

God Reconciled All Things To Himself
Through JESUS CHRIST
Colossians 1:20

Colossians 1:19

19 **For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, (or) because in Him (JESUS CHRIST, God the Father) was pleased to determine that all the fullness should have permanent residence.**

We closed last lesson with Isaiah 53:10

10 **But the Lord (God the Father) was pleased to crush His soul Now He (God the Father) was pleased that all fullness should have permanent residence.**

So God the Father was pleased to crush the soul of JESUS CHRIST, His Son, in Spiritual death, because His Son, volunteered to offer Himself as a sacrifice for all the sins of the world.

Then, God the Father was pleased to make JESUS CHRIST, Resurrected to be the preeminence of all things.

Now in verse 20 continues God the Father's determination about JESUS CHRIST.

20 **and through Him (JESUS CHRIST) to reconcile all things to Himself, (God the Father; why was God reconciled by JESUS CHRIST?) having made peace through the blood of His (JESUS CHRIST) cross; through Him, (JESUS CHRIST) / say,**

whether things on earth or things in heaven.

First, we have to look at the differences in order with the King James **and having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself, by Him I say, whether they be things in earth or things in heaven.**

Most translators, along with NASV, favor staying with the order in the original manuscripts.

And through Him (the Greek construction is emphatic, therefore) **through Him and only through Him** (by means of Him) (that is through JESUS CHRIST and only through JESUS CHRIST) **To reconcile all things to Himself**

The first thing I want you to grasp is about God!

God is Perfect Righteousness, and mankind is un-Righteousness, impure, unclean and, therefore, before man can have fellowship with God, man must be Reconciled.

Colossians 1:20

20 **and** (to have all the pre-imminent in Him) **and through Him** (JESUS CHRIST is the agent of Reconciliation) **to reconcile all things** (this is the same reference as in verse 16) ***by Him all things were created***

The all things refers to both elect angels and regenerate homosapiens and the earth itself which was marred by the sin of man; bringing all things into harmony with God. JESUS CHRIST created all things in harmony with God, sin broke that harmony and on the cross JESUS CHRIST restored harmony with God.

20 **to Himself** (that is to God the Father; to a relationship with the father)

DOCTRINE OF RECONCILIATION

I **Three pertinent doctrines**

Redemption —sin-ward side of cross

Reconciliation —man-ward side of cross

Propitiation —is the **God-ward** side of the work of Christ on the cross

II **The word Reconciled means that we are moved from being enemies of God to being friends of God.**

By removing the barrier of sin, God established the way of peace between God and man. God is propitiated—satisfied, by the work of JESUS CHRIST on cross and man is Reconciled. Man is the offender, God was the one offended and God, not man, provided for man to be reconciled.

Think about this: You hurt someone—you offended someone, and they, not you, provided everything necessary for there to be reconciliation between them and you.

A wife commits infidelity, and it is the husband who provides the way of reconciliation. We learn a great deal about the husband, and his desire for this marriage. Well, this is a picture of our being Reconciled with God.

III	Here in Colossians 1:20 the verb is an Aorist Active Infinitive.
------------	---

- 1 In the **Aorist**: It has been completely taken care of on the cross.

Active: This is interesting, theologically: While it is JESUS CHRIST who does the work of Reconciliation, it is God who actually reconciles man to Himself by the cross-work of JESUS CHRIST not man. The human way of doing things is that the one who does wrong or hurts another, it is generally up to that person to do something to bring about Reconciliation. But there is nothing we can do, so God Himself brings about Reconciliation. We receive being reconciled to God by the person and work of His Son, JESUS CHRIST on the cross.

Infinitive: Is used to denote purpose. It is the purpose of God in Christ going to the cross to reconcile man to Himself. It is amazing how many believers want to rebuild this barrier –so they can tear it down by something they do!... Confess, Repent, Sorrow, Going off and sitting in a corner... – not good enough to serve Him, etc.

Well, God has provided reconciliation...

POINTS ON RECONCILIATION

IV The Greek word is a compound word and means to change, exchange or reconcile.

To transfer from one state to another, which is completely different. Reconcile is a term used for the work of JESUS CHRIST on the cross whereby He removes the barrier between God and man so that man is brought into spiritual harmony and fellowship with God.

Vincent: *“the verb means primarily to exchange, and hence to change the relation of hostile parties into a relation of peace; to reconcile.”*

V Reconcile is the removal of the barrier between man and God, so that God can impute His (Perfect Righteousness) +R into man and Justify everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST.

VI It is God who initiates this reconciliation in the person and work of His Son on the cross.

Man is reconciled to God, not God to man!

VII Man is reconciled, God is propitiated and both at cross.

VIII JESUS CHRIST is the Agent of Reconciliation and He is the Agent of Propitiation and He is the Agent of Redemption.

IX The Mechanics of Reconciliation is the Removal of the Barrier, and establish peace between God and man.

Ephesians 2:14-16

14 **For He Himself (JESUS CHRIST) is our peace, (with God) who made both *groups into* (Jew and Gentile) **one** (body of Christ) **and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,****

15 **by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, (cause of hatred, hostility) *which is* the Law of commandments *contained in ordinances*, so that in Himself (JESUS CHRIST on the cross) He might make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace,**

16 **and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it (the cross) having put to death the enmity.**

Now before we leave this point, note in verse 15— one of the causes of hatred, (*enmity between man and God is the Law!*) This is going to help us correctly understand

Colossians 2:14

14 **having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, (this is the Law) **which was hostile to us;** (since we were born Spiritually dead with an Inherited Sin Nature [ISN]) **and He has taken it out of the way, having****

nailed it to the cross.

This is a powerful phrase, especially to those who desire to make us live by the Law!!! It was nailed to the cross of Christ! This is why we must understand that Reconciliation is the removal of the barrier between God and man.

God is on one side of this barrier, and man is on the other side. This barrier is not simple to grasp, for it is made up of several things that separates man from God. It is made up of all Personal Sins, man's Un-Righteousness, and God's perfect Righteousness and the Law that separates us from God.

And so the problem is HOW IS THIS BARRIER GOING TO BE REMOVED? And that is the doctrine of Reconciliation, as you fully grasp this you will give thanks to God all the time for the person and work of His Son on the Cross, and you will understand why God will save anyone who will believe in His Son!

X The Cross is the point of Reconciliation.

Colossians 1:20

20 **and through Him (JESUS CHRIST) to reconcile all things to Himself, (God the Father) having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, / say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.**

The barrier is removed during the three hours Christ was judged for sins of the world. The last three hours on the

cross, when the entire area was covered in darkness.

XI The death of JESUS CHRIST is the instrument of Reconciliation and the intermediate cause of Reconciliation.

Romans 5:9-10

9 **Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.**

10 **For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.**

Every unbeliever is regarded as the **enemy of God!**
You and I were enemies of God, but through Christ we became friends of God, in Christ.

XII Our purpose on earth, after Salvation, is the ministry of Reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18

18 **Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,**

1. It is God who reconciles mankind to Himself.

2. He reconciles us through or by the person and work of JESUS CHRIST.

3. Then He, God the Father, gave us the ministry of reconciliation –that is it is our ministry, and our privilege

to tell others how they also are reconciled to God through JESUS CHRIST.

Again, this answers the questions often asked:

Why JESUS CHRIST?

Who is JESUS CHRIST?

- 19 **namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them,**
But putting them all on JESUS CHRIST: He was smitten, stricken and afflicted (Isaiah 53) **and He (God the Father) has committed to us the word of reconciliation.**

Here is the greatest blessing you will have in your life!

- 20 **Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; (this is our message) we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (by Faith only in JESUS CHRIST only.)**

- 21 **He (God the Father) made Him (JESUS CHRIST) who knew no sin *to be sin on our behalf*, (His soul crushed on the cross) so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

By FAITH in JESUS CHRIST,
God imputes His own Perfect Righteousness (+R)
into everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST and then
Justifies them to Eternal Life with JESUS CHRIST.

XIII Faith is the appropriation of Reconciliation. Faith in His Son is the response God is looking for in

Reconciliation.

XIV Reconciliation is taught in the Old Testament in the Levitical offerings in the Peace offerings:

Leviticus 3: 7:37-38; 8:15

XV Let us close with a look at the removal of various aspects of the Barrier between man and God.

- (1) **SIN**—Personal sins. And there are two doctrines that describe the removal of this barrier:

First is **Unlimited Atonement:**

1 Timothy 2:6; 4:10; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 and 19; Titus 2:11; Hebrews 2:9; 2 Peter 2:1; 1 John 2:2.

Second is **Redemption:**

John 8:31-36; Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14.

So under the Doctrine of Reconciliation two doctrines are involved:

THE DOCTRINE OF REDEMPTION
and
THE DOCTRINE OF UNLIMITED ATONEMENT

- (2) **PENALTY of SIN**—This part of the barrier is removed by

Expiation. Colossians 2:14; Psalm 22:1-6; The Penalty of sin is paid for by the cross-work of JESUS CHRIST.

- (3) **THE PROBLEM OF OUR PHYSICAL BIRTH**—Separates us from God. This is removed by Regeneration. John 1:1-18; 1 Peter 1:23; Titus 2:5.
- (4) **THE PROBLEM OF GOD'S PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS**—This is removed by Propitiation Romans 3:22-26 and 1 John 2:1-2 and Imputation of +R (Perfect Righteousness) Romans 6:17-21; 4:4-6 and 9-10;
- (5) **THE PROBLEM OF THE LAW**—Removed by the cross work of JESUS CHRIST Ephesian 2:15 and Colossians 2:14.

20 **and** (along with making Him preeminent; God the Father) **through Him** (JESUS CHRIST) **to reconcile all things** (created by Him) **to Himself**, (God the Father; why was God reconciled by JESUS CHRIST?) **having made peace through the blood of His** (JESUS CHRIST) **cross.**

This is probably the least correctly understood phrase in all of the Bible. One must fully understand the Old Testament sacrifices and New Testament Greek.

Therefore, we shall carefully go through this important phrase in the New Testament.

Doctrine of the Blood of Christ

I	Definition and Description.	
1	Problem: Many after the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church take this as referring to the “ literal blood ” of JESUS CHRIST; while others—throughout history understand that the blood of JESUS CHRIST is figurative for the “ spiritual death ” of JESUS CHRIST on cross.	
2	While our Lord did some bleeding on the cross, He didn't bleed to death, nor does His literal human blood have anything to do with the phrase found throughout the New Testament, " THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. "	
3	(Seminary) Even Greek lexicons recognize this principle when defining the Greek word for blood <i>haima</i> .	
a.	Arndt and Gingrich , Greek-English Lexicon, (Walter Bauer) page 22, under <i>haima</i> :	
1	Literally:	
a	of human blood	
b	of the blood of animals	
2	Figurative:	
a	as the seat of life;	
b	Blood and life as an expiatory sacrifice, especially of the blood of Jesus as the means of expiation. " You will recall: expiation-put an end to guilt–propitiated God.	

b.	<p><i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i>, edited by Gerhard Kittel, 9 volumes of Greek word studies; in Volume I, page 175, "The ideas which the New Testament links with the blood of Christ, since the latter (New Testament), is simply a pregnant verbal symbol of the saving work of Christ."</p>
c.	<p><i>Biblicao-Theological Lexicon of New Testament Greek</i> by Hermann Cremer; chapter 1868 page 71 "where the blood of Christ is spoken of, the reference is not to the substance (of His blood) but to the life offered for atonement".</p>
3	<p>Since the <u>symbolism</u> of the <u>blood</u> is <u>death</u>, two categories of death experienced by Christ on the cross will be examined in this doctrine.</p> <p>His somatic death refers to what happened to His literal blood;</p> <p>His spiritual death refers to what happened to His figurative blood.</p> <p>The somatic death of Christ looks forward to the resurrection, whereas the spiritual death of Christ looks back to our sins which resulted in spiritual death.</p> <p>It Is His Figurative Blood That Has To Do With Salvation.</p>
4	<p>In this battle of "figurative blood" vs. "literal blood" of JESUS CHRIST, D. A. Carson in his response to an article in Christianity Today page 33-34, says:</p>

"A third level of the problem was painfully exemplified in three recent articles about the blood of Christ in Christianity Today. The author did an admirable job of explaining the wonderful things that science has discovered that the blood can do. What a wonderful picture, we are told, of how the blood of Jesus purifies every sin."

Carson responds:

"In fact, it is nothing of the kind! Worse, it is irresponsible, mystical, and theologically misleading.

The phrase "THE BLOOD OF JESUS" refers to our Lord's violent, sacrificial death.

In general, the blessings that the Scripture shows to be accomplished or achieved by the blood of Jesus are equally said to be accomplished or achieved by the death on the cross."

- 5 In our study of the BLOOD OF JESUS, we will note a place for His **literal blood** in our Lord's **somatic** death on the cross. However, we will note and emphasize **figurative** use of the blood in His **spiritual** death on the cross, His saving work. ***haima*** in Christ: blood of Christ.

II The Animal Blood of the Old Testament.	
1	The Hebrew word for blood is dam . It occurs several times in the Old Testament; 203 times it refers to death and violence; 103 times it refers to animal sacrifices.
2	Animal blood was shed in four out of the five Levitical Sacrifices under the <u>ritual plan of God</u> for the Jewish Age
a.	The burnt offering taught propitiation or expiation with emphasis on the work of Christ. Therefore, animal blood was used.
b.	The food offering taught propitiation with emphasis on the unique Person of Christ. Therefore, animal blood was not used. From this we learn that blood is not connected with our Lord's living but with His dying. This is the only bloodless offering.
c.	The peace offering represented the teaching of Reconciliation based on the work of the coming Messiah—Christ on the cross. Therefore, BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST by animal blood was shed at the altar. On the cross our Lord reconciled man to God by removing all the barriers. The removal of the barriers called for His spiritual death; consequently, blood was used.
d.	The sin offering taught <u>spiritual recovery from sin</u> , emphasizing the forgiveness of unknown sins in life.

	Therefore, animal blood was shed. So the blood of Christ is related to Faith recovery from sin just as it related to being eternally saved.
e.	The trespass offering taught spiritual recovery, emphasizing forgiveness of known sins. And again, animal blood was shed.

III	Animal blood therefore becomes a major issue in understanding the blood of Christ in the New Testament.
------------	--

Hebrews 9:22

22	and according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, (animal blood) and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.
----	--

	This is a New Testament commentary on the use of animal blood in the Old Testament. There can be no forgiveness of sins apart from the work of Christ on the cross. The animal sacrifices simply depicted that work in anticipation. So the shedding of animal blood represented the efficacious, saving work of Christ on the cross in the ritual plan of God for the dispensation of Israel.
--	--

IV	The blood of the animal contains the soul or the life of the animal
-----------	--

	<i>(Whatever soul the animal has, it is the consciousness of animals corresponds to Human beings. But no animal has God consciousness in his soul.)</i> Therefore, in the ritual plan of God during the Age of
--	--

	<p>Israel, the blood of the animal sacrifice portrayed the saving work of Christ on the cross.</p> <p>This is the Doctrine of Soteriology. So the shedding of animal blood was used to illustrate the various points of soteriology—Salvation.</p>
V	<p>In the New Testament, four doctrines of soteriology are included in the phrase, "the blood of Christ" or "through His blood."</p>
a.	<p>Redemption man being redeemed out from the slave market of sin and the price is the <i>blood of JESUS CHRIST</i> Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; Hebrews 9:12; 1 Peter 1:18-19</p>
b.	<p>Reconciliation where man is reconciled with God and reconciliation required the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13 and Colossians 1:20</p>
c.	<p>Propitiation (or <i>expiation</i>) God-ward side of cross where God is propitiated—removal of guilt of sin, freeing God to save all who will believe in JESUS CHRIST and is related to the blood of Christ [Romans 3:25] where Jesus Christ is said to be our Mercy Seat.</p>
d.	<p>Justification is related to the blood of Christ.</p>

Romans 5:8

8 ***God demonstrates His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more than being now justified by His blood.***

Amen

Now, for further comfort:

*While the heavens and the earth will be destroyed
the Bible is unchangeable,
His Word abideth forever.*

*You have more comfort, more stability in the Word of God
than you do in the universe.*

*You can rest in His Faithfulness
of your Eternal existence with Him.*

You have to make up your mind:

Is Christ sufficient for all your needs?

Or do you have to have other things or something else?

**This book is about the Sufficiency of JESUS CHRIST:
to God the Father;
and to you?**

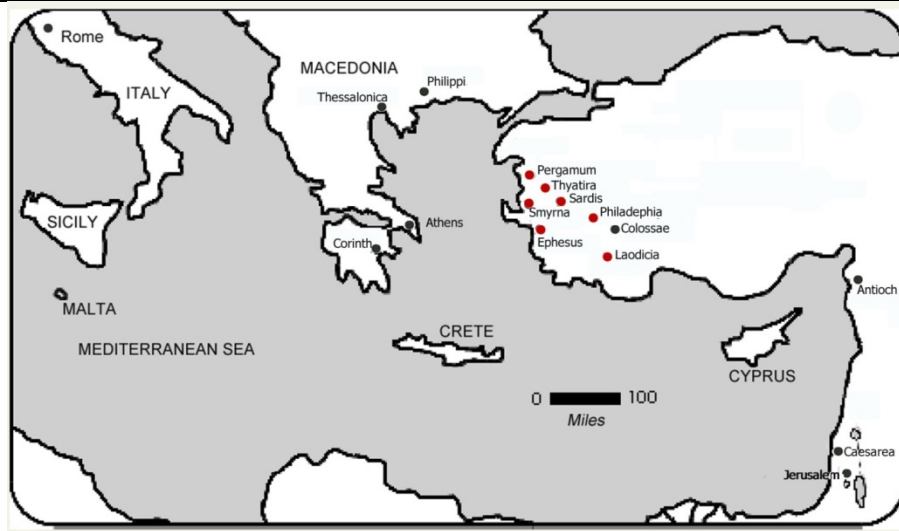
Is the Word of God sufficient for you?

Sufficient to bring you to JESUS CHRIST?

Sufficient to bring you to God the Father?

Is the Word of God sufficient for **SAD** (*Stress, Anxiety, Depression*) in
your life or do you need outside help?

So we learn so much from the true understanding of the Gospel.



*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last*