

# C O L O S S I A N S 1 : 1 8 - 2 3

“For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

21 And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, 22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach— 23 if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister” (NASB1995).

**RUINED**  
— AND —  
**RECONCILED**

Colossians 1:19-23

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# THE BACKSTORY OF RECONCILIATION (1:21)

Three phrases in verse 21 describe our status prior to reconciliation.

1. "alienated"
2. "enemies in your mind"
3. "by wicked works"

Three things are working against us.

1. The "law" (Romans 3:19-20).
2. "Sin" (Romans 3:23).
3. "Death" (Romans 6:23; cp. Isaiah 59:1-2).

# T H E M E A N S O F R E C O N C I L I A T I O N ( 1 : 2 0 - 2 2 )

Because our relationship is broken, this suggests our need for a mediator--Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 2:5).

Reconciliation required the perfect sacrificial blood of a sinless sacrifice as a propitiation for sin (see 1 John 2:1-2; Acts 20:28).

The death of Jesus has bridged the gap between man and God.

--He has fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17-18; Colossians 2:14).

--He has made atonement for sin (John 1:29; 1 Timothy 2:5-6).

--He has overcome death (Romans 1:3-4).

# T H E R E S U L T S O F R E C O N C I L I A T I O N ( 1 : 2 2 - 2 3 )

Once this reconciliation occurs, there is a change-- "yet now!"

--Verse 22 says Jesus can "present you holy"

--"blameless"

--"above reproach in His sight"

However, this special privilege comes with an obligation and responsibility (v. 1:23a).

--"continue"

--"grounded"

--"not moved away from the hope of the gospel"

HAVE YOU  
BEEN  
RECONCILED  
TO GOD?

