

Think back to a relationship you've had with someone that was painful and needed serious attention? What were you doing that added fuel to the fire? What did you try to do to restore the relationship? What worked and what didn't work? What does it take for two people to be reconciled to each other?

God is in the business of reconciliation. It pleases Him to initiate our reconciliation to Him in the person of His Son, whom He loves, and in whom all His fullness dwells. Paul weaves a very tight rationale for that reconciliation and its place in a life that pleases Him in every way. We have been taking Colossians 1 apart, piece by piece, to help us grasp and apply its depth, and that relationship that He so wants for us to have with Him. Consider today ***the wonder of a reconciled life.***

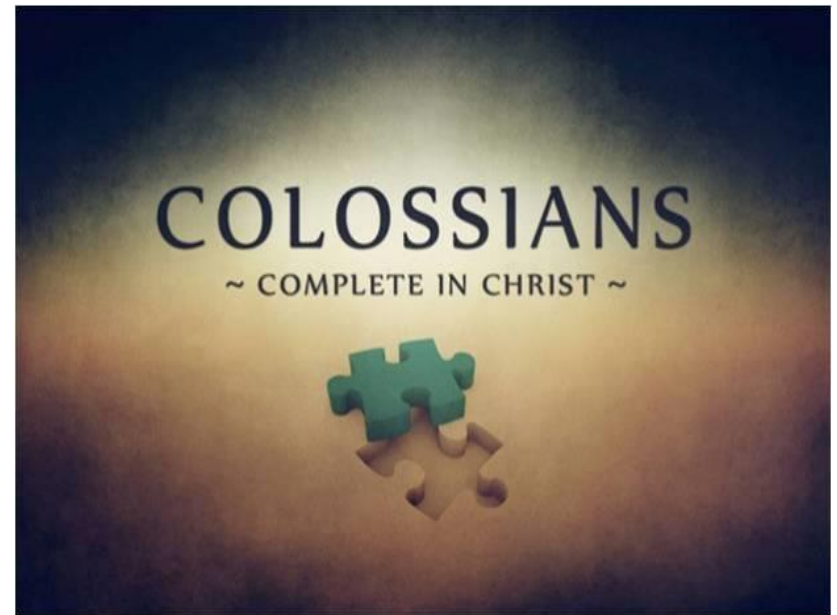
It pleases God to reveal Himself in Christ

God reconciles all things to Himself in Christ

Faith is the evidence of a reconciled life in Christ

Personal Application and Interaction

1. Think about a painful relationship you have had with a friend or loved one. How long did it go on? What did you do to be reconciled? What do you need to do if you are still at odds with each other?
2. Paul writes, *“Once you were alienated from God.”* How do those words apply to you? (Col.1: 21)
3. What is your experience of being reconciled to God? Where did it start? How has it progressed?
4. Again, Paul writes, *“But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation – if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the Gospel.”* What does, *“if you continue in your faith,”* have to do with the reconciliation God has already accomplished for you in Christ’s body?



The Wonder of a Reconciled Life

Colossians 1:18-23

Pastor John Ploog
August 25, 2019

