

RECONCILIATION MECHANICS

HOW RECONCILIATION WORKS IN SALVATION

"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."

~ Romans 5:10

1. Salvation vs. Reconciliation

- a. Salvation is simple to receive (faith), but its depth teaches the wisdom & grace of God
- b. 'Salvation' is the whole package, 'reconciliation' is one part. (*Car vs. suspension*)
- c. What is reconciliation? How does it work? (*springs, shocks, struts, sway bars, etc.*)
- d. Reconciliation makes salvation relational/personal (confusion around when and who)

2. The Function of Reconciliation

- a. Sin is contrary to God, and you go along with it – this puts you contrary to God.
- b. Sin breaks relationship, tears apart, creates enemies, destroys agreement and unity.
- c. If God has ought against us, then how can he be for us? Matt 5:23-24
- d. If we are on the road to death, what realigns us with life? Rom 6:23
- e. If we are enemies of God, what puts us on the same side as God? Rom 8:7-8, Phi 3:18
- f. Reconciliation *def.* ~ renew or unite in friendship after enmity, to settle a disagreement.
- g. Equal yoke, fellowship, communion, concord, participation, together with, agreement

3. Reconciliation Mechanics

- a. The mystery revelation of the gospel explains the mechanics of reconciliation
- b. Far off (Gentiles and Jews) are made nigh - Eph 2:13, how?... "by the blood"
- c. Satisfactory sacrifice must be given to make unity possible (atonement – at-onement)
- d. Forgiveness must be offered or there is no hope of reconciliation, only wrath – Col
- e. Redemption removes obstacles of enmity (deliverance, breaking chains) – Eph 2:14-16
- f. The world is reconciled to God, but men must reconcile God to their heart - 2Co 5:19
- g. Both sides must come together – this requires trust/faith on our side - 2 Cor 5:20
- h. The Spirit makes us one with God in Christ – 1 Cor 12:13, Eph 1:13, Rom 8:9-10
- i. If God be "for us" who can be against us? The cross as grace, not shame – Rom 8:33

4. Fellowship with Israel: God's Friends

- a. Reconciliation is putting you back into restored relationship. God had relationships.
- b. God made friends – Abraham (James 2:23), Moses (Exo 33:11), Israel (41:8)
- c. Fellowship with Israel, meant blessing from God – Gen 12:3
- d. Friends were made on promises, covenants, agreements – Rom 15:8, John 1:11
- e. No greater love of man than dying for your friends – John 15:12-16
- f. Friendship of the world is an enemy of God – James 4:4, John 15:23

5. Reconciliation and the Mystery

- a. This message was kept secret since the world began (i.e. the mystery fellowship)
- b. Reconciliation would be to all, freely, going back to Adam – not just through Israel.
- c. That God would love his enemies to die for them - Rom 5:8-10
- d. The "now" atonement, present salvation to all men w/o the law/Israel – Rom 5:11
- e. Aliens, strangers, without God, not friends, no covenant, "but now" – Eph 2:12,16, 19
- f. "all things" in heaven and earth reconciled to God in Christ/peace – Col 1:20-22
- g. The fellowship of the mystery (Eph 3:9), is the ministry of reconciliation - 2Cor 5:17-21