

<sup>[19]</sup> For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him, <sup>[20]</sup> and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the Blood of His Cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

[Colossians 1:19-20]

In Yesterday's Thought we saw that one of the things disciples of Jesus *INHERIT* is *REDEMPTION*, the *FORGIVENESS* of their sins. As we begin Today's Thought, you will see that disciples of Jesus also *INHERIT* "RECONCILIATION". You might be wondering, what is the difference between *REDEMPTION* and RECONCILIATION. As you saw in Yesterday's Thought, *REDEMPTION* is 'to let go' or 'free for a ransom', that is 'to buy back', 'to redeem'. Spiritual redemption is redeeming sinners from the captivity of sin through the ransom price of the blood of Christ Jesus'.

However, in Today's Thought "to RECONCILE"<sup>1</sup> is the Greek verb ἀποκατάλλασσω (apokatallassō). Apokatallassō is the combining of two Greek words: ἀπό (apo),<sup>1</sup> which indicates a leaving behind, and καταλλάσσω (katallassō),<sup>1</sup> to reconcile. Therefore, apokatallassō has the meaning of 'to reconcile', that is 'to restore a relationship of peace which had been previously disturbed'.

In Colossians 1:21-22, you can see the need for one to be 'restored' to a 'relationship of peace' with God which had been 'disturbed' by their sins. Listen closely and learn that even though,

<sup>[21]</sup> ... you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, <sup>[22]</sup> yet HE HAS NOW RECONCILED you in His fleshly body through death, in order TO PRESENT YOU BEFORE HIM HOLY and BLAMELESS and BEYOND REPROACH...

This is truly what the Father has done for you. But notice the conditional terms in Colossians 1:23.

**IF** indeed you CONTINUE IN THE FAITH FIRMLY ESTABLISHED and STEADFAST, and NOT MOVED AWAY from the HOPE of the GOOD NEWS that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven...

Stop and consider with me the words of Romans 5:6-10. I Have personalized these verses so can see them as applying to yourself. Here you learn that,

<sup>[6]</sup> ... while (you) were still HELPLESS, at the right time Christ died for the UNGODLY. <sup>[7]</sup> For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. <sup>[8]</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward (you), in that while (you) were yet (a) (SINNER), Christ died for (you). <sup>[9]</sup> Much more then, having now been JUSTIFIED by His BLOOD, (you) will be SAVED from the wrath of God through Him. <sup>[10]</sup> For if while (you) were (an) (ENEMY), (you) were RECONCILED to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been RECONCILED (you) will be SAVED by His life.

The truth revealed in Romans 5:6-10 is why Romans 5:11 then tells you that if you are a disciple of Jesus, you should,

... EXALT in God through (your) Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom (you) have now RECEIVED the RECONCILIATION.

---

<sup>1</sup> "Reconcile" is ἀποκατάλλασσω (apokatallassō), Strong's Greek dictionary verb number 604. Apokatallassō is the combining of two Greek words: ἀπό (apo) Strong's Greek dictionary number 575 and καταλλάσσω (katallassō) Strong's Greek dictionary number 2644.

---

Also consider the conclusion the Holy Spirit moves Paul to explain in 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 where you learn,

*[17] Therefore if (you) (are) in Christ, (you) (are) a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. [18] Now all these things are from God, Who RECONCILED (you) to Himself through Christ... [19] namely, that God was in Christ reconciling (you) to Himself, not counting (your) trespasses against (you)....*

In Ephesians 2:14-16 you will see the reference to the reconciliation of Jew and Gentile to each another and also to God. Here you will see that this reconciliation takes place because “*He Himself*” Christ Jesus “*is our PEACE*”. Jesus became our “*PEACE*” when he “*made both groups*” (Jew and Gentile) “*into one*”, that is one group, His disciples, His body, His church. This He did when Jesus, *broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, that in Himself He might make the two into one new person, thus establishing peace*”. This Jesus did that He “*might RECONCILE them both in one body to God through the Cross, by it having put to death the enmity*”.

The reason Christ Jesus did all of this is further explained in 1 Peter 3:18 where you are told that, *... Christ also DIED FOR SINS once for all, the Just for the unjust, IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT BRING US TO GOD, having been PUT TO DEATH IN THE FLESH, but MADE ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT....*

Jesus’ being *PUT TO DEATH IN THE FLESH* was necessary in order to *BRING US TO GOD*, which is to be *RECONCILE* to God!

As we close, would you please pray with me?

Father God, I rejoice and praise You and bring to You a sacrifice of thanksgiving, that while we were still helpless and ungodly sinners, marked as Your enemies; You sent our Lord Christ Jesus to die for us and our sins. He died for us to justify us by His Blood. And besides all of that, You have justified us by His Blood, having saved us from Your wrath. All of this You have done that we might be reconciled to You through the death of Your Son, Jesus! For all that You have done to reconcile us to Yourself I offer this prayer of thanksgiving in the power and authority that is in the Name of Jesus Your Son. Amen!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** promising in His Word to never leave you or forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

*BECAUSE HE CHOSE TO BE PUT TO DEATH IN THE FLESH, SO THAT HE COULD BE MADE ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT AND RECONCILE ME TO GOD BY HIS BLOOD! – tom*