

FOUNDATIONS

LESSON 26: RECONCILIATION AND THE ETERNAL WORK OF GOD

Introduction

Main Idea: God shows His love for sinners by removing their sin and reconciling them to Himself through faith in Jesus His Son.

I. Reconciliation – Definition and Theological Context

A. Helpful Definitions

“Reconciliation involves a change in the relationship between God and man or man and man. It assumes there has been a breakdown in the relationship, but now there has been a change from a state of enmity and fragmentation to one of harmony and fellowship.” – Baker’s Evangelical Dictionary

“Reconciliation supposes a quarrel, or breach of friendship; and sin has made a breach, it has broken the friendship between God and man. The heart of the sinner is filled with enmity against God, and God is justly offended with the sinner.” – Matthew Henry

B. Reconciliation Among Other Doctrines

II. Alienation – How Sin Stole Our Most Prized Possession

A. Fellowship – Intimacy with the Almighty

1. God Created Man for Personal Relationship (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7, 2:9, 2:15-17)
2. God Walked With Man Intimately (Gen. 3:8; Zeph. 3:17; Isa. 62:5; Dt. 30:9; Ps.149:4; Jer. 32:41)

B. Fall – Alienation from the Almighty

1. Sin Breaks Fellowship with God. (Gen. 3:8, 3:22-24; Ezek. 10:18)
2. Sin breaks communication with God. (Ps. 19:1-6; Isa. 59:1-2; Prov. 15:29, 28:9, 66:18; Jn. 9:31)

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3. Sin angers God against us. (Ps. 5:5, 11:5; Deut. 31:16-18; Isa. 1:10-18; Ezekiel 18:30-32)

III. Reconciliation – How God Made Peace with Sinners

A. God is the initiator of reconciliation. (Gen. 3:8-9)

1. God turns enemies into affectionate friends. (Rom. 5:1-12; Jam. 2:23; Jn. 15:15; Lk.15:20)
2. God Reconciles Sinners to Himself, and to Each Other. (Eph. 2:11-22)
3. God gives His presence to His People Again.
(Jn. 1:1-18; Lk. 2:8-14; 2 Cor. 5:16-19; Col. 1:18-23; Ezek. 43:1-5; Rev. 7:15-17, 21:1-4, 22:1-4)

IV. Reconciled – How Peace With God Shapes Our Lives

A. God's People Have a Personal Relationship With Him

1. God delights in us who are reconciled to Him (Psalm 147:11; Zephaniah 3:17).
2. God removes condemnation through reconciliation (Romans 8:1)
3. God says that we love Him through obedience. (John 14:15)
4. God gives us joy through obedience (John 15:11)
5. God's Spirit Dwells in Us (Ephesians 4:30)
6. God's Spirit Manifests the Life of Jesus in Us (Galatians 2:20, 4:19, 5:22-23)
7. God Calls Us to Pray To Him (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Jude 1:20)

B. God's People Seek Reconciliation With Others. (Mt. 5:21-25, 18:15; Mk. 11:25)

C. God's People Help Others Reconcile With God (2 Cor. 5:20-6:2)