

Simple Notes on the Doctrine  
of

**RECONCILIATION**

• **Re-kon-cil-ee-a-shun**

- We will proceed using the
- **TOPICAL method of BIBLE Study**
- We may not get too deep into the theology today, because of the lack of time.
- Also I want to go through the exercise of doing a topical study.

- **We were taught to ask questions about the topic under 8 headings, and try to answer these questions.**
- **1- WHAT?**
- **2- WHEN?**
- **3- WHY?**
- **4- WHO?**
- **5- WHERE?**
- **6- WHICH?**
- **7- HOW**
- **8- WHAT THEN? SO WHAT?**

I try to set out as many questions as I can under all eight of these headings on separate sheets of paper.

Then I shuffle the papers around until I get the questions under each heading to flow properly so that the information makes the most sense.

**So we don't always end up with the questions in the same order as in the list in the last slide all the time.**

However, **# 8- WHAT THEN? SO WHAT?**  
**is always LAST of all.**

**# 8 questions are ALWAYS THE CONCLUSION.**

- **ONE MAJOR RULE!**
- We must never say in our teaching
- **ANYTHING THAT WE CAN NOT BACKUP WITH A REFERENCE FROM SCRIPTURE CORRECTLY DIVIDED!**
- **You will not always get good or suitable questions in any particular topic for each word WHAT? WHEN? WHY? WHO? WHERE? WHICH? HOW?, but if you follow this simple process you will get much more than if you don't.**

- **THE IDENTIFICATION of RECONCILIATION**
  - Which scriptures?
- **THE EXEMPLIFICATION (ILLUSTRATION) of RECONCILIATION** Which scriptures provide examples
- **The DEFINITION of RECONCILIATION**
  - What is reconciliation? What is the gift given at reconciliation?
- **THE EFFECTORS OF RECONCILIATION**
  - Who is the reconciler? God is BOTH the Author and Initiator of reconciliation.
- **THE RECIPIENTS OF RECONCILIATION**
  - Who are the persons that need to be/ are reconciled?
- **THE NEED OR REASON for RECONCILIATION**
  - WHY does /did mankind need to be reconciled to God?

# • **THE METHOD OF RECONCILIATION**

- How are we reconciled ? By the death of Christ

# • **THE LOCATION OF RECONCILIATION**

- Where did reconciliation occur?
- Where does reconciliation occur?
- **GOD'S SIDE:** At the cross. Romans 5:10
- **MY SIDE:** In my heart.

# • **THE TIMING OF RECONCILIATION**

- When does/did reconciliation occur?
- When Jesus died on the cross?
- When I received Him as my personal Savior?

# • **THE IMPLICATION OF RECONCILIATION**

- *What is our CONCLUSION?*
- *FOR BELIEVERS- WITNESS!*
- *FOR UNBELIEVERS- WARNING!*



- **1- WHICH scriptures describe/discuss the concept of RECONCILIATION?**
- **There are many...but these four are quite potent!**
- **Romans 5:10**
- **2 Corinthians 5:18-21**
- **Ephesians 2:14-16**
- **Colossians 1:20-22**
- **This is**
- **THE IDENTIFICATION of RECONCILIATION**
- **We wont read these Scriptures upfront as usual, because we cant discuss this topic without these major Scriptures on this topic.**

- **1 a - WHICH scriptures are a good illustration of the concept of RECONCILIATION?**
- **A peculiar thing about the Scriptures is that many New Testament truths are presented to us in the Old Testament in picture form as examples.**
- **This is so that when we read the New Testament and see the realization of the truth, we can understand it easily.**

- **1 a - WHICH** scripture stories are a good illustration of the concept of **RECONCILIATION?**
  - These are just a few.....
  - Jacob & Esau.
  - Joseph & his brothers.
  - David & Mephibosheth
  - The father & the Prodigal son
  
  - This is
- THE EXEMPLIFICATION of RECONCILIATION**

- **Did you notice anything about those examples?**
- **It seems that the reconciler- the one doing the reconciling seems to have a big gift, or something of great value to present to the reconcilee- the one being reconciled.**
- **Also, the offender does not reconcile himself, but the person whom he has wronged, is the one who makes suitable amends or reparation..... and invites the offender to receive the arrangement he has made for reparation**
- **Did you get that?**
- **Did you see that coming through in our examples?**

## 2-WHAT?

- **WHAT** is reconciliation?
- **The DEFINITION OF RECONCILIATION**
- Reconciliation is an important concept in the doctrine of salvation, and one of the central concepts in Christianity.
- We could call it **a peace treaty initiated by God**, because reconciliation results in **peace with God**, because **reconciliation is above all a gift that man “receives” by grace (Rom. 5:11)**

- **What is the gift given at reconciliation?**
- **Peace!**
- **The "peace" which Christ procured for His people was effected through chastisement.**
- ***"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:5).***

- Paul repeatedly notes the idea of peace, as the result of reconciliation
- His testimony to reconciliation's results dwells especially upon **peace with God** (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:14; Col. 1:20);
- upon **"access" to God's presence** (Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:18; 3:12; see Col. 1:22) **in place of estrangement;**
- **"joy in God" replacing dread of "wrath"** (Rom. 5:9, 11); and
- **assurance that "God is for us," not against us** (Rom. 8:31ff.).

- **“Peace with God”— means we are no longer the objects of His displeasure, and have no more reason to dread the Divine vengeance.**
- **It is that blessed relation which results from the expiation of our sins: because Christ endured the penalty of them, we are no longer God’s enemies in the objective sense, but the subjects of His favor.**
- **Every one that is reconciled has "*peace with God*" for His quarrel against him is ended, Christ having made God (judicially) his Friend.**



- **The ground for reconciliation is the same as that of justification, that is - in Christ — in his death (Rom. 5:10), in his cross (Eph. 2:16), in the body of his flesh through death (Col. 1:22).**
- **So what is the difference from justification? Better than making excessively sharp delimitations is the insight that we are dealing here with two concepts from different spheres of thought and life.**
- **Whereas “to justify” is a religious-forensic concept, which says we are no longer guilty, “reconciliation” speaks in general of the restoration of the right relationship between two parties.**
- **Reconciliation is not the same as justification. Reconciliation goes a step further. It is more than having our sins forgiven and divine justice being satisfied (justification).**
- **In the pronouncements of Paul it is often placed over against “enmity,” “alienation” (Rom. 5:10; Eph. 2: 14ff.; Col. 1:22), just as in a positive sense it has the meaning of “peace” (cf. Rom. 5:1, 10; Eph. 2:15ff.; Col. 1:20-21.).**
- **This is because reconciliation also has in view the removal of the enmity of unredeemed man toward God as mentioned in Romans 8:8: “the mind of the flesh is enmity against God.”**
- **This idea is also seen in Col. 1:21, 22 where we read it is said of Christ: “And you, who once were estranged and hostile in mind [toward him] . . . he has now reconciled”**
- **THE IDEA OF PEACE AND REMOVAL OF ENMITY ARE BOTH CLEAR**

- **Reconciliation is the act of uniting parties which have been at variance. It is the putting an end to strife and changing enemies into friends.**
- **To reconcile is to bring to agreement, to unite those who were divided, to restore to unity and friendship.**
- **Reconciliation makes access, and fellowship possible for former enemies.**
- **Reconciliation is mutual change from enmity to friendship.**
- **It is mutual, i.e., it is a change wrought in both parties who have been at enmity.**
- **Reconciliation is the removal of the barrier that separates man and God and replacing that hostility between man and God with peace. Reconciliation makes God our friend, and enables him to pardon and save us.**
- **Reconciliation involves a changed relationship—completely changed. It means to change something inside out and upside down and right side up. “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation.”**

- **Reconciliation is a change of the relationship between God and man based on a changed status of man through the Redemptive Work of Christ.**
- **Enmity between God and sinful man was removed by the death of Christ. Reconciliation is then appropriated by each individual sinner through Faith (Acts 10:43; 2Cor. 5:18,19; Eph. 2:16).**
- **When we are reconciled to God we are "Born Again". We were first born naturally and having made peace with God we are reconciled to God and are born again spiritually.**
- **We have a new spirit as and we are now a new creature, all things are made new.**
- **We are also placed into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit, and indwelt by the Holy Spirit who will now lead us, guide us, and teach us.**

- **On God's part it denotes a change from wrath to favor; on ours, from one of contempt and opposition to loyal and loving obedience.**
- **It is therefore a change from hostility to tranquility or peace, from strife to fellowship.**
- **Reconciliation presupposes alienation and therefore it results from the removal of hindrance to concord, and is the act of uniting parties which have been at variance.**
- **It is the putting an end to strife and changing enemies into friends.**

- Many are confused on this **doctrine** because they misunderstand what reconciliation means.
- We must see that God's being reconciled to sinners who believe **concerns His official relationship and not His essential character.**
- Some believe that since He changes not ( Malachi 3:6)), it is wrong for us to suppose that reconciliation is possible.
- They insist that to speak of God's being reconciled unto us implies an alteration either in His affections or purpose, and that neither of these are consistent with His immutability.
- **God does not change his character at reconciliation. He changes his relationship to the reconciled!**

- **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF RECONCILIATION**
- **And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement [Rom. 5:11].**
- **Because we have peace with God we can relax. We don't have to look over our shoulders to see when he is coming to get us.**
- So now we can rejoice in God right now, wherever we are, whatever our problems are because He has reconciled us to himself and provided a salvation for us and is willing to save sinners and bring us into His presence someday.
- He has worked out a plan to save us because of His love for us..

- **RECONCILED FROM WHAT -- TO WHAT --- THEN WHAT**
- **Rom. 5:9 teaches that at reconciliation we are saved FROM WRATH through him (Christ)**
- The “wrath” mentioned here is what the prophets spoke of continually in the OT. e.g in Zeph. 1:15 we read
- : “That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness” (Zeph. 1:15).
- The great day of wrath is what the Lord Jesus called the Great Tribulation. We will escape that day of wrath, not because we are worthy, but because we have been saved by the grace of God.
- Paul reiterates that reconciled believers shall be “saved from wrath” in 1 Thess 5:9
- We have been saved from the penalty of sin; He is constantly saving us today from the power of sin; and He is going to save us in the future from the presence of sin.

- **A very important thing to be clear upon in connection with reconciliation is, that it terminates upon the object and not upon the subject.**
- **The offender does not reconcile himself, but the person whom he has wronged, and that, by making suitable amends or reparation.**



# 3-WHO?

- Who is the reconciler?
- **THE EFFECTORS OF RECONCILIATION**
- God is **BOTH** the Author and Initiator of reconciliation.
  
- Who are the persons that need to be/ are reconciled?
  
- **THE RECIPIENTS OF RECONCILIATION**

- Notice that there is the Godward side of reconciliation. He is the One who did the reconciling.
- Notice that in **NONE** of the Scripture references cited is it ever stated that *God is reconciled*
- In all other religions man propitiates or tries to please his gods.
- But Christianity teaches that "**God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself**" (2 Cor. 5:19), an accomplished fact which men are urged to accept.

- **Only God can reconcile. Why is this?**
- **Since the sin that separates is ours, not God's, only God could reconcile.**
- **Since God is the offended one he alone can do the reconciling**
- **It is a paradox, but it is very true, that God reconciles those he recognizes up to the moment of reconciliation as enemies.**
- **This is taught in Romans 5:10**

- **Who is the reconciler? - God in Christ Jesus is the Reconciler.**
- God is the initiator of the peace treaty but **it is Jesus Christ who is the peace maker, the mediator of the peace treaty.**
- **‘And all things are of God, who has reconciled us unto Himself by Jesus Christ**
- **God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them; ( 2 Corinthians 5:18-19).**
- **Colossians 1:21-22 reads that .....**
- *And you, [WE] that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now **hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death,***

– WHO? **By Christ as High Priest.**

- **Hebrews 2:17** Wherefore in all things it behoved **him** to be made like unto *his* brethren, that **he** might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, **to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.**
- **Through faith in Jesus Christ the entire world can be reconciled to God** and have eternal life, **because Christ removed the barrier between God and man allowing man to have peace with God, forgiveness of sins, and eternal life.**

- In Ephesians & Collosians we read that Christ is the Reconciler, through whom God reconciles “all things” to himself (Eph. 2:16; Col. 1:20, 22).
- These scriptures are entirely in harmony with the great fundamental teaching of the NT that **reconciliation is the work of redemption going out from God in Christ to the world, for the removal of “enmity,” for the restoration of “peace.”**
- The grand truth proclaimed by the Bible is that Christ is the all-sufficient Peace maker or pacifier for God.

- **Who are the persons that are reconciled?**
- **Those who accept the invitation to be reconciled.**
- **Man's side is to receive the reconciliation**
- **How can we say this?**
- **Because we read in Colossians 1:20, that God has thus made peace through the blood of Christ's cross.**
- Also Colossians 1:21-22 reads .....**And you, [WE] that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works,** yet now **hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh** through death, to present **you [US]** holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:
- Rom. 5:11 teaches that **"We have received the reconciliation"**

- **4- WHY?**
- **THE NEED OR REASON for RECONCILIATION**
- **WHY does /did mankind need to be reconciled to God?**
- This question is repeated in every conception of the doctrine of salvation, because it is the central concept of Christianity.



- Man in his sin is an “enemy of God” not only in the active but also in the passive sense of the word.
- Man is an “enemy of God” not only - in his activity, but also in his attitude. I John 1:8 & 10 teach that we both sin [activity], as well as have the sin nature [attitude].
- The scriptures teach that **unredeemed man is estranged and hostile in mind toward God** (Col. 1:21, 22) and in Romans 8:8: **“the mind of the flesh is enmity against God.”**

- **WHY MUST MAN BE RECONCILED?**
- **Colossians 1:21 teaches that we were alienated and enemies in our minds by wicked works.**
- **Colossians 1:21 teaches that there is *mental alienation from God as well as a moral alienation.* Men are not lost because they have committed some terrible sin. The reason people are lost is that **their minds are alienated from God.****
- **This explains the fierce antagonism toward God on the part of the so-called intellectuals of our day. **There is an open hatred and hostility toward God.****
- **This explains the hatred in the eyes of men and women when we attempt to present Jesus Christ and to explain how wonderful He is and how He wants to save people. **There is an alienation in the mind and heart of man.****

- **Colossians 1:22** teaches that Christ reconciled us In the body of his flesh through death ....[so that he could] present you [US] holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight.
- **God wants to present us “Unblameable” or “without blemish” like the requirement of the sacrificial animal in the Old Testament.** God in Christ is able to present us unblameable because He took our place. “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” (2 Cor. 5:21).
- **Jude 24 teaches that he can PREVENT US FROM FALLING**
- **And he will PRESENT US AS FAULTLESS.**
- **Note that** since we cant present perfection to God and since we cant save ourselves by our works or by our character God must reconcile us or invite us or woo us to Him self!

- **1- Sin separates God and men.**
- *Isaiah 59:2 reads... But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.*
- Sin has placed God and man apart from one another—all harmony between them was disrupted.
- There has been **enmity, contempt, opposition, and strife towards God.**
- This **"alienation"** from God and from his people (Eph. 2:12; 4:18) **deepens into resentment, "enmity"** (Rom. 5:10), increased by carnality and hostility to God (Rom. 8:7), **expressed in rebellious wickedness: "you . . . estranged ... hostile in mind, doing evil deeds"** (Col. 1:21).
- **This total attitude of man needs to be removed.**

- **2- Such alienation or division necessitated a need for restoration of friendship.**
- **Satisfaction had to be made for sin before peace could be restored.**
- **There was a need for rebellious mankind to be restored to God's favor.**
  
- **3- But the offender can not reconcile himself.**

- 4- **God is the offended Party and we are the parties offending.**
- **It is always the offending party who is said to be the one reconcileded and not the offended One.**
- **The Scriptures never says that "*God is reconciled to us.*" They always speak of "*our being reconciled to Him.*"**
- **5- Only Christ was good enough to effect the reconciliation.**

# 5-HOW?

- **THE METHOD OF RECONCILIATION**
- **How are we reconciled ? By the death of Christ**
- *Romans 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.*

# HOW?

– **By the blood of Christ.**

- **Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh **by the blood of Christ.**
- **Colossians 1:20** 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.



- **Ephesians 2:16** And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body **by the cross**, having slain the enmity thereby:
- **Colossians 1:21-22** And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In **the body of his flesh through death**, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprieveable in his sight:
- *2 Cor 5:18*  
*And all things are of **God**, who **hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ**,*

- Lets briefly explain HOW this happens.
- 2 Cor. 5:20 points out that the “word of reconciliation” .....that is the gospel message goes out by whatever means to inform everyone that they should “let” themselves be reconciled to God.
- **Remember reconciliation is a thing done by God always!**

- Such people on hearing the “word of reconciliation” .....or the gospel message, realize that there is from their side, a need to enter into a reconcileded relationship with God.
- They realize that instead of living as unreconciled and enemies under the wrath of God, that they should **accept the peace and love of God as a gift and power, and be encompassed, governed, and led by them.**

- Note that we keep stressing that **reconciliation is done by God.**
- **It is a gift of peace and power given by God.**
- The reconciled ed person only recognizes his need and accepts the gift.

- The **peace given by God at reconciliation** is part of the new relationship in which those who are reconciled may stand toward God (Rom. 5:1).
- It also speaks of the inner peace of the heart that pervades the whole man in all his doings (**Rom. 15:13**), and, surpassing all understanding, keeps and restrains the hearts and minds of believers (**Phil. 4:7**).
- It also gives judgment in their hearts when they find themselves in uncertainty or inner discord (Col. 3:15; cf. 2 Thess. 3:16).

- In 2 Thess. 3:16, Paul prays that when we are prone to doubt that God will keep topping up His peace in our hearts.

## **6- WHERE?**

- **THE LOCATION OF RECONCILIATION**
- **Where did reconciliation occur?**
- **Where does reconciliation occur?**
  
- **GOD'S SIDE: At the cross. Romans 5:10**
- **MY SIDE: In my heart.**

- Rom 10:9-10 teaches  
That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead**, **thou shalt be saved.**
- For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.



# 7-WHEN

- **When does/did reconciliation occur?**
  - **When Jesus died on the cross?**
  - **When I received Him as my personal Savior?**
- 
- **Why do you think so?**
  - **Because of what these scriptures say.**

**WHEN? While we were alienated from God.**

- **Colossians 1:21** And you, that were sometime **alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works**, yet now hath he reconciled
  - **WHEN? While we were yet without strength.**
- **Romans 5:6** For **when we were yet without strength**, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.
  - **WHEN? While we were yet sinners.**
- **Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners**, Christ died for us.
  - **WHEN? While we were yet enemies to God.**
- **Romans 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.

- **The scriptures certainly teaches**
- **When reconciliation was effected by Christ and ...**
- **That reconciliation actually becomes ours when we believe.**
- **Reconciliation, is as an act of God which took place without us and for us “when we were yet enemies” When we accept the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross by faith, we are no longer enemies of God but have peace with him.... And then we are reconciled by God to God!**

- God did not wait until we promised to scrub our faces, put on our Sunday clothes, and go to Sunday school before He agreed to do this work of reconciliation.
- **It was while you and I were in rebellion against Him, while we were doing wicked works, that He reconciled us to Himself.**

# 8- SO WHAT?

- **WHAT THEN?**
- **THE IMPLICATION OF RECONCILIATION**
- *Having heard all this discussion about reconciliation, what should we do with it?*
- *What should we take home from all this discussion about reconciliation?*
- *What is our **CONCLUSION?***
  
- ***FOR BELIEVERS- WITNESS!***
  
- ***FOR UNBELIEVERS- WARNING!***

- ***BELIEVERS***
- ***According to 2 Cor 5:18 .....***
- ***We have been given the ministry of reconciliation!***
- **2 Corinthians 5:18-19 teaches that .....**
- **God.....hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.**
- ***Are we involved in the ministry of reconciliation that was given to us ?***
- **The ministry of reconciliation is actually God's call to lost men everywhere to come to Him with all their sins, all their burdens, all their problems, all their difficulties, and to be reconciled to God.**

- ***“The ministry of reconciliation”*** is that .....  
God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and also **God..**, has reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ..
- This ministry is committed to all believers who are to, in Christ's stead, beseech men to seek the reconciliation that God offers.
- **2 Corinthians 5:20** reads
- **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.

- **Who is an ambassador? Webster says an ambassador is a minister of the highest rank accredited to a foreign government or sovereign as the official representative of his own government or sovereign.**
- **“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ.” We are in a foreign land—Peter says that we are pilgrims and strangers down here.**
- **Paul says, “For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 3:20). Since our citizenship is in heaven, we are ambassadors down here.**



- **When one government sends an ambassador to another government, it means they are on friendly relations.**
- **God is still friendly with this world. He has sent us as His ambassadors. One day He will call His ambassadors home. Then judgment will begin.**
- **When man sinned, God in His holiness had to turn away from the world. But God loved man, so He sent His own Son to die on the cross.**
- **Now God can hold out His arms to the world and say, “You can come.” We are His ambassadors.**
- **As His ambassadors, we are to tell folk, “God will save you!” All God is asking any man to do is to come to Him. God will not try to get even with you. He doesn’t want to punish you. He doesn’t want to lay a hand on you. He invites all people everywhere to come to Him.**
- **Today we have the privilege of saying to you, “Be ye reconciled to God.” All He asks you to do is to turn to Him. How can He do this? It is because Christ bore it all for us.**
- **God is reconciled. You don’t need to do one thing to win Him over. You don’t have to shed tears to soften the heart of God. He loves you. He wants to save you.**

- **UNBELIEVERS**
- The issues here are
- **Are you neglecting God's salvation?**
- **Have you been reconciled?**
- *Heb 2:3 warns*
- *How shall we escape, **if we neglect so great salvation**; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;*
- **WE BEG YOU BE RECONCILED TO GOD TODAY!**
- **Since God has changed His attitude unto you, why don't you change yours toward Him and accept his offer of peace, and salvation?**

- Rom 10:9-10 teaches  
That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead**, **thou shalt be saved.**
- For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**; and **with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- **be "reconciled to God" (v. 20). Since God has changed His attitude unto you, change yours toward Him.**

- **Ephesians 2:13-16 teaches that**
- **God's reconciliation is already complete. He is ready to receive you if you are ready to come.**
- **Therefore, the message that goes out is "... be ye reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20). If you will be reconciled, you will be brought into a new body, a body of believers, and it doesn't make any difference whether you are Jew or Gentile, white, brown, red, black—all are one in Christ.**
- **We have been made one new man, and we should have peace.**