

# The Ministry of Reconciliation

II Corinthians 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;** 19 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.** 20 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. 21 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.**

1. God has given us the ministry of reconciliation 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;** 19 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.**

a. He has reconciled us

i. We did not reconcile ourselves but He reconciled us

1. Too often people think of what they can do
2. That is the purpose of religion-to get you to God
3. Man cannot get to God and has never been able to
4. God came to us in the person of Jesus

ii. He reconciled us by Jesus Christ

1. God placed our sins on Jesus [Isaiah 53:5](#) *But he was wounded for **our** transgressions, He was bruised for **our** iniquities: The chastisement of **our** peace was upon him; And with his stripes **we are healed.*** [6](#) All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned every one to his own way; **And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

2. Notice that God reconciled us, not just Jesus [19](#) 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.**

3. All things are of God so He can do what He wants
4. Reconciliation is His forgiving us by counting our sins against us **19 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.**

iii. He reconciled the world

1. He has made salvation available for all **19 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.**
2. Everything has been done on God's side of the equation
3. Not all will be saved or are saved-salvation has been made available but each with have to believe individually **20 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.**
4. Salvation is available but not theirs until they believe or it would be universalism

b. He gave us the ministry of reconciliation **18** *And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;***

- i. Salvation, reconciliation, forgiveness are purely a God thing
- ii. However He has put us in charge of the message.
- iii. We are to go and speak for Him to them so that they will be reconciled

c. We are responsible for the message **19** *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.***

- i. The message has been committed to us
- ii. He has given us the responsibility of getting the message of His love and grace to the world

2. We are ambassadors for Christ **20** *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.*

- a. We have been given a divine appointment.
  - b. We speak on His behalf, with His power and authority
  - c. God begs people to be saved through us
  - d. As we preach the gospel and beg men to be saved it is really us doing this ministry in the place of Christ Himself
  - e. It is an awesome responsibility to have such a message, such a position, such an opportunity
  - f. Could you speak for Jesus if you knew what His truth was and what He wanted said
  - g. Could you speak for Jesus if you knew that He wanted you to do so
  - h. Could you speak for Jesus if you knew that you had all the power of Heaven behind you
3. We are made the righteousness of God **21 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.****
- a. The most glorious truth in the Bible
  - b. God made Jesus sin for us
  - c. Jesus never knew sin, never sinned
  - d. Jesus took wicked sinners and made us righteous

e. Before Christ we were full of sin but not now

I Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And **such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.**

f. We are new creatures and all the old is passed away

II Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

g. We are **reconciled**, made right with God, **justified**, made like we had never sinned and **as pure and righteous as Jesus Himself, sanctified**, made holy!