

THE NEED FOR RECONCILIATION

When Adam sinned, he hid himself from God believing that God was angry and that God had changed and no longer loved him. Scripture however reveals that it was Adam who changed and not God. God never changes. God made a promise to Adam that a man-child would be born who would take away the sin of the world. Humanity thinks that God is so filled with wrath over sin that He must be reconciled to humanity by pouring out His wrath on the man-child. Humanity thinks that justice must be satisfied by the death of an innocent victim. The major mistake in the thinking of man is the false assertion that God must be reconciled in order for Him to forgive and restore. This would mean that God needed to be changed in order for reconciliation to be accomplished. Scripture never says that God needs to be reconciled to man. Scripture always says that man must be reconciled to God. Man must be changed. Our sin must be taken away in order for us to be fit for the kingdom of heaven. God does not need to be appeased or paid off for Him to be gracious toward us. God never changed in His attitude toward us when we sinned. Christ's work was not to change God, but rather to change us. God's love never needed to be restored because God never ceased from loving humanity. Christ came not to appease God but to cleanse us from sin and restore us to a right relationship to God. We perceive the love of God because He laid down His life for us. God demonstrated His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. The perfect love of God can never be diminished. The change in the heart of Adam made him think that God had changed and that His love was diminished. But God never changes. The heart of man thinks that Christ must receive the wrath of God in our place in order to appease an angry God and preserve justice. But God does not need to be paid off. God freely forgives and freely removes sin from any person who will repent of sin and turn back to God. The wrath of God against sin is never appeased even one iota. The wrath of God does not need to be appeased. The wrath of the Lamb does not need to be appeased. People need to be changed and reconciled to God. God never needs to be changed and never needs to be reconciled to humanity. Nowhere in Scripture does it say that God's wrath needed to be appeased through Christ's death. After Christ died, the wrath of God was evident more so

than ever before with the destruction of Jerusalem including the Temple, and the worldwide dispersion of Jewish people. Because of sins, the wrath of God comes upon the children of disobedience. All who live in sin are the children of wrath. The purpose of the cross of Jesus was to rescue people from sin. Sin was condemned to execution for killing the innocent Son of God. Jesus arose with all authority to remove sin and does so for those who repent and call upon the name of the Lord. The plan of God to remove all sin from creation is detailed down to the casting of death and hades into the lake of fire and the new heavens and new earth where sin and death are no longer present. God gives sufficient warning to all those who live in sin that judgment is coming and sin is cast into the lake of fire along with Satan and his angels.

Romans 8:3 Romans 1:18 Ephesians 2:3 Romans 5:8-10 1 John 3:16 Genesis 3:15,21

We beseech you, be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20

God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not holding sin against us, when we return to Him and allow Him to take away our sin. 2 Corinthians 5:19

For God made sinless Jesus to be the offering for taking away our sin so that we may be made the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

God's wrath is against sin and upon sinners. "He that believes on the Son has everlasting life: and he that believes not the Son will not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

John 3:36

God loves humanity and convicts all people of sin, their need for righteousness, and the fact of judgment to come. But God also hates sin and sinners who fail to repent and will cast sin and sinners into the lake of fire in the final judgment. Revelation 20:11-15 God shows His love for humanity and His wrath toward sin at the Cross. God's wrath toward sin is poured out on sin as sin is completely condemned for killing the flesh of the sinless Son of God. Romans 8:3 "God sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and as an offering for sin, and so God condemned sin in the flesh." "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Being now

justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. We were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." Romans 5:8-10

"We are justified by His blood" in that we are partakers of the life of Jesus through His Spirit and are made alive, born of the Spirit, born from above. We are sanctified with His own blood. We are made holy by His life that He gave in death on the cross. The blood of Jesus by reason of the life therein sanctifies. Our sanctification is produced by Christ's own life given in His blood and received by the believer through faith. To be saved by His blood is to be partakers of His life. "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." If Christ is your life, then you are saved from sin, and saved to righteousness. Your salvation depends on having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. "You are redeemed with the precious blood of Christ." His life's blood must flow through your very being. His Spirit must live in you. "The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin." Our actual deliverance from sin is accomplished by the life giving blood of Jesus, His Spirit living in us. This is how we are changed and reconciled to God.