

## BIBLICAL RECONCILIATION PART III

### NOVEMBER 28-29, 2020

#### INTRODUCTION

- John Dawson - Four Steps to Reconciliation
  - Confession, Repentance, Reconciliation, Restitution
- I Peter 2:9 - The priesthood of the believer.
- Part of our journey as believers is to be healers, reconcilers.
- Matthew 18:27 - Forgiveness takes compassion.
- Forgiveness is an indicator of how real your walk with Jesus really is.
- The Bible speaks of two things that are crucial to making life work - justice and mercy.

#### I. JUSTICE AND MERCY

- Isaiah 42:1-4 - Jesus and justice
- Jesus will establish justice on earth. Something human effort can never do.
- He does that through His church, His people.
- Often what the Holy Spirit asks of us is to build bridges.
- Give the other person the benefit of the doubt,
- And leave the judgement to God.

#### II. CAN JUSTICE AND MERCY LIVE TOGETHER

- Can forgiveness (mercy) and justice live together?
- In public justice, can a group be forgiven?
- Eric Wiesel - "Justice without memory is incomplete..."
- But the Bible tells us we must forgive.
- If you don't forgive it leads to payback, and more injustice.

- Public justice is a huge problem.
- Jesus spoke to it often - Do not take it into your hands Your Father will deal with it.

#### III. IS THERE SUCH A THING AS PERFECT JUSTICE?

- Is there perfect justice? Only if you believe in the God of the Bible.
- And His teaching on sin and forgiveness.
- Romans 3:9-18, "...Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin..." "There is no one righteous, not even one...there is no one who seeks God...there is no one who does good, not even one..."<sup>18</sup> "There is no fear of God before their eyes."
- All have the potential to torture and maim others given the right circumstances and motives.
- No person has a perfect concept of justice and injustice because of sin, personal interest.
- Without God there is no perfect justice, just violence and retribution.

#### IV. THE ROLE OF BELIEVERS IN PEACEMAKING

- Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."
- Luke 9:23 - We take up our cross to lay down our lives for others.
- Our role is never revenge.
- Romans 12:19-21, "Never take your own revenge... but leave room for the wrath of God..."

#### CLOSE

- Isaiah 6:1-7, "...Woe is me, for I am undone..."
- Jesus Christ's death means I am free to see myself as an unjust person, just like my enemy.