ITHEREFORE, SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED BY FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. 2THROUGH HIM WE HAVE ALSO OBTAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE STAND, AND WE REJOICE IN HOPE OF THE GLORY OF GOD... 6FOR WHILE WE WERE STILL WEAK, AT THE RIGHT TIME CHRIST DIED FOR THE UNGODLY. 7FOR ONE WILL SCARCELY DIE FOR A RIGHTEOUS PERSON—THOUGH PERHAPS FOR A GOOD PERSON ONE WOULD DARE EVEN TO DIE— 8BUT GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR US IN THAT WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.

9SINCE, THEREFORE, WE HAVE NOW BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, MUCH MORE SHALL WE BE SAVED BY HIM FROM THE WRATH OF GOD. 10FOR IF WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, NOW THAT WE ARE RECONCILED, SHALL WE BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE. 11MORE THAN THAT, WE ALSO REJOICE IN GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED RECONCILIATION. —ROMANS 5:1-2, 6-11

f.,001.tiff

RECONCILIATION

"RECONCILIATION IS THE
RESTORATION OF A RELATIONSHIP
TO A HARMONIOUS STATE AFTER
A DISPUTE; IT IS THE BRINGING
OF ACCORD OUT OF DISCORD
BETWEEN TWO PARTIES.
CHRISTIAN RECONCILIATION
IS THE WORK OF GOD THROUGH
CHRIST BY WHICH HE RESTORES
MANKIND TO A FAVORABLE
RELATIONSHIP WITH HIMSELF."
—GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

f.:003.tiff f.:004.tiff

I. RECONCILIATION IMPLIES BROKENNESS

"OUR WHOLE CULTURE IS
ALL ABOUT SELF-LOVE,
SELF-ESTEEM, SELF-DISCOVERY...
AS LONG AS THERE IS SELF,
THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS.
SCRIPTURE TEACHES US TO
MOVE FROM SELF TO SAVIOR,
FROM SELF-DISCOVER TO
SELF-DENIAL, FROM SELF-ESTEEM
TO SELF-SACRIFICE.
EYES ARE ON JESUS, NOT SELF.
IF YOU WERE THE CURE,
JESUS WOULD BE UNNECESSARY."

f.,005.tiff f.,006.tiff

7FOR THE MIND THAT IS SET ON THE FLESH
IS HOSTILE TO GOD, FOR IT DOES NOT SUBMIT
TO GOD'S LAW; INDEED, IT CANNOT.
8THOSE WHO ARE IN THE FLESH CANNOT
PLEASE GOD. —ROMANS 8:7-8

YOU ADULTEROUS PEOPLE! DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WORLD IS ENMITY WITH GOD? THEREFORE WHOEVER WISHES TO BE A FRIEND OF THE WORLD MAKES HIMSELF AN ENEMY OF GOD. —JAMES 4:4

GALL 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...

OPET IT WAS THE WILL OF THE LORD TO CRUSH HIM; HE HAS PUT HIM TO GRIEF; WHEN HIS SOUL MAKES AN OFFERING FOR GUILT, HE SHALL SEE HIS OFFSPRING; HE SHALL PROLONG HIS DAYS; THE WILL OF THE LORD SHALL PROSPER IN HIS HAND. OF THE ANGUISH OF HIS SOUL HE SHALL SEE AND BE SATISFIED; BY HIS KNOWLEDGE SHALL THE RIGHTEOUS ONE, MY SERVANT, MAKE MANY TO BE ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS, AND HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES.

—ISAIAH 53:6, 10-11

F.,007.tiff F.,008.tiff

AND HE AROSE AND CAME TO HIS FATHER.
BUT WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF,
HIS FATHER SAW HIM AND FELT COMPASSION, AND
RAN AND EMBRACED HIM AND KISSED HIM. —LUKE 15:20

"IT COULD BE SAID THAT THE ENTIRE BIBLE IS THE STORY OF CHRISTIAN RECONCILIATION. WE STARTED OFF IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN AS FRIENDS OF GOD, UNASHAMED AND LIVING IN FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER. BUT THEN SIN ENTERED THE WORLD, AND ALL OUR RELATIONSHIPS WERE BROKEN. WE BECAME ENEMIES OF GOD, SEEKING OUR OWN WAYS AND LIVING IN OPEN HOSTILITY TO HIM. THE WHOLE OF SCRIPTURE, THEN, IS A RECORD OF GOD'S RECONCILING US TO HIMSELF. WE RAN AWAY, AND HE PURSUED US. WE WERE SCATTERED AS SHEEP, AND HE SENT THE GOOD SHEPHERD. WE HID IN DARKNESS, AND HE SENT THE TRUE LIGHT. WE WERE DYING IN A SELF-MADE DROUGHT, AND HE SENT THE LIVING WATER." —GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

f.,009.tiff f.,010.tiff

2. RECONCILIATION LEADS TO BLESSING

• ACCESS

F.IO11.tiff F.IO12.tiff

14FOR HE HIMSELF IS OUR PEACE, WHO HAS MADE US BOTH ONE AND HAS BROKEN DOWN IN HIS FLESH THE DIVIDING WALL OF HOSTILITY 15BY ABOLISHING THE LAW OF COMMANDMENTS EXPRESSED IN ORDINANCES, THAT HE MIGHT CREATE IN HIMSELF ONE NEW MAN IN PLACE OF THE TWO, SO MAKING PEACE, 16AND MIGHT RECONCILE US BOTH TO GOD IN ONE BODY THROUGH THE CROSS, THEREBY KILLING THE HOSTILITY... 18FOR THROUGH HIM WE BOTH HAVE ACCESS IN ONE SPIRIT TO THE FATHER. 19SO THEN YOU ARE NO LONGER STRANGERS AND ALIENS, BUT YOU ARE FELLOW CITIZENS WITH THE SAINTS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD. — EPHESIANS 2:14-16, 18-19

• ACCEPTANCE

f.,013.tiff f.,014.tiff

21AND YOU, WHO ONCE
WERE ALIENATED AND HOSTILE
IN MIND, DOING EVIL DEEDS,
22HE 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 1:21-22

BLESSINGS OF RECONCILIATION WITH GOD
 ADOPTION

F.IO15.tiff F.IO16.tiff

³BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO HAS BLESSED US IN CHRIST WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES, ⁴EVEN AS HE CHOSE US IN HIM BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, THAT WE SHOULD BE HOLY AND BLAMELESS BEFORE HIM. IN LOVE ⁵HE PREDESTINED US FOR ADOPTION TO HIMSELF AS SONS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO THE PURPOSE OF HIS WILL. —EPHESIANS 1:3-5

⁴BUT WHEN THE FULLNESS OF TIME HAD COME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF WOMAN, BORN UNDER THE LAW, ⁵TO REDEEM THOSE WHO WERE UNDER THE LAW, SO THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE ADOPTION AS SONS. —GALATIANS 4:4-5

3. RECONCILIATION BECOMES OUR BUSINESS

f.,017.tiff f.,018.tiff

... ISAND HE DIED FOR ALL, THAT THOSE WHO LIVE MIGHT NO LONGER LIVE FOR THEMSELVES BUT FOR HIM WHO FOR THEIR SAKE DIED AND WAS RAISED... ISALL THIS IS FROM GOD, WHO THROUGH CHRIST RECONCILED US TO HIMSELF AND GAVE US THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION;

IPTHAT IS, IN CHRIST GOD WAS RECONCILING THE WORLD TO HIMSELF, NOT COUNTING THEIR TRESPASSES AGAINST THEM, AND ENTRUSTING TO US THE MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION. 20THEREFORE, WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, GOD MAKING HIS APPEAL THROUGH US. WE IMPLORE YOU ON BEHALF OF CHRIST, BE RECONCILED TO GOD. 21FOR OUR SAKE HE MADE HIM TO BE SIN WHO KNEW NO SIN, SO THAT IN HIM WE MIGHT BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD. —2 CORINTHIANS 5:15, 18-21

"ALTHOUGH THE CHURCH ACCOMPLISHES MANY TASKS, ITS ONLY MESSAGE TO THE WORLD IS THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.

EVERYTHING ELSE WE DO IS MERELY AN EXTENSION OF THAT PRIMARY GOAL. THE GOSPEL WE OFFER THE LOST IS SUPERIOR TO EVERY WORLDLY PHILOSOPHY. NEVER OUTDATED OR IN NEED OF CORRECTION, IT IS ALWAYS SUFFICIENT TO MEET HUMANITY'S GREATEST NEED:

RECONCILIATION WITH THE CREATOR." —CHARLES STANLEY

f.:019.tiff f.:020.tiff

"MARRIAGE DOESN'T SOLVE OUR EMPTINESS, IT EXPOSES IT." —DR. GARY THOMAS

FOR THERE IS ONE GOD, AND THERE IS ONE MEDIATOR
BETWEEN GOD AND MEN, THE MAN CHRIST JESUS,
WHO GAVE HIMSELF AS A RANSOM FOR ALL, WHICH IS THE
TESTIMONY GIVEN AT THE PROPER TIME. —I TIMOTHY 2:5-6

4BUT WHEN THE GOODNESS AND LOVING KINDNESS OF GOD OUR SAVIOR APPEARED, 5HE SAVED US, NOT BECAUSE OF WORKS DONE BY US IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS OWN MERCY, BY THE WASHING OF REGENERATION AND RENEWAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, 6WHOM HE POURED OUT ON US RICHLY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR, 7SO THAT BEING JUSTIFIED BY HIS GRACE WE MIGHT BECOME HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE. —TITUS 3:4-7