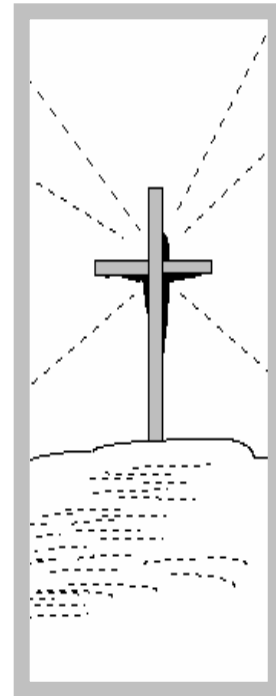


05. "Reconciliation"

Reconciliation means "enemies have made up and are now friends."

There is a change in the status of things between men and God that will take away the sinful anger, hostility and hard feelings we have toward Him. When this change occurs in our hearts, God removes His holy wrath. The change does not occur in God. He needs no changing. He remains faithful and holy, loving and true. It is our character and commitment that changes. Our devotion and loyalty are now toward Him. He gains first place in the priorities of our hearts. Because the guilt and shame has been ours, not His, He is the One who is reconciled. He then confers on us the token of his friendship. Only the atoning death of Christ satisfies and reconciles God to us - to pardon and save us.

**BUZZ WORDS**

1. Change in Status
2. Friends

(Colossians 1:21-22 NKJV) "And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled {22} in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight;"

(2 Corinthians 5:18-20 NKJV) "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, {19} 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."