

The Three Sides of Reconciliation

By: David A. Sargent

2 Corinthians 5:18-20, “And all things **are of God**, who hath **reconciled us** to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of **reconciliation**; To wit, that **God was in Christ**, **reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them**; and hath **committed unto us** the word of reconciliation. Now then we are **ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, **be ye reconciled to God.**”

~~PRAY~~

1. God's Side; 2. The Son's side; and 3. Our Side.

Romans 5:10, “For if, when we were enemies, we WERE reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, **BEING reconciled**, we shall be saved by his life.”

(Reconciliation: to bring two opposing sides back into a friendly relationship with each other after a dispute, estrangement, war or hatred.)

(Reconcile: to end conflict, bring together, reunite, merge or resolve.)

1. God's Side:

1 John 2:1-2, “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an **advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous**: And he is the **propitiation for our sins**: and **not for ours only**, but also **for the sins of the whole world.**”

As far as God is concerned the sins of the whole world are bought and paid for. God's side extends from Him to Jesus Christ: the “God/Man”. In this relationship Christ fulfilled God's requirement and propitiated for the sins of all men through all time.

(Propitiation: to appease or conciliate somebody or something; to win somebody's favor.)

(Propitiate: to try to stop someone from being angry with you by doing something to please them.)

Romans 3:24-26, “Being **justified freely by his grace** through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus: **Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood**, to declare **his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past**, through the **forbearance** of God; To declare, I say, at this time **his righteousness**: that **he might be just**, and the **justifier** of **him which believeth in Jesus**.

God made the way for each man to make this propitiation appropriated to him personally; through faith in Jesus Christ’s Blood. It is because of God’s forbearance that we are declared the righteousness of God IN CHRIST.

1 John 4:9-11, “In this was **manifested the love of God toward us**, because that **God sent** his only begotten Son into the world, that we **might** live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, **but that he loved us**, and sent his Son **to be the propitiation for our sins**. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

Notice the MIGHT in the verse: This allows for people to reject God’s love gift. The true manifestation of God’s love is Jesus Christ sacrificial substitutionary death propitiated for all sin for all men but is only effectual or only affects personally those that receive Jesus Christ personally.

2. Jesus Christ’s Side:

Ephesians 2:13-22, “But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh **by the blood of Christ**. For *he is our peace*, who hath **made both one**, and hath broken down the **middle wall of partition between us**; **Having abolished in his flesh the enmity**, even **the law of commandments contained in ordinances**; for to **make in himself of twain one new man**, so **making peace**; And that he might **reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross**, having **slain the enmity thereby**: And came and preached **peace to you** which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For **through him we both** have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, **but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God**; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone**; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an **holy temple in the Lord**: In whom ye also are **builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.**”

Christ made both Jew and Gentile one: (Ephesians 2:11-17) Reconciliation of the Jew and Gentile IN CHRIST for: Galatians 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: **for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.**”

Romans 5:6-8, “For when we were yet without strength, in due time **Christ died for the ungodly**. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**”

Christ died for the UNGODLY and SINNERS, That would mean he died for ALL PEOPLE and not just a select few.

John 12:47, “And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge **the world**, but to save the world.”

The gospel is open for anyone and everyone; the only sin that will keep anyone from heaven is to reject Jesus Christ as your own personal savior.

Colossians 1:19-22, “For it pleased the Father that in him (Jesus Christ) should all fulness dwell; And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross**, by him **to reconcile all things unto himself**; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime **alienated** and **enemies in your mind by wicked works**, yet **now hath he reconciled** In the body of his flesh through death, **to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable** in his sight.”

Jesus Christ reconciled ALL THINGS unto himself, not just people, but things IN EARTH, and things IN HEAVEN. Jesus Christ reconciled the alienated and enemies of God, when we were unholy and blamable; he made us holy and unblameable and even unproveable in his sight. What a savior!

Preparation has been made for you because Jesus Christ is the mediator:

1 Timothy 2:5-6, “For there is one God, and one **mediator between God and men**, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”

Hebrews 8:6, “But now hath **he obtained a more excellent ministry**, by how much also **he is the mediator of a better covenant**, which was established upon **better promises.**”

Hebrews 9:15, “And for this cause he is **the mediator of the new testament**, that by **means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament**, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.”

Psalms 34:22, “The LORD **redeemeth** the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.”

Isaiah 44:6, “Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and **his redeemer** the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.”

Isaiah 44:22, “I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; **for I have redeemed thee.**”

Romans 3:24, “Being justified freely by his grace through **the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:**”

1 Corinthians 1:30, “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us **wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:**”

Galatians 3:13, “**Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us:** for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:”

3. Man’s Side:

John 1:12-13, “But as many as **received him**, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that **believe** on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

No man can will to be born again, because the spirit of the lost man is dead; It is the act of the soul’s will to receive Jesus Christ as his own personal savior according to the gospel. When you believe God and put faith in God; God accounts it for righteousness; God imputes Christ’s righteousness to the

sinner, this allows the Holy Spirit to come into the sinner and work the work made without hands.

John 8:24, “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for **if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.**”

Heart belief is the key element in man’s reconciliation to God. The sinner MUST believe God for what is required now for God to impute righteousness.

John 14:1, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye **believe** in God, **believe also in me.**”

John 20:31, “But these are written, **that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**”

1 John 5:20, “And we know that the **Son of God** is come, and hath **given us an understanding**, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son **Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.**

Romans 5:13, “For until the law sin was in the world: but **sin is not imputed when there is no law.**” So from birth till the knowledge of good and evil or right and wrong, sin was not imputed. However:

Romans 7:8-13, “But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. **For without the law sin was dead.** For I was **alive without the law once:** but **when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.** And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, **and by it slew me.** Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, **that it might appear sin,** working death in me by that which is good; **that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.**”

Without the law sin was dead; I was alive without the law once when I was a child; but when the commandment came: sin revived, and I DIED: that is my spirit: which is why the spirit of man must be born again.

Romans 4:6-8, “Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom **God imputeth righteousness without works**, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is **the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.**” (Psalms 32:2, “Blessed is **the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity**, and in whose spirit there is no guile.”)

Imputation is limited to those who believe God:

James 2:23, “And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was **imputed unto him for righteousness**: and he was called the Friend of God.”

Romans 4:22-25, “And therefore it was imputed to him (Abraham) for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, **if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.**”

Conclusion:

2 Corinthians 5:19-21, “...that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them**; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, **be ye reconciled to God**. For he hath made him to **be sin for us, who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

The Three Sides of Reconciliation:

God’s Side: REDEMPTION

Christ’s Side: PROPITIATION

Man’s Side: IMPUTATION

Psalms 107:2, “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy...”

The Threefold Nature of Reconciliation:

