

Reconciled

6-28-26

2 Corinthians 5:18–20 (ESV)

¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Reconciled is mentioned in all three of these verses. Reconciliation is definitely the primary point that God is trying to communicate. Reconcile means to come together. For example, when a couple have a falling out and then they work out their differences, we would say they are reconciled going from enmity to friendship. Being reconciled involves more than just coming together. With true reconciliation there would be peace and harmony. Therefore, we need to look at these verses as coming together in peace and harmony. Also, to grasp the full picture of these verses and reconciliation, we need to look at the previous verse 17.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Being a new creation is the foundation for the following verses on reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18 (ESV)

(Being a new creation) is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to HIMSELF and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

“Or” God through Christ brought us to the peace and harmony of God “and then” God gave us the ministry to bring others to peace and harmony with God. God reconciles us then gives us the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19 (ESV)

That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself (by bringing the message of peace and harmony), not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation (bringing people to peace and harmony with God).

God through Christ brings peace and harmony and then HE entrusts us the new creation with the ministry of peace and harmony.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (ESV)

Therefore, we (new creations) are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore ~~you~~ on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

We are God's ambassadors. An ambassador is an accredited diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country. We as new creations are accredited representatives of our home country heaven sent to the foreign country earth. As ambassadors we are acting on Christ's behalf bringing the message of peace and harmony to the world. God is making HIS appeal through us. The last sentence, "We implore ~~you~~ on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." The word "you" is not in the original. Without the "you" the message has more power, "We implore on Christ's behalf be reconciled to God." Through Jesus, God brings us the message of reconciliation. Then as HIS ambassadors, God continues to make HIS appeal through us.

Reconciliation – Becoming one with God in peace and harmony. The message of reconciliation is the center piece of all creation. Therefore, reconciliation is fully explained in the next verse, which happens to be my most favorite verse in the whole Bible. Are you ready? Reconciliation, next verse!

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Jesus we might become the righteousness of God. (Bringing us to peace and harmony with God)

Jesus who knew no sin became sin that we might become as right as God. Nothing stands between us and God. We are at peace and harmony with God for all eternity.