

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 19-20, 2003

Gerry Andersen

"The Work of Christ"

Colossians 1:19-23

1. Reconciliation arranged for us (1:19-20)

a. The plan of reconciliation

1) The Father's role in the plan

- The Father initiated the plan

2) Christ's role in the plan

- The Son implemented the plan

3) Our role in the plan

- Our role in the plan is passive

b. The span of reconciliation

1) The depth of reconciliation

- The compound preposition for "reconcile" (APOKATALLAXAI) intensifies the word and has the meaning of restoration back to a state that once existed.

2) The breadth of reconciliation

- Reconciliation applies to "all things."

c. The man of reconciliation

1) Christ's death made peace for believers

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2) Christ's death made peace for the creation (Romans 8:19-22)

3) Christ's death made peace for unbelievers

2. Reconciliation applied for us (1:21-22)

a. What we were (1:21)

- Alienated
- Hostile in mind
- Engaged in evil deeds

b. What we are (1:22a)

- Reconciled
- Of the same mind
- Engaged in good deeds

c. What we will be (1:22b)

- "Holy" is internal in regard to ourselves
- "Blameless" is external in regard to ourselves
- "Beyond" reproach is external in regard to others

3. Reconciliation assured for us (1:23)

The word "if" is a first class Greek condition, meaning it is assumed to be true. It can be translated "since."

"Continue" (EPIMENETE) is in an intensified form.

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"Firmly established" (TETHEMELIOMENOI) means "a laid foundation" and is a perfect, passive participle. This means our firm establishment has been completed for us by another.

Our consistency in our faith proves that we have been reconciled to Christ.

Our lack of faithfulness gives evidence that we have not yet embraced the words of Colossians 1:19-23 (cf. 1 John 2:19).

The world hopes for reconciliation through compromise. The Lord brings reconciliation through conversion.