



MORE GRACE RECONCILED!

Romans 5:1-11
Ephesians 2:11-22
2 Corinthians 5:11-21

27 February 2022

Pressing Forward into 2022

Why Is the Pastor Besides Himself? (2 Corinthians 5:11-17)

- “the terror of the Lord” **drives** him to **persuade** men.
- “love of Christ” **compels** him.
- IF Christ died for us then we no longer live for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose again.
- God’s GRACE TRANSFORMS a person into a NEW CREATION. (2 Cor 5:17)
- Have you been transformed into a NEW CREATURE?
 - Do you have a passion for obey God’s commandments? (Luke 4:4)
 - Do you live each day with a determination to fully please God in all that you do? (Colossians 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 2:12)
 - Do you live for God rather than for yourself? (2 Cor 6:20; 10:31)

Is Your Grace Amazing? Is It Powerful? Is It Active?

- Are you AWED at God’s grace bestowed on you? Are we AWED?
- Is God’s grace WORKING in you NOW? Are you being transformed DAILY? (1 Corinthians 3:18)

Review of Ten Sermons on Grace

Definition: Reconciliation

- καταλλάσσω *katallasso* {kat-al-las'-so} – “to reconcile enemies”; “to return to favor with”; “to receive one into favor”; “to win over hostile persons”
- Origin: from Middle English *reconcilen* from Latin *reconiliare* meaning “to make good again”; “to repair”

GRACE: RECONCILED (Romans 5:9-11)

- Paul (really the Holy Spirit; really GOD) is NOT saying, “More than this . . .” but “**MUCH MORE than this . . .**”
- “much” is πολύς *polus* {pol-oos} means “abundant”.

- **Abundantly more** than having been justified, having peace with God, having access to God by grace, having a really hope of the glory of God, Paul now adds another CERTAINTY for our ultimate salvation! (See Romans 8:31-32)
- “being **now** justified” – is in the PRESENT TENSE and the PASSIVE mood (something done TO US and FOR US – **NOT** something we do).
- Our justification is by the **BLOOD** or DEATH of Jesus Christ [**FULL STOP!**]
NOT by something we do.
- “we shall be saved” – is in the FUTURE TENSE and PASSIVE mood.
 - ★ REMEMBER this is the WORD of God **or** God’s own word!
- What shall we be saved from? The WRATH of GOD! (1 Thessalonians 1:10)
 - ★ BEFORE anyone is saved they are “children **of wrath**”. (Eph 2:2-3)
 - ★ WHEN God saves us (gives us new birth; James 1:18; John 1:13) we **logically** become “children **of God**.” (John 1:12-13; 1 John 3:1-3; 2 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 3:26; Romans 8:14-17)
 - ★ BY WHAT MEANS ARE WE SAVED FROM GOD’S WRATH?
 - “through Him” – Christ **delivered** us from God’s wrath. (1Thes 1:10)
- When were we saved?
 - ★ “while we were ENEMIES” – NOT GOOD PEOPLE!
- Being saved means “being RECONCILED **to** GOD”
 - In order to be RECONCILED to GOD His anger toward us, His enemies, must be appeased.
 - THIS God did by sending His Son to be the PROPITIATION (appeasement) for our sins! (1 John 4:10; Romans 3:25-26)
 - GOD reconciled us **to** Himself
 - NOT us reconciling ourselves to God!
 - **NOT God to us!!!!!!!!!!!!**
 - And He reconciled us **by putting His Son to death on our behalf!** (Isaiah 53:10)
- (Romans 5:10) “much more” – it just keeps getting better and better.
 - “having been reconciled” – is in the PAST TENSE and PASSIVE mood.
- “we shall be saved” – FUTURE TENSE and PASSIVE mood.
 - ★ This is a PROMISE made by God!
 - ★ God will KEEP us saved through the LIFE of His Son!
 - Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24;
 - God **will** finish the work HE started! (Philippians 1:6)

God Who Has Reconciled Us to Himself (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)

- GOD, the ONE offended by our sin and rebellion against Him, (Psalm 51:4) took the INITIATIVE to reconcile us.
- One reconciles ENEMIES (Romans 5:10; 8:7; 1:30; Colossians 1:20-21; James 4:4; Eph 2:2-3; 1 Cor 6:9-10; Rev 21:8; 22:15) NOT FRIENDS (John 14:15; 15:14)!

- The results of RECONCILIATION is **PEACE!** (Romans 5:1; John 14:27; 16:33)

God's Ministry of Reconciliation (Romans 5:10)

- God reconciled us to Himself through the **death AND life** of His Son.
- (Colossians 1:20-21) Christ "made peace through the blood of His Cross, and you, who were once alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled . . ."
- (Isaiah 43:25) "I, even I, am He who **blots** out your transgressions **for My own sake**; And I will not remember your sins." (Ezek 20:9, 14, 22; 36:22, 32; Psalm 106:8; Micah 7:19; Psalm 103:12; 32:1-2)
- (Hebrews 8:12) "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember not more!" (Heb 10:17; Jer 31:34)
- (Isaiah 38:17) He has cast all our sins behind His back.
- **CONTRAST WITH:** (Jer 14:10) "Thus they have loved to wander; they have not restrained their feet. Therefore the LORD does not accept them; He will remember their iniquity now, and punish their sins."
- **CONTRAST WITH:** (Ezekiel 23:35) "You have forgotten Me and cast Me behind you back . . . you shall bear the penalty of Your lewdness and your harlotry."
- **CONTRAST WITH:** (Psalm 50:17) "Seeing you hate instruction and cast My words behind your back." (Nehemiah 9:26)
- **CONTRAST WITH:** (Jeremiah 2:27) ". . . For they have turned their back to Me, not their face. . ." (See also 1 Chronicles 29:6)
- **WE SHALL BE SAVED by HIS LIFE!!!** (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34)

Given Us the Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)

- God has "committed to us the **word (logos)** of reconciliation" – the Gospel of PEACE! (Rom 10:15; Acts 10:33-43; Eph 2:14-17; 6:15; Isaiah 52:7)
- The Gospel is never called "the gospel of love" but "the gospel of PEACE!"
- There is **ONLY ONE MEDIATOR** between God and man! (1 Tim 2:5; Hebrews 8:8; 9:15; 12:24; Acts 4:12) Friends do not need a mediator!!!!!!
- Either you are a FRIEND of GOD or you are His enemy. (John 15:14)
- God has promised His vengeance on His enemies. (Nahum 1:2; 2 Thess 1:8)

We Are Ambassadors with the King's Message (2 Corinthians 5:20)

- An ambassador is a diplomat of the highest rank; **messenger** and a **representative** of the One who sent him.
- A king sends his ambassadors to foreign lands to speak on His behalf and to represent him in that foreign land.
- To disrespect an ambassador is to disrespect the king!
 - ★ Consider Luke 10:16; Acts 9:4; Matt 25:40, 45-46; 1 Cor 12:12; Eph 5:30.

- As ambassadors we are **obligated** to deliver the King's message to His enemies in their land! **MEDITATE ON THIS!**
- ★ (2 Timothy 4:1-2) “. . . **PREACH** (κηρύσσω kerusso {kay-roos'-so}) the **WORD** (λόγος logos {log'-os})”. The King's message!
 - “to preach” κηρύσσω kerusso {kay-roos'-so} - “to herald the message of the king with formality, gravity, and an authority that **must** be listened to and **obeyed**.”
 - The King's message is to be **PROCLAIMED** with ALL the **AUTHORITY** of the KING. (Titus 2:15; Mark 1:22, Matt 7:29)
 - The Gospel message is “**BE RECONCILED TO GOD**” – 2 Cor 5:20) Therefore, before a message of reconciliation is accepted there must be **WAR** between the parties!
 - The parties are **GOD** and **SINFUL MAN**.
 - The King's terms of **RECONCILIATION**: “Confess with your mouth ‘**Jesus is LORD**’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead and you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9) Anything **LESS** is a rejection of the King's terms! (Psalm 2:11-12)
- ★ To reject the message is to reject the King Himself. (Luke 10:16; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)
- ★ **The GOSPEL is a SERIOUS MESSAGE!**

Rejecting the King's Terms of Peace

- The King will pour out HIS **VENGEANCE** upon YOU! (Nahum 1:2; 2 Thess1:8-9; Revelation 20:11-15) – **FOR ETERNITY!** (Matthew 25:41, 46)

BUT Acceptance of the King's Terms of Peace

- The King will be your **GOD**. He will protect you. (Hebrews 8:10)
- You will be His people. You will be His children. (Hebrews 8:10; 1 John 3:1; Romans 8:16-17; 1 Peter 2:9-11)
- He will make you His heir. (Romans 8:17; Galatians 4:7; Titus 3:7; James 2:5)
- He has prepared a city with mansions for you to spend eternity. (John 14:1-4; Hebrews 11:13-16; Philippians 3:20-21)
- You will be co-heirs with Christ, the King's Son, to whom you bow your knee. (Romans 8:17; 10:9; Psalm 2:11; Revelation 3:21)
- He will forgive/**pardon** your acts of rebellion. (Hebrews 8:12; 10:17; Acts 13:38-39; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14; 1 John 2:12; Isaiah 43:25; 44:22)
- He will not remember your transgressions against Him. (Hebrews 8:12; 10:17; Isaiah 43:25)
- He will give you a **NEW HEART** and put His **SPIRIT** in you as a guarantee. (2 Corinthians 5:5; 1:22; Ephesians 1:13-14; Ephesians 4:30)