

**March 27, 2022**  
**II Corinthians 5:16-2:2**  
**“A New Perspective”**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

“Reconciliation involves removing rebellious and sinful man’s enmity toward God, see **Romans 5:10**. In Jesus, believers are no longer the objects of God’s wrath, they pass from His wrath to His blessing, see **Acts 16:30-31**. They go from spiritual death to spiritual life, see **John 5:24**. This is the message of reconciliation. “ gleaned from *David K. Lowery*.

Paul makes his appeal to the Corinthians not to procrastinate! He makes this appeal from **Isaiah 49:8**. Today is the day of salvation, is today your day?

Transformation spiritually is nothing from the “outside”; this takes place on the inside. Christ makes the difference. A new creation. **Galatians 6:15**. This transformation is brought about by the Holy Spirit, **Titus 3:5**, the agent of regeneration. The Holy Spirit is the Giver of divine birth, **John 3:3; 6-8**.

Jesus was, is, and always will be sinless. For our redemption, God made Him to be sin for us, on our behalf. In fact, the sins of the whole world were laid upon Jesus, that’s past, present, and future. By His sacrifice the wrath of God was satisfied and the righteousness of Jesus was made to be obtainable, but only by faith, see **Ephesians 2:8-9**.

Sinners cannot be reconciled to God on their own terms. Humans have no ability to appease God’s wrath. Reconciliation is not something man does, it is something man receives.

“Reconciling the world” is not universalism. This is the ill conceived idea that in the sweet by and by everyone will eventually be saved, NOT! Jesus said, you must be born again. See **John 3:1-18**.

Regarding **verse 21** Murray J. Harris says, “This is a bold restatement of the nature of justification. Not only does the believer receive from God a right standing before Him on the basis of faith in Jesus (**Philippians 3:9**), but here Paul says that ‘in Christ the believer in some sense actually shares the righteousness that characterizes God Himself (cf. **I Corinthians 1:30**).

**Application:**

A believer in Jesus Christ as Savior becomes a new creation. Before Christ people see things from the temporal state that they live in. They desire the things of the world and they look upon people with different likes, dislikes, prejudices, and preference. In Christ, this perspective changes, the follower of Christ becomes a new creation with a new perspective and a new purpose in life.

The new perspective is that everyone is made in the image of God, is a precious eternal soul, and they all fall into one of two categories. The first is the category of the redeemed. These are people who are truly born again believers in Jesus. The second group is made up of those who are lost in their sins and headed for hell, eternally separated from God because they are without Christ.

The new purpose in the life of a follower of Christ is that of the ministry of reconciliation. That is telling the good news to those who are not saved from their sins. This places all believers in the category of being ambassadors for Christ. In these old bodies, these jars of clay, we possess the words of life and have the mission of serving the Lord by telling others the good news, Jesus saves! See **Romans 10:8-13**.

TODAY IS THE DAY OF SALVATION  
**II Corinthians 6:2**  
MAKE YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE  
**I PETER 1:10**