Ancestors, etc.

Jesus had to be both God & Man to be able to represent both God & Man & Reconcile the 2.

(1 Tim 3:16) *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*

The Payment of Reconciliation: The Cross

(Heb 2:18) *For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.*

(Heb 5:8) *Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;*

(Heb 7:25) *Wherefore he is able also to **save them to the uttermost** that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

We can only come to God through Jesus Christ.

Reconciliation took the Obedient Life, Sacrificial Death, Shed Blood, and Bodily Resurrection of Christ to reconcile Man back to God.

Jesus settled the sin question fully 2 Gods satisfaction
Jesus paid the sin debt that was owed.

(Rom 5:10) *For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

When we were enemies of God, We felt no need to be reconciled to Him.

We were Hostile to the Lord. Enemies with God.
Thank God, He did not feel the same way toward us.

Since God worked so selflessly to reconcile us, shall He ever let us Go? **NO!**

If His death saves us, how much more does His life keep us?

D. The Scope of Reconciliation: (Col 1:20-22)

(Vs 19) *For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;*

(Vs 20) ***The Reconciliation of “Things”*** (Future)
And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Eventually all things will be reconciled.

Animals, and inanimate things.

Sin has apparently affected the Stellar bodies also.

(Job 25:5) *the stars are not pure in his sight*

(Heb 9:23) *things in the heavens should be purified*

The Animals Kingdom was Corrupted by sin also.

(Rom 8:19-22) The whole Creation suffers.

Animals get sick & die, is evidence of the corruption of sin.

(Vs 21) ***The Reconciliation of “People”*** (Present)
And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled.

The purpose of the death of Christ was to make possible the reconciliation of persons & things to God

Jesus died on the Cross as a real human being.

Not as a spirit being as the Gnostics claimed.

(Heb 2:14-16) Necessity to effect redemption.

(Col 1:22) *In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:*

What marvelous Grace, that ungodly sinners can be delivered from their past evil lives and conveyed in such a realm of blessing.

Jesus is the believer’s advocate. (Rom 8:33-34)

(1 John 2:1) *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:*

Even though we sin, He is STILL our Father.

As Children, Sin breaks Fellowship, Not Relationship.

A birth is something that cannot be undone.

We have a Righteous Defender: *Christ the righteous*

When Satan brings a Railing accusation, Jesus says:
“Charge that to My Account!”

Jesus removed the wall of partition between God/ Man

Jesus Removed the Wall of Partition between Jew & Gentile by forming the local NT church:

(Eph 2:11-22)

(Vs 11-12) What the Gentiles “Were”.

Jews looked down on Gentiles.

(Col 2:11) *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made w/o hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:*

The best description of the Gentiles is “Without”

Without Christ, Citizenship, Hope, Covenants, God

God had called the Jews, so that He could reveal Himself as the 1 True God, to the entire world.

God deposited in the Jews, His Word and His Messiah
The Jews were to be a Light to this world. They failed
This is a warning to us, His church.

(Eph 2:13-18) “*But Now*” the intervention of God.

Kew Word is “*Enmity*”

Enmity between Jew and Gentile

Enmity between Man and God.

Reconcile ~ To bring together again.

A Distraught husband desire to be reconciled with his wife that left him.

A Worried Mother desires to be reconciled with a wayward daughter.

God had put a difference between Jew & Gentile to accomplish His purpose of Salvation.

Once His Purposes were accomplished, there was no more difference.

It was God’s will that these differences would be erased for ever - in Christ.

This was a problem for the churches to understand.

Peter was sent to the gentiles (Acts 10) to help.

(Acts 15) the First Pastor’s Conference to explain the Gentile’s standing in the church.

Jesus removed the barriers that separated the Jew & Gentile.

(Eph 2:14-15) Christ is our peace, making One Man.

The Gentiles’ Old position was without Christ.

The Gentiles’ New position is In Christ.

Aliens vs Holy Nation

Strangers vs No More Stranger

No Hope vs called in 1 Hope

Without God vs God and Father of All

(Eph 2:16-18) Enmity between Sinners and God.
(Acts 15:11) *But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.*

(Rom 3:23)

(Eph 2:14) Jesus Christ IS our Peace

(Eph 2:15) Jesus Christ MADE our Peace

(Eph 2:17) Jesus Christ PREACHED Peace

(Eph 2:19-22) Unification -

Vs 14: Made both One

Vs 15: One new Man

Vs 16: One Body

Vs 18: One spirit

3 pictures that illustrate the unity of the Jew & Gentile in the Local NT Church.

Vs 19: One Nation

Vs 19d: One Family

Vs 20-22: One Temple (1 Cor 6:19)

Have you been Reconciled to God?

Have you been reconciled to your Brother/Sister in Christ? (Matt 5:23-26)

E. The Christian's duty concerning reconciliation

(2 Cor 5:18-21) *18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;*

Reconcile - To change thoroughly

Sinful man must be reconciled to God.

Religion is mans feeble attempt to reconciled to God.

The Person of reconciliation - Jesus

The Place of reconciliation - Calvary

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Imputation ~ to put to the account of another.

Imputation is the basis of Reconciliation.

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Because Our Sin was put to the account of Christ.

B/C Christ's Righteousness was put to Our account.

B/C the demands of God's holy law were satisfied on Calvary, Man can be Reconciled to God.

Record of Our Sin will NEVER be imputed again us.

We share the Righteousness of Jesus Christ.

The Doctrine of Reconciliation should Motivate us to Serve Christ.

20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 Kinds of Providences in the Roman Empire:

Senatorial & Imperial Provinces

Sanatorial were made up of people who were peaceful, & not at war with Rome.

Imperial: dangerous b/c they would rebel if they could

It was necessary for Rome to send Ambassadors to the Imperial Provinces to make sure Rebellion did not break out.

Since Christians are Ambassadors of Christ, that means this world is in rebellion against God.

This World is an Imperial Province

God has sent His ambassadors into the world to declare peace, not war. *“Be reconciled to God.”*

One day God will declare war, & on that day it will be too late to be reconciled to God.

Satan, is seeking to tear everything apart from God.

It is our ministry to tell everyone that they can be at peace with God, B/c of Christ's work on Calvary.

(1 Cor 15:1-4)

The Message of Reconciliation is the Gospel.

(Rom 1:16) It is this message that Saves

We are the ambassadors with the message of Christ.
We represent Jesus Christ to this world.

We are heaven's ambassadors to the lost world.
(Mark 16:15) *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*