

# The Believer is Reconciled

## ***Definition***

Reconciled is translated from the Greek *katallassō* - to change, exchange, as coins for others of equivalent value; to reconcile (those who are at variance); return to favor with, be reconciled to one; to receive one into favor<sup>1</sup>. The word is in the Aorist Passive voice, which indicates that it is a completed past action with ongoing results. God exchanged our position as enemies for a position of intimacy. Earthly stories of reconciliation do not carry with them the extreme dynamic of God's holiness in contrast to our position as enemies – their nature is one of two fallen beings exchanging their state of division for unity.

## ***Federal Headship***

Federal Headship is a term used to describe the fact that an ancestor can dramatically affect his descendants with his actions. Adam, as the federal head (Romans 5:12-19), caused separation from God. The only way to restore the relationship was for God to do the reconciling as it was His righteousness that was offended at the fall. To address the issue of federal headship God adopted us and brought us into the line of Christ which allowed for us to be reconciled to Him and restored to a proper relationship as God had created in Genesis 1:26.

## ***Reconciled by God***

*God reconciles the believer.* His Holy, Just and Righteous nature required Him to take action because our fallen nature was insufficient to rectify the fall of Adam.

## **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that 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. 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. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

## **Colossians 1:20**

...and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

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<sup>1</sup> Blue Letter Bible. "Dictionary and Word Search for *katallassō* (Strong's 2644)". Blue Letter Bible. 1996-2008. 26 Jan 2008. <<http://cf.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strong=G2644&Version=kjv>>

## ***Reconciled to God***

### **Romans 5:10-11**

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

### **2 Corinthians 5:20**

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.

## ***Practical Principles***

Reconciliation between believers

Reconciliation between the husband and wife

Reconciliation as a ministry