

**Rom. 5:  
Reconciliation (Pt. 3)**

# **AGAPE LOVE AND RECONCILIATION**

- 1. Agape Love is always associated with reconciliation because it brings the believer into God's Self-Sacrificial Love.**
- 2. Rom. 5:8-11: God commends His love in dying for ungodly sinners on enemy status before Him so that He could justify us before God and reconcile us to God, assuring us that He will do much more for us now that He has brought us into His resurrection life.**
- 3. God's Love based on the Death of Christ constrains us (exercises control over us, drives us, compels us) that we serve Him now as new creations with the resurrection Life of Christ (2 Cor. 5:14-17).**
- 4. Being reconciled by faith means that, nothing, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, can separate (UN-RECONCILE) the believer from God and His Love (Rom. 8:29-39).**

## **COLOSSIANS AND RECONCILIATION**

- 1. The Colossians had believed Paul's teaching about Christ and, therefore, were reconciled to God, participants in the inheritance that belongs to the Body of Christ and had been transferred into Christ's Kingdom based on Christ's redeeming death. (Col. 1:4; 12-14)**
- 2. Christ is pre-eminent not only of the old creation because He is the Creator God of all things--the whole universe--but He is also pre-eminent of the new creation—the Body of Christ--because He headed it up when He brought humanity into His Resurrection Life, creating a new creation. (Col. 1:15-19)**
- 3. As Christ is the Creator and Sustainer of "all things" He is also Reconciler of "all things," including the Colossian believers. (Col. 1:20-21)**

# COLOSSIANS AND RECONCILIATION

- 4. This new creation, the Body of Christ, is being preserved until Christ, its Head, returns for it at the rapture event. (Col. 1:20-22)**
  
- 5. The Colossian assembly (and all other assemblies since), however, would only continue to participate in the benefits of reconciliation if they remained grounded and settled in THE FAITH. (Col. 1:20-22)**
  - a. The Colossian assembly was a beacon of Pauline truth. They were participants in God's Glory and in what He is accomplishing today.**
  - a. Assemblies that throw away THE FAITH drift away from God and once they throw away Paul's Gospel, they fall into apostasy.**
  - c. Despite this letter, the Colossians likely fell into apostasy in the very days of Paul himself (2 Tim. 1:15).**

# COLOSSIANS AND RECONCILIATION

6. **Assemblies will only remain participants in God's plan and purpose if they have FAITH (believe) in THE FAITH (God's Mystery Revelation to the Apostle Paul) about the FAITHFULNESS OF CHRIST (the Good News of His Death on the Cross for ungodly sinners on enemy status before Him). (Col. 1:23-29)**
  - a. **This is the only way to FAITHFULNESS. (Col. 1:1-8)**
  - b. **This is the only way to AGAPE Love. (Col. 2:2-3)**

## COLOSSIANS AND RECONCILIATION

- 7. What Paul is saying here is remarkable. If we didn't know it originated with God, we would probably conclude Paul was crazy, unhinged.**
  
- 8. The reconciliation based on an ignominious death on the Cross is what reconciles the whole universe to God and is centered on and carried out by a group of redeemed enemies of God, whom Christ reconciled in the Body of Christ and are already participating in His Resurrection Life. (Col. 1:20-22; Rom. 8:19-21)**
  - a. They need to live it out in love through the Holy Spirit. (1:8, 2:2)**
  - b. Proclaim it far and wide. (1:28-29)**