



Can We Be Friends Now?

Paul's Lost Message of Conciliation – Part 2

Dr. Tom Taylor (TT): Yeshua is the example of what the Father was going to do, and what He said He would do, and what He did! He made good on His word. So, He sent His only begotten Son to die for our sakes, and He did, bless His heart. Bless His heart. He didn't want any part of that. He knew that was not going to be a pleasant thing, and at the end in the Garden, He was sweating blood if by any means to get out from under that idea until He said, ***“Not My will, but Yours, Father.”*** Do you realize that that meant He didn't want any part of this? It was not His will to do this; it was the Father's will.

Yeshua set His will aside *for us*. Oh my goodness! He let Himself be killed in a manner that is so horrific it's almost beyond description! Well, what was the benefit of all that? The benefit is this: You cannot sin today (and you probably will, I know I will multiple times), you cannot sin today, tomorrow, and there's no sin you could have possibly committed that the Father is ever going to even pay attention to, never mind look at. He's paying no attention. He is not reckoning! Man, you don't find that anywhere else until you read this in Paul to the Corinthians. You don't know that. You do know about the pardon of sin because all the other guys knew about that.

Paul comes out with this radical understanding of something called *“conciliation.”* Conciliation? What the heck is that? But you won't read that in any Bible. Pick any Bible you choose; it won't be there. The word *“reconciliation”* will be, as if God was estranged from us too. No! We became estranged from Him. Why? Because of the sentence of death. All you gotta do is read *Genesis* to realize how that happened. Once Adam disobeyed the word he had from the Father Himself (this is one of the great examples of where God has no patience for rebellion): “I'm telling you what's in your best interest. Now, if you don't do that and I catch you at it (which of course He's always going to do), well then, We can't fellowship together anymore. I told you what would happen, you eat that fruit and (the Scripture says in the original language) ***“to die, shall you be dying”***.”

It's not you're going to die, well yeah, but it's a process, and he's been locked out, Adam has been and by extension Eve, had been locked out of the fellowship with God that they had in the Garden. Why in the world would you do that? Well, you and I weren't there and we don't have the original innocence that they came in with, so we may not be able to appreciate it fully, but that's where the sentence of death came in. And because we are offspring of those first two humans, as the Scripture relates it, we're dying too.

Everyone in humanity is born and dies; no exceptions. Wouldn't that make you just a little bit mad? It ought to, and if you don't get mad 'cause you think you're not supposed to, that's religious, and God understands, He fully grasps our estrangement and the reason for it. He engineered it, for heaven's sake, so He knows that it's justified. But He's made this enormous occasion through the Messiah, through His begotten Son, to do away with the need for any further estrangement because He bought the pardon of sin through Christ's death, and He bought the deliverance of our bodies out from death into life, which is called "*salvation*," through the resurrection of Christ.

If it weren't for the resurrection, all we would have is the pardon of sin, but He didn't stop there. He raised Christ out from the dead, "*the Firstfruit*," Paul called Him, of those who died, brought Him out of death into life, to give us the same expectation because of Christ's faith in the Father and in the Father's word to Yeshua which we don't read, but look at what Christ did not want to do in the Garden. He did not want to die. He knew that death was final. He knew that death would completely separate Him from all His awareness. Death is death. Dead is dead. The dead know nothing.

Christ knew He would not know anything. Yeshua was not wanting to go through that experience. He fought it with every ounce of strength He had to the point where He sweated blood. I can't imagine the pressure you'd have to exert for blood to come out your sweat glands but there it was. You and I fight exactly the same thing every day; we don't want to die, nobody wants to die. We'll do practically anything to avoid it. Again, I apologize because we don't read this, but somewhere Yeshua knew when He said, "*Not My will, but Yours*," He knew that the Father would raise Him up. He alluded to it when He's talking to His disciples about, "*This temple, if it's destroyed, it'll be raised up in three days*." That was a figurative reference to His own understanding of what His Father would do when He died. Because He died, the Father would not leave Him dead; that was His promise to His Son.

"You're going to die. This is how it's going to happen. You're going to talk about how it happens. You're not going to like it, but I'm not leaving You dead. You're only going to be dead for three days and three nights (in the Scriptures, number three is the number of sufficiency). That's

enough! That's enough! That's all this is going to take. It requires a blood sacrifice to do away with all this sin. You've never committed a sin in your life, so You are a spotless lamb and I'm deliberately leading You to the slaughter. You are going knowingly and You're going to set aside Your will to live to accomplish My will, which will extend far beyond death and bring You back into a life beyond the reach of death, beyond pain, beyond suffering, beyond everything that has anything to do with this eon."

Now, Yeshua believed the Father; that's what Paul calls, "**Jesus Christ's faith**" in *Galatians 3:22*. Well, what was His faith? That the Father would not leave Him dead, but would raise Him up, just like He promised. And He did! So again, through Christ's death, through His sacrifice, sin is not reckoned, it's not counted. The Father pays no attention to it. There can be no greater forgiveness of sin than that which was bought by the virtue of the death of His own Son.

So stop looking at sin, as if somehow that's going to ruin your chances of going to heaven or your chances of somehow winning a salvation that can't be won. It's already been won! There is no sin you can commit, I'll say again, that could ever be counted against you. It's not going to happen, it's not happening, and that's what this means: "**How that God was in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, not reckoning their offenses to them.**" I'm going to sound like I'm picking on religion, but I am. They're obsessed with sin: "Don't do this, or else!" There's nowhere else because the Father is paying no attention. And then the rest of "the conciliation" means: Here's the occasion to give up your estrangement.

This is the Father speaking now: "I know you're dying. I made all that happen. You have every right to be angry with Me, but I've given you this occasion (it's the *only* occasion), this is the only provision I could possibly make for you to give up your estrangement, and let's be Friends, because the promise to Yeshua is the same to you. I will not leave you dead, but I will raise you up out from death and into a life in the celestials, in the heavenlies. I'm going to raise you up in a body that cannot die. It's the same kind of body Yeshua has."

Our bodies will be raised. We will be raised. Paul talks about, "**This mortality must put on immortality, this corruptible must put on incorruptible.**" We aren't going to be left in our mortality. This is our expectation, not our hope. There's nothing iffy about it, "Gee, I wonder if He's really going to do this?" None of that! It's our expectation. This is a certainty; we're just waiting for it to occur, but we never have to wait for the forgiveness. It's all happened and as a result of all that happening, Paul comes along later, not in the Scriptures I have open today, Paul comes along later and reveals what he calls, "**the administration of the grace of God,**" the favor of God.

There is nothing you have to do to win His favor but one thing: Believe on account of Yeshua the Messiah, the Anointed. That's what Messiah means. "*Messiah*" is just Hebrew for "*the Anointed*." And in one passage where He's on the Mount of Transfiguration, the Father's voice booms out of heaven and says, "***This is My Son, the Beloved.***" Yeshua is the only one Whom the Father calls, "*the Beloved*." That doesn't mean you're not beloved, you are, but you're not "*the Beloved*." This is His Firstborn, the Father's Firstborn. He's "*the Beloved*."

So, the invitation that Paul brought was one that had never been seen before and we're in *Corinthians*. They were almost all Gentiles. They may have all been gentiles for all I know; they were not Jews. They didn't understand anything, which is really good, because they didn't have to unlearn anything except their own paganism. But here he comes with this unique invitation, which is not an altar call to be saved because that he assumes already to have been done, or they wouldn't be reading this letter he's penning. Barbara and I both assume that you're already saved too. You already know that Yeshua bought your life and paid for your sins. You already know that, but this is a different experience. This is an invitation to: "***For Christ's sake,***" Paul says, in other words, for the sake of His life, make His life matter by doing this. "***For Christ's sake, 'Be conciliated to God!'***" Give up your estrangement from God. Take His hand in friendship. I've already told you, He's not reckoning your offenses through His [Yeshua's] resurrection. You have the same expectation that God won't leave you dead. Could we be friends now with the Father?

"Is it OK with you now? I've done all I can," the Father would say. "I've given you the only sacrifice that would ever work that's taken care of absolutely everything you think you could have done wrong or did. That's all over and I will raise you into a life beyond the reaches of death in a body that cannot hurt, cannot die, and that lives in the celestials with Yeshua and therefore with Me. Is that OK with you? Can that be enough for you for Us to be Friends now?" That's the beauty and the unique offer that the Father extends in what's called "*conciliation*."

"I've never been estranged from you," He says. "You have been estranged from Me." The day that fruit was eaten, the estrangement began, and the sentence of death has visited us all. "***But because through one man,***" later on Paul says in *1 Corinthians*, "***Because of one man, death came through to all mankind. So through one Man*** (now we're talking about Yeshua), ***life came through to all mankind.***"

That's your expectation today. Don't look at sin and keep score because God isn't. Stop doing that. That's old order and the purpose of wherever we're going to go from here is to set you free. God's already set you free, now you've got to leave the prison. Whatever you've been taught by whomever, learn this: The Father loves you so much that He allowed His only

begotten Son to be killed so that you, yeah, you're going to die probably unless you live until He returns, but you face death every day, you look at it in the face every day, knowingly or unknowingly, but it's not going to be permanent. He will do for you what He did for Yeshua, that is His promise through Yeshua's obedience and through Yeshua's faith. Faith is given to us when we believe **"on account of Yeshua."** When we believe in Him, then His faith extends to us and so does this marvelous promise of our salvation, our deliverance out from death into life. And none of the rest of the world belongs here; this is between you and your Father in heaven Who said, "Let there be you." He wants you here. He wants to relate to you as a mature son or daughter. That's the purpose of all of this, and He will bring you to Himself.

And my prayer: Father, I offer this prayer that those who are listening to this, come to You with outstretched arms, grasping Your hand in theirs and say, "Oh, yes! Yes! Let's be Friends now! Oh, praise God, I'm free! You have set me free! What a marvelous recognition and realization to take hold today. You see none of what are called 'my offenses.' You're seeing none of it. You recognize none of it. You're counting none of it. It means the opposite of: Now I want to go off and do all the sin I possibly can 'cause what great liberty. That's not how that works. I want to be the best I possibly can because I want to meet You smiling in **'that day,'** in the day of the Lord, where the trumpet sounds and my body is changed or resurrected, either one, and I meet the Lord in the air to be there with Him in this new body like His. It inspires me to fall in love with You, Father, like I never have because what You have done here is so precious, so beautiful. Oh, I'm so grateful for it, I'm so thankful. I'm being the best I possibly can be because: **'The old has passed by. Lo! there has come new!'**"

New is good. You end up fulfilling the law you never were held responsible for. You end up doing it anyway because it's in your nature. Your nature becomes like Yeshua's nature and His nature is like the Father's nature. We are free from this eon and we are set free from this eon. We are living in the Kingdom right now inside ourselves! Yeshua says to the people walking around with Him, listening to Him, **"The Kingdom of God is inside you."** That Kingdom is totally good. Whatever that is, is totally good. It's where God rules and reigns, and He is totally benevolent. He is full of grace and He grants all grace.

We'll get into more of what that means, but enough today if we simply recognize what conciliation is, what the death and resurrection of Yeshua accomplished. Oh my heaven! There's really nothing greater than this. And having said that, you should see what else there is that only Paul writes about it, which is why this line from the beginning of Yeshua's life to the end of Paul's is, if you follow nothing else, follow that.

Follow that line, because that's where the life of the spirit is and the life of the spirit is so far above and transcendent beyond mere human striving and driving existence. Oh Lord, it's so far above the grind of just surviving and it's ours right now. It's ours right now! It's yours right now to come into: ***“For Christ's sake, ‘Be conciliated to God!’”*** simply by doing that. Be friends with the Father, because He is so totally ready to be friends with you, and He's given all the mechanisms to make that possible.

And you'll see the ramifications of that as you go about your business in a new recognition that the old is gone, you're in the new. You're totally forgiven. You can never be un-forgiven. It cannot happen. There is no mechanism in the Scriptures about being un-forgiven or about falling out. People talk about “falling out of grace,” it's not possible. And then live in the expectation, the conscious expectation, of being delivered, saved, this is what *“saved”* means, *“delivered out from death into life with Him.”*

This is how you go free. This is the means that the Father has engineered for you to go free from all realization or recognition of bondage or legalism, or anything. Nothing! The Father will not, does not, is not going to hold anything over your head, ever. He is all about grace and all He's asking is for you to be conciliated to Him for Christ's sake, make Yeshua's life and death matter. Be conciliated to God.

Thanks for listening today. If you want to go beyond what I've been saying today and go through a real Scripture study with me and with Barbara, all by recording, go to LightUpTheScriptures.com and look at the categories, the subjects; a three-and-a-half- year weekly study, all recorded. There isn't a subject I can think of that we didn't cover, which is why by the time we got to the end of three and a half years, we were done. I don't have any more to say, it's all been covered.

You can go to any recording in any category. There are subjects that have to do with the Father, with the Son (or Christ), about us. They're broken up into these topics basically, general topics about Satan or the sa-tan, about hell, all kinds of possibilities. Choose any one you want, but when you're going through it, get at least the online version of the *Concordant Literal*. It's free. You can look at it online anytime you want. Pull that up so you can read with me.

I took one day out of every week, sometimes more, but usually one day out of every week, every Tuesday, and from the time I got up till 7:00 o'clock rolled around and we turned on the recording, I just went where the Father showed me to go. I invite you to take advantage of all of that. I guarantee you, you won't have heard most of it anywhere else.

I talked about being filled with the Holy Spirit. Well, there's a whole study on that. What does that mean? What does that look like and why is it necessary? In fact, I think the title of it is, "The Absolute Necessity of Being Filled With The Holy Spirit." You know, in the first century, nobody ever objected to any of that, but boy, they object to it today.

Barbara Brown, MSE (BB): When they got religion.

TT: Well, religion that made the Holy Spirit anathema, treated the Holy Spirit like it had no business being a part of your life, or worse, relegated it to some notion that when you came to the Lord, when you acknowledged the Lord, instantly and automatically you were filled with His spirit, and there is no such Scripture anywhere to support that idea. Being filled with the Holy Spirit, it happened this way from Pentecost on, this is how it worked: You were baptized into the name of the Lord Yeshua by virtue of your confession, "I believe." There was no water that was a part of that, by the way, that's a figurative baptism. [You were] baptized into the name of the Lord Yeshua and then you would be filled with the Holy Spirit. They would lay hands on you or you would simply begin "*speaking in tongues*," which is the exercise of your own spirit speaking to God's. Again, this is all for you to set yourself free from any bondage that is existing in this eon, especially if you've been anywhere near religion.

Well Father, thank You for showing us Your word with Your heart for Your children today. Barbara and I just send you off today with our blessing. Be in the presence of God today and know that He's right there with you, loving on you like crazy, and looking for you to just glance over at Him and say, "Yep, I love You, too."

Until next time: ***Live well!***