

**Colossians 1:23** “If you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.”

## **V. God has given us a call to the ministry of reconciliation.**

### **A. We were reconciled to God by faith in Jesus Christ.**

**Romans 5:1** “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**2 Corinthians 5:18a** “All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ ....”

**2 Corinthians 5:19a** “That God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them.”

### **B. We have the ministry and message of reconciliation.**

**2 Corinthians 5:18b** “... and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”

**2 Corinthians 5:19b** “... And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”

**2 Corinthians 5:20** We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”

## **Peace with God! Colossians 1:19-23 Lesson #5**

**Colossians 1:19** “For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him.”

### **I. He will reconcile creation to Himself.**

**Colossians 1:20** “And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

**Genesis 1:31** “God saw all that He had made, and it was very good....”

**Genesis 6:5** “The LORD saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.”

**Romans 8:19** “The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.”

**Romans 8:20** “For the creation was subjected to frustration not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope.”

**Romans 8:21** “That the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.”

**Romans 8:22** “We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.”

**Colossians 1:20a** “And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, ....”

**2 Peter 3:10** “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

**2 Peter 3:13** “But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.”

**Revelation 21:1** “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.”

### **II. God reconciles believers by means of the cross.**

**Colossians 1:20b** "... by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

**Romans 5:10** "For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!"

### **A. We were dead in our sins.**

**Ephesians 2:1** "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins."

### **B. We lived in disobedience.**

**Ephesians 2:2** "In which you used to live when you followed the ways of the world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."

### **C. We gratified the deeds of the sin nature.**

**Ephesians 2:3a** "All of us also lived among them at one time gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts ...."

### **D. We were under divine wrath.**

**Ephesians 2:3b** "... Like the rest we were by nature objects of wrath."

**John 3:36** "Whoever believes in the Son has life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on Him."

### **E. We were distant from Christ.**

**Ephesians 2:12** "Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise ...."

**Ephesians 2:13b** "... you who once were far away ...."

### **F. We were devoid of hope and God.**

**Ephesians 2:12b** "... without hope and without God in the world."

**Colossians 1:21** "Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior."

**John 3:19** "This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>[20]</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed."

## **III. God reconciles us by confident faith in Christ Jesus.**

**Luke 7:50** "And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

**John 3:18** "Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

**John 5:24** "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

## **IV. God reconciles us to conform us to the likeness of Christ.**

**Colossians 1:22** "But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—"

**I Thessalonians 1:7** "For God did not call us to be impure; but to live a holy life."

**I Corinthians 6:19** "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>[20]</sup> You were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body."

**I Peter 1:18** "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, <sup>[19]</sup> "but with the precious blood of Christ a Lamb without blemish or defect."

**Romans 8:1** "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

**Ephesians 5:8** "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. <sup>[9]</sup> For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth. <sup>[10]</sup> Find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>[11]</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them."