

***Returning to the Authentic Gospel  
Restoring Our Faith – God's Reconciliation  
2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2 – Part 2***

***Courageous Ministry...***

***In verses 1-6 of 2 Corinthians 4, Paul how to have courage to fulfill the ministry...***

***Living in God's Power...***

***In verses 7-12 of 2 Corinthians 4, Paul then gives us he secret to living in God's Power...***

***Our weakness releases God's Power!***

***Now we move to Paul bringing those two ideas together and showing how we can remain consistent in our faith no matter what circumstances arise...***

***We must live with Eternal Perspective!***

***2 Corinthians 4:13-18***

***Looking toward our Heavenly home!***

***2 Corinthians 5:1-10***

***ONE THING***

***RELIGION says MAN initiates reconciliation with GOD through APPEASEMENT resulting in ACHIEVEMENT.***

**CHRISTIANITY says GOD initiates reconciliation with MAN through REDEMPTION resulting in RESTORATION.**

***Part 2  
How God Brings His Reconciliation***

***1. Judgment NECESSITATES God's Reconciliation.***

***2. God's Love INCORPORATES God's Reconciliation.***

***3. The Flesh ALIENATES God's Reconciliation.***

***4. The Father INITIATES God's Reconciliation***

***2 Corinthians 5:18 (ESV) — All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation***

***The Bible never tells lost mankind to make peace with God!***

***Sin, pride and rebellion SEPARATES us from God...***

***It is God who initiates reconciliation with humanity!***

***2 Corinthians 5:19a (ESV) That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them***

**Salvation is not you accepting Christ, but God accepting you!**

**Romans 3:10–12 (ESV)** — As it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”

But someone may say, “Now wait a minute, haven’t I read where people are told to search for God?”

You may be referring to Jeremiah 29...

**Jeremiah 29:13–14a (ESV)** — You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD ...

We must, however, remember who the Lord is speaking to in this... He is speaking to HIS PEOPLE!

Lost humanity will NEVER seek Jesus!

**2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (ESV)** — And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Our default is religion...

**Religion says man initiates reconciliation with God through appeasement resulting in achievement.**

**Christianity says God initiates reconciliation with man through redemption resulting in restoration.**

**Romans 5:8 (ESV)** — But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**1. Judgment NECESSITATES God’s Reconciliation.**

**2. God’s Love INCORPORATES God’s Reconciliation.**

**3. The Flesh ALIENATES God’s Reconciliation.**

**4. The Father INITIATES God’s Reconciliation.**

**5. Jesus INAUGURATES God’s Reconciliation**

**2 Corinthians 5:18 (ESV)** — All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation

How did the Father through Christ reconcile us?

**2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

So, let’s see how this works...

**2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

“For our sake...”

**John 3:16–17 (ESV)** — For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not

**perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**

**Romans 3:23 (ESV) — For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**

**2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV) For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

**“... He made Him to be sin who knew no sin...”**

**This is a strange statement at face value, but in order to understand it more fully we must take a look at the stipulations of a COVENANT**

**An agreement between two parties and ratified**

**A covenant means a binding agreement, a legal contract. It is a seal between two or more parties.**

**In a biblical sense, the word covenant derives from the same root word meaning “to cut.”**

**You've heard of the expression, “Let's cut a deal”... This means that in the culture of the Bible, covenant carried weight and was often cut, or sealed, in blood.**

**→ Garden of Eden...**

**The Lord made garments of skin for Adam and Eve to cloth/cover them... A death occurred to ratify God's covenant with Adam...**

**→ Noah and his family...**

**Genesis 8:20 (ESV) — Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.**

**→ Abraham**

**Genesis 15:9–10 (ESV) — He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half.**

**The Lord then went between the two halves...**

**→ Moses and the people of Israel**

**Hebrews 9:16–22 (ESV) — For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.” And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

**A “WILL” ...**

**The dictionary defines a WILL as...**

***“A legal document indicating the distribution of a person’s wealth after his or her death.”***

***In Christ, God set forth His WILL to redeem mankind...***

***This WILL could not come into effect until Jesus’ death***

→ ***Jesus and the New, Eternal Covenant***

***Hebrews 9:15 (ESV) — Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.***

***The First Covenant with Moses and Israel was only upheld until Messiah would come...***

→ ***Jesus becomes human***

***Hebrews 10:5–7 (ESV) — Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’ ”***

→ ***Jesus knew no sin***

***Hebrews 4:15 (ESV) — For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.***

→ ***Jesus became sin***

***Isaiah 53:6 (ESV) — All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.***

***1 Peter 2:24 (ESV) — He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.***

...

***2 Corinthians 5:18 (ESV) — All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation***

***Let’s continue with verse 21 and see how Jesus inaugurates God’s reconciliation...***

***2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV) For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.***

***Let’s begin with this phrase, “we might become...”***

***This is called a SUBJUNCTIVE verb meaning there is a possibility but not certainty...***

***Let me show you what this means regarding righteousness...***

***There are two basic stages in a believers righteous state...***

➤ ***IMPUTED righteousness***

- ***Occurs at CONVERSION***

**1 Corinthians 1:30 (ESV) — And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption**

➤ **IMPARTED righteousness**

- **Occurs during SANCTIFICATION**

**Romans 1:17 (ESV) — For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”**

**2 Corinthians 9:10 (ESV) — He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.**

**1 Timothy 6:11 (ESV) — But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.**

**2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV) — All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

***Returning to the Authentic Gospel  
Restoring Our Faith – God's Reconciliation  
2 Corinthians 5:11 – 6:2 – Part 2***

\_\_\_\_\_ says \_\_\_\_\_ initiates reconciliation with \_\_\_\_\_  
through \_\_\_\_\_ resulting in \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ says \_\_\_\_\_ initiates reconciliation with \_\_\_\_\_  
through \_\_\_\_\_ resulting in \_\_\_\_\_.

***Part 1  
Why Humanity Needs God's Reconciliation***

1. Judgment **NECESSITATES** God's Reconciliation
2. God's Love **INCORPORATES** God's Reconciliation
3. The Flesh **ALIENATES** God's Reconciliation

***Part 2  
Why God Brings His Reconciliation***

4. The Father \_\_\_\_\_ God's Reconciliation
5. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ God's Reconciliation

- \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness
  - Occurs at \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness
  - Occurs during \_\_\_\_\_