

1 **GOD'S SALVATION PACKAGE: RECONCILIATION**

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

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- Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ 's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

3 4 **WHAT IS RECONCILIATION?**

- The Problem – We are alienated from God –
–Isaiah 59:2: But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you.”
- Story: Twin brothers reconciled
- Reconciliation is the restoration of a ruptured relationship.

5 **WHY DO WE NEED TO BE RECONCILED?**

- Romans 5:6-8: For when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

6 **WHY DO WE NEED TO BE RECONCILED?**

- Romans 5:9-11 : ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. ¹¹ And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

7 **WHY DO WE NEED TO BE RECONCILED?**

- Man is weak, “. . .we were without strength”
- Man is Worthless, “. . . Christ died for the ungodly.”
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8 **T. E. Lawrence**

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9 **Worthless Jasmin**

- Jasmin was not worth half a crown (US\$0.21).
- Lawrence turned and rode back the way he had come.

- The Arabs looked in amazement. "Here is Jasmin," they said, "Jasmin, not worth half a crown, saved at his own risk by Lawrence, our lord."
- A parable

10 **WHY DO WE NEED TO BE RECONCILED? (2)**

- Man is Wrong, v. 8 – ". . . while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
- Man is Under Wrath, v. 9 – ". . . we shall be saved from wrath through Him. "
- Man is Wicked, v. 10 – "We were enemies. . ."
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11 **WHO INITIATED RECONCILIATION?**

- Impossible for man to initiate reconciliation with God:
- We are the rebels.

12 **Romans 3:10-13**

- There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. ¹² They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." ¹³ Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit", "The poison of asps is under their lips"

13 **Romans 3:14-18**

- ¹⁴ Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." ¹⁵ "Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ Destruction and misery are in their ways; ¹⁷ And the way of peace they have not known." ¹⁸ "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

14 **WHO INITIATED RECONCILIATION?**

- Reconciliation is God's unilateral act in bringing peace in His relationship with lost humanity.
- 2 Corinthians 5:18-19: Now all things are of God who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ. . . ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them. . . "

15 **WHO ACCOMPLISHED RECONCILIATION?**

- Romans 5:6-10
 - V. 6: Christ died for the ungodly.
 - V. 8: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
 - V. 9: We shall be saved from wrath through Him.
 - V. 10: We were reconciled to God through the death of His Son.
 - V. 10: We shall be saved by His life.

16 **WHO ACCOMPLISHED RECONCILIATION? (2)**

- 2 Corinthians 5:18-21
 - V. 18: God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ
 - V. 19: God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself
 - V. 21: For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

17 **St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin**

18 **Reconciliation Door**

19 **The True Door of Reconciliation – Jesus Christ**

- John 10:9: I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved.
- Colossians 1:21-22: And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight."

20 **WHO NEEDED RECONCILIATION?**