

Reconciliation

Definition: Reconciliation is the removal of the barrier between God and man. [Eph. 2:16](#); [Col. 1:20](#); [II Cor. 5:18](#)

- I. Reconciliation recognizes that there is a barrier – a sin wall between God and man.
 1. There is an obstruction composed of:
 - SIN – Adam’s sin imputed. Inherent sin; born with OSN. [II Cor. 5:14, 15, & 19](#)
 - DEATH – Penalty for sin – spiritual death. [Col. 2:14](#)
 - BIRTH – Born spiritually dead. [John 3:1-18](#); [Eph. 2:1](#) “*And you hath He quickened...*”
 2. God is absolute Righteousness - Holiness. ([Rom. 3:22](#); [Rom. 4:1-5](#))
 3. God’s character, which includes Righteousness and Justice, must be satisfied before man can have fellowship with Him. ([I John 2:1,2](#))
 4. We have a position in Adam. We must have a position in Christ (2nd Adam). ([I Cor. 15:22](#))
- II. The Cross is the basis for such reconciliation. Jesus Christ removed that barrier during the three hours on the Cross. ([Luke 23:44](#); [Eph. 2:16](#); [Col. 1:18, 19](#)) Jesus Christ holds all things together.
- III. In reconciliation, the unbeliever is regarded as the enemy of God. ([Rom. 5:10](#); [Col. 1:21](#))
- IV. Believers of the Church Age have the ministry of reconciliation. ([II Cor. 5:18-20](#))
- V. Among the Levitical offerings, we have the Peace Offering, which portrays reconciliation. ([Lev. 3](#); [Lev. 7:11- 38](#); [Lev. 8:15](#))
- VI. Reconciliation denotes peace between God and man. Compare [Eph. 2:14](#) with [2:16](#) and [Col. 1:20, 21](#); [II Cor. 5:18](#)

Reconciliation (Continued)

VII. Structure of reconciliation:

How does God handle these obstructions?

1. SIN - The problem of sin can only be solved by Christ dying for our sins – this is known as: *ATONEMENT* – Christ died for everyone. (II Cor. 5:14, 15, 19; I Tim. 2:6 & 4:10; Titus 2:11; Heb. 2:9; II Pet. 2:1; I John 2:2) The problem of sin can only be solved by Christ purchasing man from the Slave Market of Sin, and this is known as: *REDEMPTION*. (John 8: 31-36; Gal. 3:13; I Pet. 1:18, 19; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14)
2. The penalty of sin is removed by: *EXPIATION* – this is Jesus Christ paying in full God’s just demands against man. He took our place. He paid the full price; therefore the penalty for sin is removed.
3. PHYSICAL BIRTH – The obstruction related to man’s birth is removed by: *REGENERATION* – In regeneration, man is given a new birth. “Ye must be born again...” (John 3:1-18; I Pet. 1:23; Titus 3:5)
4. HOLINESS - The obstruction related to the absolute righteousness of God is solved by: *IMPUTATION* – Imputation is God crediting to our account His Righteousness. (Rom. 9:30; Rom.10:10) *JUSTIFICATION* – Rom. 4:1-5; Rom. 5:1; Rom. 8: 29-30; Titus 3:7
5. GOD’S CHARACTER – this obstruction is removed by: *PROPITIATION* – The Godward side of the work of Christ on the cross. (Rom. 3:22-26; I John 2:1-2)
6. POSITION IN ADAM – This obstruction is removed by our new *POSITION IN CHRIST*. (I Cor. 15:22; II Cor. 5:17; Eph. 1:3)

VIII. The barrier has been removed. The removal of the barrier was prophesied in [Isaiah 57:19](#).