

Terms of Salvation - Reconciliation

2 Cor 5:17-21

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

18 All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled** us to himself and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**;

19 that is, in Christ God was **reconciling** the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of **reconciliation**.

20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be **reconciled** to God.

21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reconciliation as presented in the bible is a word that describes a change of relationship with respect to God. It means **to change from a position of enmity and hostility to a state of peace and harmony**.

God's reconciliation action plan for humanity.

1. Acknowledge my own human history

Reconciliation implies that there has been separation, alienation, enmity and conflict with respect to God.

Isaiah 59:2 says *"But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear."*

2Cor 5:19 *"...not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of **reconciliation**."*

2. Appreciate what God has done

God doesn't need to be reconciled to us but we need to be reconciled to God.

2Cor 5:18-19,21 *"All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled** us to himself and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself...For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

3. Respond personally and be reconciled to God

Reconciliation is totally needed by us on one side but totally provided by God on the other side. It happens at the instant a person trusts Christ for salvation.

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2Cor 5:20 *"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be **reconciled** to God."*