

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Exposure to wrath makes one appreciate reconciliation.
2. Ps 51:11-12 *Restore to me joy of my salvation & He does!* 2C5:18.

**1st: The Reconciling God**

1. It is GOD who does the reconciling, not man. Jms 4:4; R5:8-11
  - i. We were His enemies - Eph 2:3
  - ii. He reconciled us. God saves sinners. Jonah 2:9; 1C1:30; Tit 3:5.
2. Reconciliation between men - Eph 2:16
3. Men offend God - do not seek reconciliation. God reconciles us to Himself.

**2nd: We Have Been Reconciled to God**

1. Past tense: accomplished in Christ - R5:10-11 *the reconciliation* Isa 12:1-2
  - i. Reconciliation is not primarily me experience of inner peace.
  - ii. The reconciliation is Christ who I possess by faith - 1C1:30. Me experience of reconciliation is my experience of Jesus Himself.
2. The Father Himself - 2C5:18 *to Himself*. “Doctrine of appropriations.” The Trinity acts in unity but one Person is profiled as primary Actor. *The Father Himself loves you* [Jn16:27]. [2C1:3; Eph 1:3]; 2Th 1:2 [same formula: 1T1:2; 2T1:2; Tit 1:4]; Jd 1:1,21

**3rd: We Are Reconciled Thru Christ**

1. *thru Christ* - Mediator - 1T2:5
2. His cross. Col 1:19-22 2C5:19 *reconciling the world*. Philip Hughes “As man-in-Christ is in fact a new creation: a reborn microcosm belonging to the eschatological macrocosm of the new heavens & new earth.”

**Applic #1: Internalize the Fact That, in Christ, You are Reconciled to God**

1. I'm too easily disturbed... I am reconciled to God by God.

**Applic #2: Experience the Embrace of Your Heavenly Father**

1. Earthly fathers are powerful influences but imperfect - 1Ptr 1:17-19
2. Central to Jesus' teaching - Jn 14:21,23; 17:26; 20:17. *All these things are from God who reconciled us to Himself thru Christ.*