

THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

Sunday Sermon

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I. INTRODUCTION:

- a. Worldly Reconciliation
- b. Biblical Reconciliation

II. THE INTRODUCING THE MINISTRY

- a. ^{KJV} **2 Corinthians 5:18** And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
- b. The Context
 - i. vss. 1-5 – The potential of a temporary body for the Believer provided by God the Father
 - ii. vss. 6-9 – The confidence of the Believer in life based on this promise
 - iii. vs. 10 – The judgment of the Believer's works done in the body in light of the promise
 - iv. vss. 11-16 – The demonstration of the Apostles in light of God's promise
 - v. vs. 17 – The Believer a new creation based on God's promise
 - vi. vs. 18 – The aforementioned (vs. 17) new things are out from God because of His reconciliation of Believers

III. THE DEFINITION OF THE MINISTRY

- a. Ministry
 - i. Lexical Definition¹
 - ii. CDJ – a service performed by the Believer for the benefit of other Believers or as unto God the Father by the leading of the Holy Spirit
 - iii. Examples:
 - 1. In the Use of Spiritual Gifts, Rom. 11:13; Eph. 4:12
 - 2. As a spiritual gift, Rom. 12:7
 - 3. To other Saints through a Church office, Ac. 6:1
 - 4. As a responsibility of the Believer to the things given by God, 2 Cor. 4:1 (Glorification from Indwelling)

¹ Friberg – **6258** διακονία, ας, ἡ (1) generally *service* (HE 1.14); (2) as charitable giving *aid, support, arrangement for provision* (AC 6.1); (3) as preparing meals *servicing, preparation* (LU 10.40); (4) as the role or position of one serving God in a special way *task, office, ministry* (RO 12.7; 1T 1.12)

b. Reconciliation

- i. Webster's Dictionary (verb)²
- ii. Lexical Definition³
- iii. CDJ
 1. To bring previously opposing sides into harmony
 2. The Believer with God: an act of God on behalf of the Believer by His grace in which He changed the individual's previously adversarial mindset toward Him. He also, through Christ cross-work, is no longer having to hold the Believer's sin against them
- iv. Examples:
 1. The casting away of the Jews led to the opportunity of reconciliation for the world, Rom. 11:15 (Noun)
 2. The Believing wife that leaves the husband can be reconciled to him, 1 Cor. 7:11

IV. THE DESCRIPTION OF RECONCILIATION

- a. The Need for Reconciliation
 - i. The Believer Counted God as an Enemy, Rom. 5:10
 - ii. The Believer's Sin Separated us from Him, Rom. 5:12
- b. The Act of Reconciliation, Rom. 5:10-19
 - i. The Work of Adam
 - ii. The Work of Christ
 - iii. The Mind of the Father
 1. Imputation
 - a. God by Implication Imputes, Rom. 5:13
 - b. Definition of Imputation, Rom. 4:17

² **Definition of reconcile**

transitive verb

1a: to restore to friendship or harmony *reconciled* the factions

b: SETTLE, RESOLVE *reconcile* differences

2: to make consistent or congruous *reconcile* an ideal with reality

3: to cause to submit to or accept something unpleasant *was reconciled* to hardship

4a: to check (a financial account) against another for accuracy

b: to account for

³ Friberg – 15195 καταλλάσσω 1aor. κατήλλαξα; 2aor. pass. κατηλλάγην; as restoring relationship between individuals or between God and man *reconcile, change from enmity to friendship* (2C 5.18); passive *be* or *become reconciled* (RO 5.10)

- c. Peace with God through Justification, Rom. 5:1
- 2. Counted Adam's Sin to All
- 3. Counted Christ's Sacrifice Sufficient

V. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BELIEVER

- a. Based on the Gift of Christ, 2 Cor. 5:18
 - i. The Father Reconciled the Believer to Himself
 - ii. The Imputed Work of Christ (Makes it Possible)
- b. Based on the Free Gift from the Father, 2 Cor. 5:18, 19
 - i. The Free Gift
 - 1. The Ministry Pertaining to Reconciliation, vs. 18
 - a. The Opportunity for the Apostles in Living the Christian Life
 - b. The Opportunity as led by the Holy Spirit
 - 2. The Discourse Concerning Reconciliation, vs. 19
 - a. The Opportunity for the Apostles to Communicate Reconciliation
 - b. The Opportunity as led by the Holy Spirit
 - 3. The Ambassadorship of the Apostles, vs. 20-21
 - a. A Result of God's Trust
 - b. A Request for Active Reconciliation

VI. CONCLUSION: