

What Jesus Christ did for you – Reconciliation and Righteousness

Good morning church, I want to welcome you to our service today. If this is your first time joining us here on Sunday Online, we would like to welcome you to our service and invite you to join us every Sunday for a weekly message.

Let us pray

Introduction

For the last three weeks, we have been in a series titled “God is not mad with you?” and we will continue this week on this same topic and we will continue next week too as there are so many aspects to what Jesus Christ did for you and me that makes God not mad at anyone anymore!

Firstly, we discussed the Corrugated Christian life where we talked about Jesus Christ came to this earth so that we could have a life above our normal circumstances and so that we could live the supernatural life that He paid for us to live, that is to live a life that is above the natural way people live and therefore is SUPER or above the natural way of living.

Then we discussed the Image many people have of God that is often blurred by our past experiences and which makes us see or think that God is out to get us and punish us for our sin. This is a lie from the pit of Hell because God poured out all His wrath on Jesus Christ at the Cross of Calvary.

Last week we discussed Jesus Christ's Atoning sacrifice that blotted out your and my sin! In the past, the High Priest would take the blood of animals into the Holy of Holies and present this blood as an atoning sacrifice for Israel's sin, this had to happen each year and their sin was never removed but only covered.

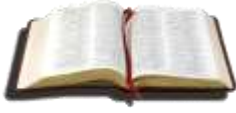
Jesus Christ according to Hebrews 9 presented His Blood in the Temple which is in heaven and presented His own Precious Blood on the Mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant which is in heaven to obtain an eternal redemption or forgiveness of sin, our sin was not covered but blotted out for eternity.

What Jesus paid for

Today I want to talk about Reconciliation, this is what Jesus' death and resurrection did for all of mankind, and understand that we will spend all eternity trying to understand and discover more of what Jesus Christ did for us on the Cross of Calvary.

Often, we read these words and do not understand what they mean, the power of God's Word is understanding the Word through understanding what these words mean and therefore we do not get a complete understanding of many things because we do not understand what the words mean.

In this series, I am highlighting some of these words to give us a better understanding of our Salvation and how through Jesus Christ we are now



completely reconciled with God, and our sin is totally blotted out never to be remembered again.

One of my favourite Psalms that talks about this is **Psalm 133:3-6** *“³ If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. ⁶ I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.”*

Why does God not keep a record of my sin? Because Jesus Christ paid the full price and therefore deal with my sin, removed my sin, blotted out my sin by His Precious Blood!

The flip side of this is how will you stand before God with there being a record of your sin in heaven?

ONLY Jesus Christ can wipe that book that records our sin and when He does each of our pages is now blank because Jesus Christ paid for it through His Atoning sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary.

Everyone needs Jesus!

RECONCILIATION

Throughout this series, I have quoted **2 Corinthians 5:18-19** and spoken about Reconciliation often and now I want to read a scripture to discuss it further, *“¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”*

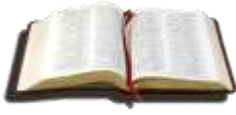
Reconciliation is an accounting term where an accountant reconciles what was spent in the year with the actual expenses and can be used when two parties need to find common ground to work through an issue.

Many people believe that when you die your good and bad deeds are weighed on scales and if you have done enough good, more than bad things, you go to heaven.

The sad truth is that when the angels reconcile our lives, our bad our sin far outweighs any good and therefore our lives cannot be reconciled or balanced because there is nothing to make us righteous according to **Romans 3:10** *“¹⁰ As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one;”*

Every time you see in scripture it is written then know that this is a direct quote from the Old Testament. And this is the case because this verse in Romans is referenced in **Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Eccles. 7:20**

We need to understand that the sin Adam and Eve committed brought sin into the world, this sin became our sin and it was the issue that caused mankind and God not



to be reconciled with each other, however, God was appeased by the sacrifice of animals to cover or atone for Israel's sin for a year but this was only a temporary solution and pointing to the Atoning Sacrifice that Jesus Christ would make once and for all eternity at the Cross of Calvary where sin was dealt for forever.

Jesus Christ, however, came to this earth, lived the perfect life without sin and therefore fulfilled every just requirement for the Law and died on the Cross of Calvary for the sin of all mankind, and paid the full price that the Law required for sin and therefore atoned and restored or reconciled the relationship between mankind and God for all eternity.

Romans 3:23-26 “²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished - ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”

It is a fact that we are all sinners, we have all sinned and continue to sin, and because when we sin we fall short of God's glorious plan for mankind, **Romans 6:23** says that the payment for a life of sin is death!

This is a never-ending cycle, and no person will ever be able to deal with their sin, you cannot be good enough, you cannot pay enough money or do anything to deal with your sin, except to receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

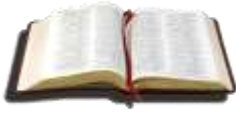
What does Saviour mean? Saviour means that He saves you from a debt you could never repay for which the punishment was death, you die and are eternally separated, or banishment from the presence of God, BUT your Saviour saves you from this fate by dying in your place, thus paying the FULL PRICE for your sin so that His death makes you perfectly and sinless and fully acceptable, fully reconciled to God!

So, when we accept Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we first acknowledge that we are a sinner and that we need a Saviour from our sin because we are going to Hell.

Next, we need to acknowledge that we have a debt that we can never pay! Unless we can find someone whole is perfect to pay the price our sin requires, which is death we are doomed to Hell.

Then We need to find someone who will die for us, a Saviour, someone who is perfect and able to die in our place like Jesus Christ.

We have to find a way, find someone to remove our sin because it is our sin that is separating us from the presence of God and the only person according to scripture (**John 14:6**) is Jesus Christ.



Slaves to Righteousness

Once we were slaves to sin, we had no way out of sin because we were born into sin but when we accept Jesus Christ, we are liberated from sin and we become slaves to Righteousness because Jesus Christ bought us with His precious Blood and declared us RIGHTEOUS before God.

The word Righteousness means to be in right standing before God, you have the right to stand in the very presence of God, it is like a child of the king has the right to be in the presence of the king anytime. We have the right as God's child because when we accept Jesus Christ we are adopted into the Kingdom of God and have become His sons and daughters, we are royalty!

This is what **Romans 5:8-10**, says "*But God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, because we have now been declared righteous by his blood, we will be saved through him from God's wrath. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, since we have been reconciled, will we be saved by his life?*".

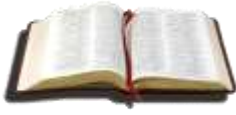
This is what Jesus Christ did when He took on your sin, Atoned for it, blotted out or removed your sin, blotted it out of the records, and reconciled you to God through His Blood.

He gave you the right to stand in the very presence of God. This is what **Romans 6:17-23** says "*¹⁷ But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. ¹⁹ I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

Once you were God's enemy and a slave to sin, and the Bible says in **1 Corinthians 15:58-29** "*⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*"

When you were a slave to sin you were bound by the effect of sin, remember that sin got its power through the Law, the 10 commandments, and Levitical law as found in the Torah or the first 5 books of the Bible.

The Law defined to us what is good and acceptable to God and what is not, and what was not acceptable was called sin, and this sin power was the Law because



the law gave it, its power and the consequence of a life of sin according to **Romans 6:23** is death or eternal separation from the presence of God or the sting of death spoken of in **1 Corinthians 5:28**.

So, the Law and or sin made us unrighteous or unacceptable to be in God's presence because God lives in perfect light and within this light, there is no darkness or sin.

Some people claim to have no sin because they reason that they are good people and we do not murder or steal, however, this is a lie from the devil and we are deceived because **Romans 3:23** clearly says we are all sinners but so does **1 John 8 & 10** *"⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us."*

The Greek and Hebrew word for sin is an archery term that means to miss the mark, or bullseye on the target.

The target is the perfect will of God and described in the Law, any time you miss the mark of God's perfection, you sin and therefore we are ALL sinners and need a Saviour from our sin.

We are all sinners because we all sin daily. Every one of us is a sinner because we miss the perfect mark of God.

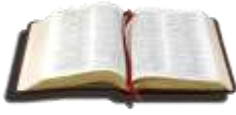
Remember last week we spoke of atonement which means to cover, so our sin is not only removed but any sin we commit is already blotted out by the Blood of Jesus Christ never to be remembered again.

Verse 9 says, *"⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. "*

What a glorious promise, you confess your sin and God will always forgive you of your sin, because Jesus Christ has already paid the price to atone or cover your sin for eternity and made you Righteous or in Right standing with God.

But we must realise that we are sinners and that the only way to be right with God is to confess our sins and accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour of our sin. And then live our lives for God.

As I have said in each message, what will you do with Jesus today? Will you accept Him or reject Him, to do nothing is as good as rejecting Him!



What will you do with the knowledge you have just heard about Jesus?

Let Us Pray