

By (Jesus) God reconciled everything to Himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of His blood on the cross.

Col 1:20 NLT

Study the various aspects of how God reconciles us to Himself in the verses below.

Meditate on these truths until you become fully convinced that they are true for you.

Worship Jesus daily, praising Him in song, for His blood which reconciles you to God.

Pray for a deeper understanding and impact of God's love toward you.

1. Enormity of His Grace

- Embrace the grace extended by Jesus that is almost too good to be true: Jn 8:10-11-- He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

2. Reality of Your Helplessness

- Sin brings separation between me and God: Is 59:2 NLT--Your sins have cut you off from God.
- Your best intentions and efforts will never be enough to make you righteous:
 - Rom 7:18-- For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.
 - Rom 5:6, 8 NLT-- When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners... But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners

3. Restored Relationship to God

- It is the blood of Jesus that allows us to come near to God:
 - Rom 3:25 NLT--God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God's anger against us. We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us.
 - 2 Cor 5:19, 21 NAS--God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them...He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him

4. Satisfaction of the Justice of God

- God's justice is based on His righteousness:
 - Ps 9:8-- He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness
 - Ps 89:14 NLT-- Your throne is founded on two strong pillars--righteousness and justice. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants
- His righteousness toward us is maintained by Jesus' blood:
 - Heb 9: 13-14 NLT--Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow could cleanse people's bodies from ritual defilement. *14* Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our hearts from deeds that lead to death so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins.
- Jesus' sacrifice is sufficient once for all:
 - Heb 10:14-- For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified
 - 1 Jn 2:2 NLT-- He is the sacrifice for our sins. He takes away not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

5. Expression of the Mercy of God

- God's mercy is beyond reason:
 - Is 1:18-- "Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool."
 - Eph 1:7 NLT-- He is so rich in kindness that he purchased our freedom through the blood of his Son, and our sins are forgiven
- God not only forgives our sin, but He also chooses to forget it:
 - Heb 10:17— Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more
 - Mic 7:18-19 NIV— Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea
 - Ps 103:12— As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us
 - Is 38:17— You have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sins behind Your back.
 - Is 44:22 NLT-- I have swept away your sins like the morning mists. I have scattered your offenses like the clouds. Oh, return to me, for I have paid the price to set you free.

6. Victory Over the Enemy

- Jesus' death gives us legal dominion over Satan:
 - Rev 12:10-11-- The accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.
 - Col 2:14-15 NLT-- He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross. In this way, God disarmed the evil rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross of Christ.

7. Newness of Life

- The blood delivers us from slavery to sin and frees us to live righteous lives:
 - Rom 6:6-- Our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin
 - 1 Pt 2:24 NIV-- He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness
 - Heb 2:14 NLT--Because God's children are human beings, made of flesh and blood, Jesus also became flesh and blood by being born in human form. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the Devil, who had the power of death.

8. Love of God Revealed

- Jesus' blood is the definition for what love looks like: 1 Jn 4:10 NLT-- This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.
- As we embrace this definition of love, we will grow in our ability to live free from feelings of fear, guilt and shame:
 - Rom 3:24 NLT-- God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins
 - 1 Jn 4:18 TM-- There is no room in love for fear. Well-formed love banishes fear. Since fear is crippling, a fearful life - fear of death, fear of judgment - is one not yet fully formed in love.
 - Is 54:4-5 NLT-- Fear not; you will no longer live in shame. The shame of your youth and the sorrows of widowhood will be remembered no more, for your Creator will be your husband. The LORD Almighty is his name! He is your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, the God of all the earth