

The Gift of Reconciliation # 18

2nd Corinthians 5: 17-21; 6: 1-4

This is the gift that keeps on Giving!

We are given a great gift in what we call Salvation. We have been salvaged, rescued from a road of destruction and devastation. We have been Reconciled to God through the personal relationship of Jesus Christ.

Paul tells us in 2nd Corinthians that 4 things motivated him:

1. His confidence in Heaven
2. His concern that he please the Lord Jesus.
3. God's love constrained him.
4. God's commission on His life!

Yes, we were given a great gift in Reconciliation! We have been reconciled to God!

Reconciled – 2644 – reconcile. This is a word used to describe the divine work of redemption, denoting the act of redemption insofar as God, Himself, taking upon Himself our sin and becoming the atonement for our sins, establishing the relationship of peace between God and whoever receives it. Therefore for that person

God is not at war with him!

God is not at war with sinners that will come under the protection of the blood of the Lamb. He is not just not at war with us. He embraces us. **He is reconciled to us!**

Sinners who refuse to accept His redemption price paid is at war with God, but God has settled His issue at the Cross of Calvary.

SIN/SATAN/SELF – ALL still plague us, haunting us, hounding us, but if we put our sins at the foot of the cross, our sin debt was paid for there and we have been reconciled to God.

Inspired by God, Paul told the Corinthians in 1st Corinthians 6: 11-20:

All things are lawful for you now but all things are not expedient (wise for you)... **so why would you be set free from prison want to go back to jail?**

What is a greater reason?

1st Corinthians 10: 23-24 Let a man not seek his own, but every man another's wealth! It is not about you now! You have been commissioned!

1. We are to be forgiven and reconciled.
2. Then we are to seek to be reconciled to others.

Matthew 6: 9-12 "Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debt as we forgive our debtors...."

Matthew 6: 14-15 "For if we forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Chapter 18 of Matthew deals with forgiveness and reconciliation.

In vs 24, we see the unmerciful servant owes ten thousand talents. A single talent is 750 ounces which is 120 lbs. x 10,000 talents = 1,200,000 lbs. Multiply that by whatever silver was worth an ounce in 33 AD and then compare it with the 100 silver coins owed him!

We are to be reconciled to others if at all possible on your part...

Then we are to help others become reconciled to God.

3. Then we are to help them become reconciled to each other.

2nd Corinthians 5: 17 through 6: 1-4

This gift keeps on giving! We are **compelled** to give away this gift, we are **called** to give this gift away, and we are **commissioned** to give this gift away.