

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: II Corinthians 5:18-21 “Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us *the ministry of reconciliation*, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us *the word of reconciliation*. Now then, we are *ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us*: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Quote: “How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear! It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, And drives away his fear.” John Newton

There is absolutely no greater task that any man or woman can have who professes to be a Christian than to promote the gospel of saving grace through what they say and how they live! *Reconciliation is God replacing a relationship of hostility with His enemies for one of love*. He achieves this by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. “Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.... But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if *when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son*, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”¹

What a privilege it is to share with others the hope that God has given to us through Christ! Paul declared, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.”² Peter wrote, “Even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and *always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you*, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evil-doers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ

may be ashamed.”³ When it comes to the gospel, there are three general categories of people. Agnostics and atheists who *reject* it and label it a myth, or a crutch for weak-minded people, while they embrace by faith that something came from nothing, expanded into our immense universe, and, over billions of years and countless random genetic mutations, brought about complex life as we know it today.⁴ “Religionists” who *rely* upon a false gospel by making a profession of faith without seeking to live a life that demonstrates that they are truly a “new creation in Christ.”⁵ Redeemed

Reconcile the Faithless

individuals who by God's grace receive the gospel and progressively show forth the fruit of the Spirit and growth in the grace

and knowledge of God in their lives.⁶ They proclaim the living hope that they have in the **G-O-S-P-E-L** of Christ!

God is the eternal, self-existent Creator Who made a perfect world and all life after its kind, including a sinless man and woman created in His image.⁷

Obedience to one command was His requirement with the promise of spiritual and physical death for disobedience.⁸ Adam's failure impacted all of creation!

Sin is disobedience to God by doing that which He forbids, or by failing to do that which He commands in His inspired, inerrant, all-sufficient, written Word.⁹

Price. The price for sin is separation from fellowship with God and eternal punishment in hell forever. All are sinners by nature and by choice. Any self-proclaimed righteousness is as filthy rags before God.¹⁰

Entrusting one's soul to the safekeeping of Christ by faith in Who He is and what He accomplished on the cross is the only way to be reconciled to God. Saving faith is always accompanied by repentance.¹¹

Life-Everlasting is the glorious promise for all who believe in their heart and confess with their mouth that God has raised Christ from the dead in victory over sin and the grave.¹²

1 Col.1:21 ; Eph.2:8-9; Rom.5:1-2; 8-10 2 Rom.1:16 3 I Pet.3:14-16 4 I Cor.1:18; 2:13-14 5 II Cor.5:17; Rom.8; Matt.15:8; I Jn,2:29 and 3:7; James 1:21-25 6 John 15; II Peter 1:1-15; Phil.2:9-13 7 Gen.1 ,2; Heb.11:1 8 Gen.2:17 9 Rom.5:19; Gal.3:10; James 2:10 10 Rom.5:12,17,21; Gal.5:19-21; Rev.20:14-15; 11 I Tim.2:5; Jn.14:6; 11:25 12 Jn.3:15-18;