

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for February 8, 2015**

**The Man of Missions**  
**2 Corinthians 5:18-21**

The Mission - Make Disciples (What?) Matthew 28:19-20

The Motive of Missions - Worship (Why?) Psalm 67

The Method of Missions - Proclaim (How?) 1 Peter 2:9-10

The Manner of Missions - Good Deeds (How?) 1 Peter 2:11-12

I. His Ministry (vv. 18-19)

A. The Source of the Ministry (vs. 18)

1. Paul saw God as the source of his salvation.

a. “These things” refers to Paul’s earlier statement about being a new creature in Christ (vs. 17).

b. Reconciliation means to change or exchange, to re-establish peace between two parties.

c. Reconciliation is how God caused Paul to be “new creature.”

2. Paul saw God as the source of his ministry.

a. Unlike the false apostles at Corinth, Paul received his ministry from directly from God (Acts 9:15-16).

B. The Specifics of the Ministry (vs. 19)

1. The Problem: Every human being in the world stands in opposition to God and thus remains under His wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3; James 4:4).

2. The Solution: God has provided forgiveness for the sins of the world specifically in the death of His Son, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:6-11; Colossians 2:13-14).

3. The Result: Those who have received the reconciliation of God in Jesus Christ are now privileged to carry the “word of reconciliation” to the world (Acts 9:17-20; Mark 5:18-19; John 4:28-29).

## II. His Mantle (vs. 20)

### A. The Definition of the Mantle

1. An ambassador is a messenger and a representative of a ruling authority.

a. As a messenger, an ambassador must remain faithful to the message of their ruling authority.

b. As a representative, an ambassador must lead a blameless life in order to represent their ruling authority.

### B. The Description of the Mantle

1. In the Greek text the pronoun “you” is missing from the phrase, “we beg you on behalf of Christ.” This implies that Paul’s plea for reconciliation was a plea to anyone who was still at enmity with God.

2. The plea, “be reconciled to God,” is a passive imperative. This indicates that God has provided reconciliation for mankind through Jesus Christ; however, mankind is still responsible for responding to God’s offer of reconciliation (Luke 12:57-59).

## III. His Message (vs. 21)

### A. The Imputation of Sin

1. Rather than ignoring the penalty of sin, God proved His justice by punishing sin in the death of His perfect and holy Son (1 John 3:5; Romans 4:25; Galatians 3:13).

### B. The Incorporation of Righteousness

1. While Jesus died for the sin of believers, the righteous life of Jesus was given to believers (Romans 1:16-17, Philippians 3:9).