

Colossians



At the Center of it All

'3 Gospel Words'

Colossians 1:21-23

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

Colossians 1:21-23

²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

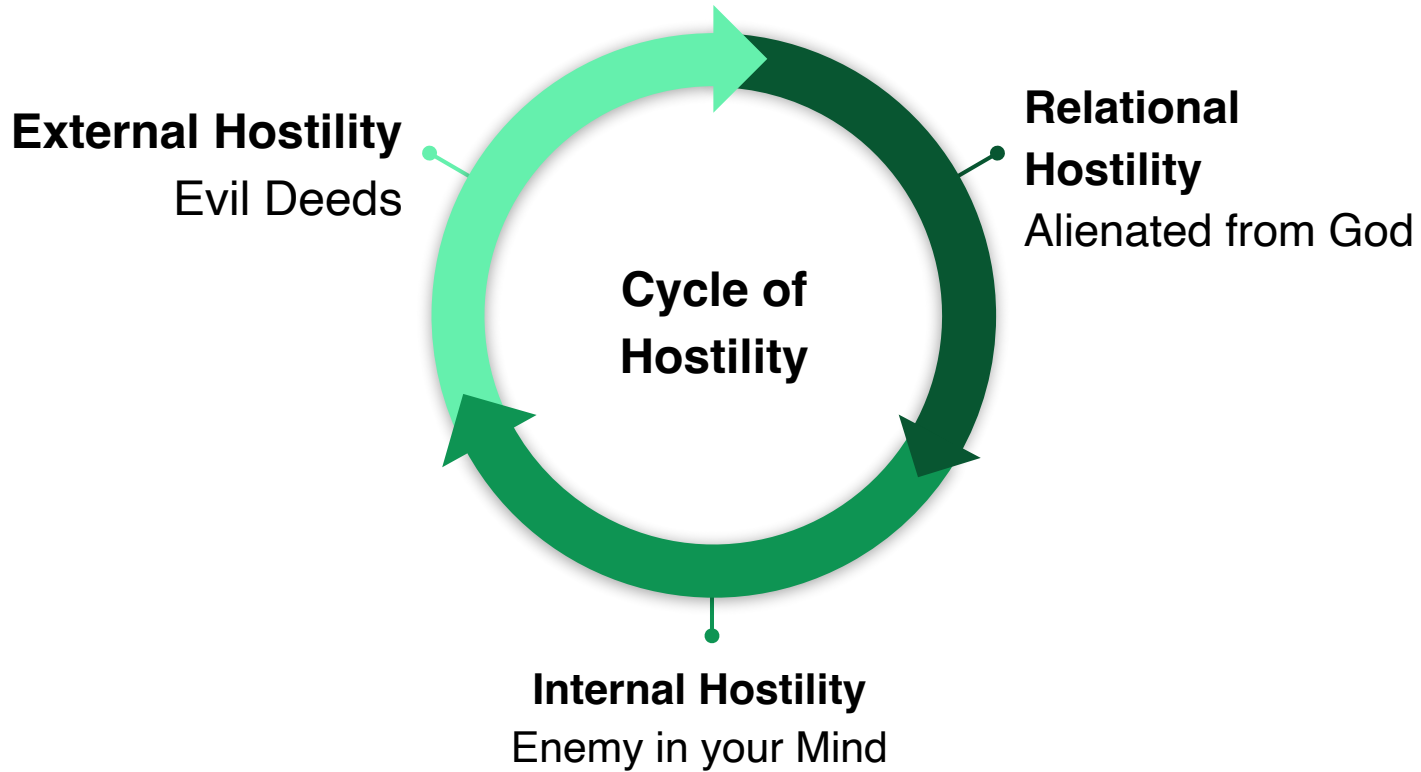
Gospel = News that brings great joy

Colossians 1:23

...the **gospel** that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

3 Gospel words..

1. Alienated
2. Reconciled
3. Steadfast



Our “hostility (or alienation) is really there toward the true God, but people do not allow themselves to think about the true God. They imagine God to be the way they would like him to be, which seldom includes any possibility that they might be in really serious trouble with him.

*But concerning **the God who really exists** — a God who is sovereign over all things, including sickness and calamity — we were all hostile to him, Paul says. Deep down, we hated his absolute power and authority.”*

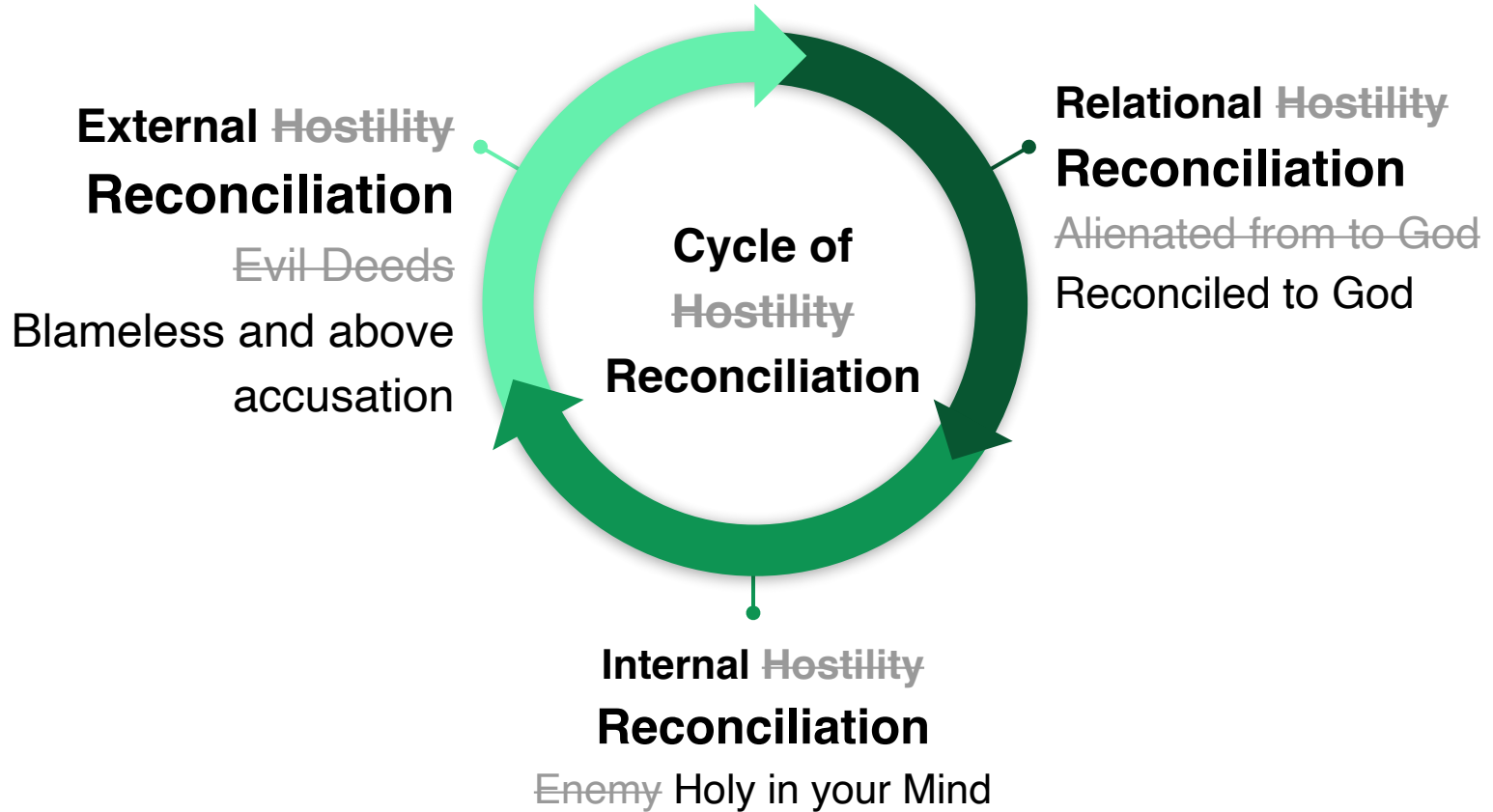
Col 1:22

He has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death.

He wore our sinful rags, so we could wear his righteous robe and enter the presence of the Holy God!

Jesus reconciled us in his “body of flesh”

He needed to play by the rules we were submitted to. He needed to wear the weak flesh we wore and be tempted by the devil just like we were.



3 Interpretations of “If indeed you continue in the faith...”

Interpretation #1: You can lose your reconciliation, if you fail to continue in the faith

Interpretation #2: You can NOT lose your reconciliation, even if you fail to continue in the faith

Interpretation #3: If you are TRULY reconciled, you WILL continue in the faith

Interpretation #3: *If you are TRULY reconciled, you WILL continue in the faith*

1 Corinthians 1:8

who (GOD) *will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day four Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Philippians 1:6

He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it at the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 John 2:19

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.”

2 dangerous shifts

1. We shift our hope from the gospel of His goodness to hoping in our goodness
1. We shift our hope from the gospel of life with him to what we can get ourselves in this life

Remember the Gospel by...

1. **BE DEEPLY KNOWN** BY THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL,
AND HIS GOSPEL FAMILY
1. **KNOW** THE GOD OF THIS GOSPEL AND HIS GOSPEL
FAMILY DEEPLY

We remain steadfast, because we are held fast by JESUS