

Making Peace With God
The Struggle For Christmas That Led to Peace!
December 3, 2017 **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**

Ever since Creation there has been a Struggle for Peace.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 (CEV) God has **done it all!** He sent Christ to **make peace** between himself and us, and he has **given us the work** of making peace between himself and others. ¹⁹ What we mean is that **God was in Christ**, offering peace and forgiveness to the people of this world. And he has given us the work of sharing his message about peace.

I. **Gods Desire** to Make Peace With You! **(18)** God has **done it all!** He sent Christ to **make peace** between himself and us,

**A Few Things God has done for You so You
through Christ can Make Peace with Him!**

➤ **God Has Qualified** You For His Kingdom – **1 Colossians 1:12** giving thanks to the Father, who has **qualified you** to **share in the inheritance** of the saints in light.

- God did this at a time when we were not qualified.
- This is only possible through the death of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus took our sin and guilt so that we can be credited with his righteousness.

- Clearly nothing we do makes us fit for God's kingdom. We cannot earn a place in it. We cannot purchase a place in it. It is only because of Christ, and in Christ, that we are qualified to share in God's kingdom:
- **God Has Changed Your Status and Allegiance** **Colossians 1:13** He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
- God rescued us from the dominion of darkness: from the tyranny of Satan: from the darkness of ignorance of God: **Romans 1:20** For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities-- his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.
- God has brought us into the kingdom of his Son.
- **God Has Redeemed You** **Colossians 1:14** in whom we have redemption,
- The concept of redemption - freedom at a price: Israel redeemed from slavery in Egypt; payment of a ransom price demanded by kidnappers; redeeming goods from a pawnshop.

Reminds of the Boy and his sail boat!

- The price of spiritual redemption: Jesus Christ:
- **God Has Forgiven You** **Colossians 1:14** the forgiveness of sins.

Forgiveness is a further definition of redemption.

- **God sets us free**: from the law of sin and death.
- **God cancels our sin debt** through the death of Christ for our sins.
- **God erases the record** of our sins.

No Guilt – No Shame

All of this is not because of **anything we have done**, but solely because of the death that Jesus Christ died **in our place, as our substitute**.

II. Your Duty to Share with Others that Peace with God is Available to them as well! **(18b-19)**

A. It's Your Duty to Fulfill The Your **Mission as a Believer (18b)** and he has **given us the work** of making peace between himself and others.

Acts 22:15 for you will be a **witness for him** to everyone of what you have seen and heard.

Ephesians 2:10 For **we are God's handiwork**, created **in Christ Jesus** to do **good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

B. Its Your Duty to Fulfill The **Ministry of Reconciliation (19)** What we mean is that **God was in Christ**, offering **peace and forgiveness** to the **people of this world**. And he has given us **the work of sharing** his message about peace.

The first step to finding true peace is to First Make Peace with God!

Colossians 1:21-22 Once you were alienated from God and **you were enemies** with him in your minds, which was shown **by your evil actions**.²² But now he **has reconciled you** by his physical body through death, to present you before God as a people who are holy, faultless, and without blame.

By Believing in Jesus and what He did for you on the cross fulfills the Price for your sin which Reconciles you back into a Right Relationship with God.

Remember The **Three Nails** of The Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Colossians 2:13-15 And you, **who were dead** in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive** together with him, **having forgiven us** all our trespasses,¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, **nailing it to the cross**.¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by **triumphing over them in him**.

Do You Believe this?

Praise Team Takes The Platform