

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: Colossians 1:18-23 – *Jesus Christ is the greatest Peacemaker of all time!*

Today's Message:

"The Peacemaker"



INTRODUCTION

Last week, we were reminded that Jesus Christ is the one true God! He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature (Lord of all), supreme Creator of all things, and Sustainer of all things. Today, we will learn that Jesus Christ is the head of the body, the church. If you are saved, He is your head! And He is the Lord of your life and the One who must have preeminence! He has **made peace** (**RECONCILED** you) with God in the body of His flesh through death to present you holy, unblameable, and unproveable in His sight. Do you realize what you have in Christ? This is God's message to you...

LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text Colossians 1:18-23

A. The Head – Jesus Christ directs, sustains, and gives life to His church.

1. Jesus Christ is the glorious **HEAD** of His body, the church.

- **Colossians 1:18** – And he is **THE HEAD** of the body, the church:
who is **THE BEGINNING**, **THE FIRSTBORN** from the dead;
that **IN ALL THINGS** **he might have** **THE PREEMINENCE**.

Colossians 1:15
... **the firstborn** of
every creature:

- **Colossians 1:19** – For it pleased the Father that **IN HIM** **should all fulness dwell**;

- "Head"** Refers to the authority, power, life source, unity of members, and identity.
"Firstborn" Refers to priority, supremacy, or status, **not** chronological birth.
"Fullness" Means completeness or the sum total of all that is God.

Comparing Scriptures

- **Colossians 2:10** – And ye are complete in him... **the head** of all principality and power
- **Eph 1:22-23** – ...hath put **all things** under his feet... gave him to be **the head** over all...
- **Eph 4:15-16; 5:23** – ...which is **the head**, even Christ... as Christ is **the head** of the church

Key Truths

- Jesus is the **HEAD** of His church. *The body cannot live, move, grow without Him!*
- Jesus is the **BEGINNING** of all. *John 1:1; 1 John 1:1; Rev 1:8; 3:14; 21:16; 22:13*
- Jesus Christ is the **FIRST** of many to rise. *John 11:25-26; Acts 26:23; 1 Cor 15:20-23*
- In Christ, **all the fulness** of God dwells. *John 1:16; 5:26; Eph 1:22-23; Col 2:4; Heb 1:3*
 - Nothing is lacking in Christ – we are complete in Him! He is all we need.

John 15:5 ... without me ye can do nothing.

Important Note

The head controls every system in the human body.
Movement
Senses
Balance
Communication

Colossians 2:19

And not holding the Head, from which **all the body** by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Colossians 2:9

For in him dwelleth **all the fulness** of the **Godhead** bodily.

"... that IN HIM should all fulness dwell;"

Everything that makes God "God" is present and complete in Jesus Christ.
The fulness of God dwells in Christ – and the fulness of Christ dwells in believers.
Therefore, the Christian has everything he needs in Jesus Christ.

B. The Peacemaker – Jesus Christ paid for our peace with His own blood.

2. Jesus Christ **ALONE** accomplished a full reconciliation between God and man.

Isaiah 53:5

... 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.

- **Colossians 1:20** – 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.

“Peace” To bring harmony where hostility once existed.
“Reconcile” To restore to friendship or favor after estrangement or variance.

1 Tim 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Comparing Scriptures

- **Rom 5:10** – ... we were enemies... were RECONCILED TO GOD by the death of his Son...
- **2 Cor 5:18** – ...who hath RECONCILED US TO HIMSELF by Jesus Christ...
- **2 Cor 5:19** – To wit, that God was in Christ RECONCILING the world UNTO HIMSELF...
- **Heb 1:3** – ... when he had BY HIMSELF purged our sins, sat down on the right hand...
- **Heb 2:17** – ... faithful high priest...to MAKE RECONCILIATION for the sins of the people.
- The cross stands at the center of God’s eternal plan – Worthy is the Lamb!
- Because all fulness dwells in Christ, He alone can reconcile us to the Father!

2 Corinth 5:21

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.

C. The Personal Saviour – Jesus Christ has made reconciliation personal to you!

3. Jesus Christ’s goal is not just to forgive sin, but to transform sinners into **SAINTS**!

Our Past Condition

Alienated
Enemies
Wicked

- **Colossians 1:21** – And **YOU**, that were sometime ALIENATED and ENEMIES in your mind by WICKED WORKS, yet now hath he reconciled
- **Colossians 1:22** – In THE BODY OF HIS FLESH THROUGH DEATH, to present you HOLY, UNBLAMEABLE and UNREPROVEABLE in his sight:
- **Colossians 1:23** – If ye continue in THE FAITH grounded and settled, and be not moved away from THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Our Present Condition

Reconciled

In His Sight

Holy
Unblameable
Unreproveable

“Alienated” Separated; estranged; shut out from fellowship or intimacy.
“Enemy” A foe; an adversary; one who hates/opposes another and wishes him injury.
“Wicked” Evil; corrupt; sinful; immoral (everything contrary to the moral law); cursed.
“Holy” Set apart to a sacred use, or to the service and worship of God; pure.
“Unblameable” Not blamable; not culpable; innocent.
“Unreproveable” Not deserving of reproof; that cannot be justly censured or accused.

Comparing Scriptures

- **Ephesians 2:12-13** – At that time ye were without Christ... NO HOPE... WITHOUT GOD
- **Romans 8:7** – Because the carnal mind is enmity against God... neither indeed can be.
- **Titus 1:15-16** – ... unto them... unbelieving... even their mind and conscience is defiled.
- **2 Corinth 5:20** – ... be YE reconciled to God.
- God initiated – you did not make peace with God... He made peace with **YOU**!

Ephesians 2:1

And YOU hath he quickened, WHO WERE DEAD in TRESPASSES and SINS;

“If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away...”

The hope of the gospel is our spiritual anchor. This is not a threat to salvation, but a test of genuine faith. **John 8:31** (if ye continue in my word), **1 John 2:19** (They went out... they were not of us). Remain steadfast in your faith. Storms of life come, but a faith grounded in Christ will not move.