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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's Email Address is Joe@southreno.com

## A: Scripture

**2 Corinthians 5:19–21, NLT** -<sup>19</sup> For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" <sup>21</sup> For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

**2 Corinthians 5:19–21, NASB** -<sup>19</sup> ...God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

## B: Word Study

**Reconciling** – Gk: καταλλάσσω (*ka-tah—LOSS-so*); 'katah' means to come down; 'lasso' means to change or transform; lit., **Come down and make things right.**

**Trespasses** – Gk: παράπτωμα (*pa-RAH-ta-ma*); 'parah' means to fall or come close by; 'piptoma' means to fall from a high standard (ie., to break a law); lit, **To fall right in the middle of serious sin.** (The tense used indicates it just keeps happening.)

**Ambassador** – Gk: πρεσβεύω (*prez-BU-row*); Lit., 'Bur-row' means an old man (seasoned), 'prez' means to speak for an authority; lit., **To be giving authority to speak on behalf of a king/ruler.**

## C: Study / Application

### 1. Christ's Calling—Reconciling mankind to God.

**2 Corinthians 5:19a, NLT** -<sup>19</sup> For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them....

### 2. Christ's Commission—We are His mouthpiece.

**2 Corinthians 5:19, TLB** -<sup>19</sup> For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men's sins against them but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. <sup>20</sup> We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you....

### 3. Christ's Appeal—Be made right with God.

**2 Corinthians 5:20, GNB** -<sup>20</sup> Here we are, then, speaking for Christ, as though God himself were making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ's behalf: let God change you from enemies into his friends!

### 4. Christ's Character—He knew no sin.

**2 Corinthians 5:21, NASB** -<sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### 5. Christ's Sacrifice—He became sin for us.

**2 Corinthians 5:21, NIV** -<sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### 6. Christ's Gift—That we might be declared "righteous."

**2 Corinthians 5:21, KJV 1900** -<sup>21</sup> 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.

**Here's The  
POINT** ➤

**As the old song says, "He (Christ) paid a debt He did not owe; I owed a debt I could not pay; I needed Someone to wash my sins away; and now I sing a brand new song, Amazing Grace, My Jesus paid a (sin) debt I could never pay."**