



ZWTF

Zapping You Whenever Thoughts Flow

Volume 8, Issue 17

God conciliates the world to Himself.



“Yet all is of God, Who conciliates us to Himself through Christ, and is giving us the dispensation of the conciliation, 19 how that God was in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, not reckoning their offenses to them, and placing in us the word of the conciliation” (2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

Sin introduced enmity between God and humanity. I would (and often do) describe this enmity as distance between the Creator and the human race. This is the very reason Christ came to earth. If there were no gap to bridge between the Deity and His human creation, then there would be no need for what our apostle

Paul calls “a mediator between God and humanity, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5).

Adam represents (and, in fact, birthed) the old humanity. There can only be such a thing as an old humanity if there comes a new humanity with which to compare and contrast it. The new humanity came through Christ. He did not birth it so much as raise it from the ashes of the old humanity.

Christ is the head of the new humanity.

We could never think of ourselves as a new humanity (it is too lofty of a thought for mortals) unless it were told us. God told us just this through the apostle Paul. Combine 2 Corinthians 5:14 with Romans 6:6. You will only get this truth from the apostle Paul—

“For the love of Christ is constraining us, judging this, that, if One died for the sake of all, consequently all died.”

Here now is Romans 6:6—

“Our old humanity was crucified together with Him, that the body of Sin may be nullified.”

Was it just *our* old humanity that was crucified with Christ, or did Christ take down the entire human race with Him to the tomb? He took down the entire human race with Him. (Because, think about it, how could a new humanity be personalized? How could God kill and remake *my* old humanity without doing it for all humanity? Do I have my own personal humanity? Aren't we all of one humanity? Therefore, if it happens for one, it must necessarily happen for all; for did it not come by a single act?) “One died for the sake of all, consequently *all* died.” Who did Christ die for? He died for every human. Additionally, take a look at Romans 5:18—

“Consequently, then, as it was through one offense for all mankind for condemnation, thus also it is

through one just award for all mankind for life's justifying."

"Just award" here should be "righteous effect." Righteous effect of what? The righteous effect of Christ's sacrifice. "Just award" is an unfortunate translation in the *Concordant Literal New Testament*, but the miscue does not affect the underlying truth: as one act of Adam affects all humanity, so does one act of Christ affect the same humanity.

But when does this "life's justifying" kick in? It has already kicked in. It kicked in 2,000 years ago when Jesus Christ died and rose. This is why God can say in 2 Corinthians 5:19 that He is currently not reckoning the world's offenses to them. He could not say that if He were considering old humanity. In no way could He say it in such a case. *Ever*. God simply cannot justify an old humanity. In God's bird's-eye view, all humanity is now a new humanity through the representative agency of His Son.

THOSE WHO ARE LIVING

Then why does Paul say in 2 Corinthians 5:15—

"And He died for the sake of all that *those who are living* should by no means still be living to themselves, but to the One dying and being roused for their sakes."

Why does Paul mention "those who are living"? Does this cancel out the previous truth that God is conciliated to the entire world? No. It is simply that not all the world "is living." That is, not all the world realizes that a new humanity has come and that God is at peace with it due to a new humanity. Only those to whom God has given faith to believe this truth "are living." The "living" of this context is obviously not simply breathing (everyone does that); it is walking and basking in the light of the revelation.

Those who are living due to believing the truth of the conciliation of the world learn to no longer live for themselves, but to God. Knowing what God did for them inspires them to live for Him. They still do all the regular things that other humans do, but now they are God-conscious. The majority of humanity, however, is still living to themselves. They are selfish. Why? Because they do not yet know what God did for them. Satan makes sure that the Christian religion hides it from

them. This makes most of humanity grouchy, selfish and proud. Absolutely speaking, God has yet to give most of humanity the faith to believe what He has accomplished for it (for the sake of all humanity) through Christ.

WHEN WILL THEY LEARN?

So when will the selfish people learn what God has already accomplished through Christ? I don't know. They may learn about it now during this era of relative peace; someone may yet send them one of my videos, or a book from the Concordant Publishing Concern. Or, they will learn about it during the Tribulation. Or, they will learn about it at the Great White Throne judgment, an event transpiring between eons four and five when all the dead are raised (Revelation 20:11-12).

There are only two ways by which God acquaints humanity with what He has done for it. (If you find a third way, let me know.) First, let us review what God has already done for humanity via the blood of Christ—

- ▶ saved it
- ▶ re-created it into a new humanity
- ▶ justified it
- ▶ conciliated it to Himself

Here are the two ways God uses to acquaint humans with these sweeping benefits—

- 1) faith, 2) judgment.

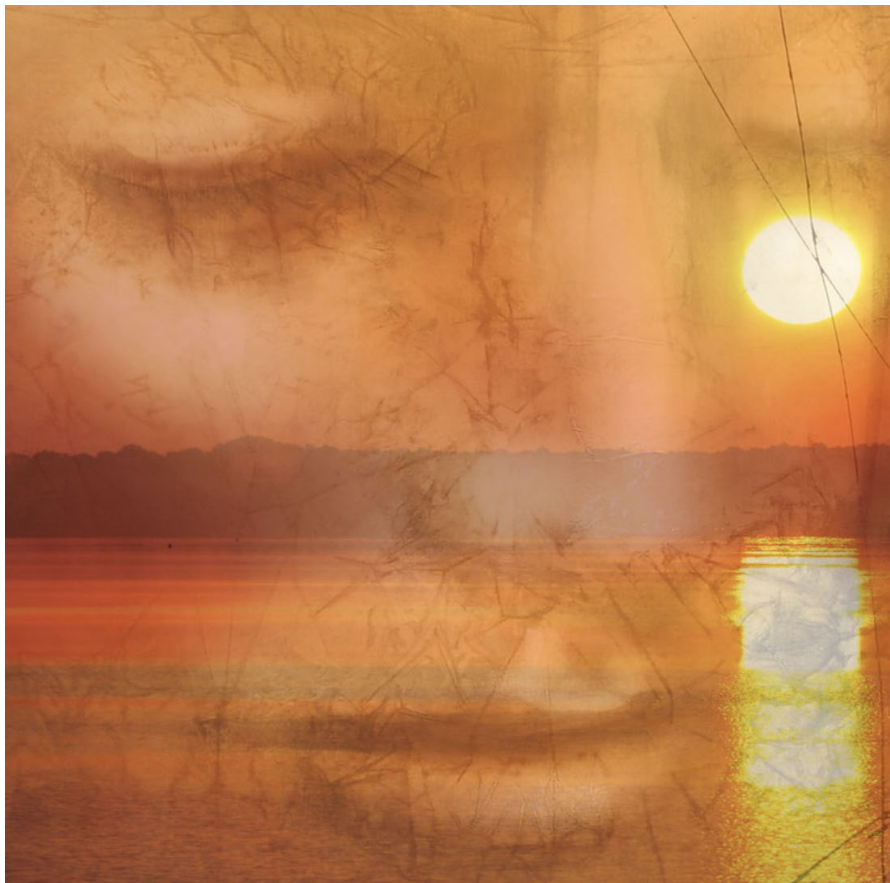
LET THERE BE FAITH

Faith is the easiest way to go. (Not that anyone has a choice.) With faith, God gives a person the power to read a particular passage of Scripture and believe it. For instance, a person will read in 2 Corinthians chapter 5 that God conciliated the world to Himself through Christ, and will say to him or herself—*I am part of the world, thus God must be conciliated to me*. That is that. They will then go their way no longer feeling guilty about any of their sins or offenses. This is a rare thing, indeed.

Faith is rare, and God keeps it that way. God-given faith is the exception rather than the rule. The rule is judgment.

HERE COME THE JUDGE

Judgment is God rubbing the nose of humanity into some obvious unpleasantness that forces the truth upon it directly. It is salvation by sight rather than by faith. You



righteousness of God through Jesus Christ's faith, *for all, and on all who are believing.*

This righteousness of God is justification. Justification is *for* all, but it is only *on* those who are believing it. God justified the race through Jesus Christ, but only those who believe it appreciate and enjoy its power. A good analogy is a public library. The library always exists *for* you (it “covers” you, one might say) but only when you go in and take out a book is it *on* you. Consider also the sun. It bathes the earth continually, but only those going outside into it so as to place themselves in direct contact with its rays have the sun *on* them. The sun is *for* them, but not necessarily *on* them.

So go to the library, take out a book, read it in the sun, and believe God when He tells you that He has saved, justified and conciliated you to Himself through Christ. —MZ

may say, “But hasn’t God brought us to the truth by putting us through unpleasant circumstances?” Yes, but the circumstances we endure now are ordinary. They are run-of-the-mill circumstances. These circumstances are certainly not God *directly* smashing us into truth. During the Tribulation, Earth’s inhabitants are smashed into truth directly. The circumstances of that time will come directly from God’s hand; “run-of-the-mill” will in no way describe the circumstances.

At the Great White Throne, billions who had not been given faith during their lifetimes are standing before God, having just been resurrected. Another name for this is “salvation by sight.” People there will take one look at God and believe. No one will be able to resist God then.

READING IN THE SUN

A helpful verse for understanding the difference between God having done something for all humanity and only certain humans realizing and living in it, is Romans 3:21-22—

Yet now, apart from law, a righteousness of God is manifest (being attested by the law and the prophets), yet a

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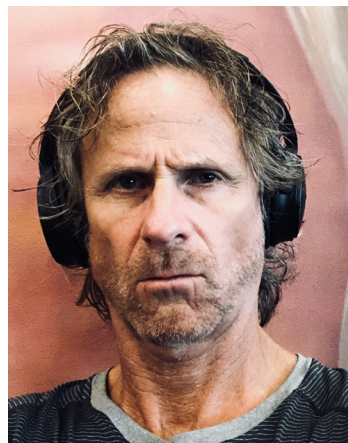
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ZENDER STATUS REPORT

I will get back to *The History of the Universe*—probably. I just can’t do it now. I don’t know why. Great resistance, I suppose. It certainly feels that way. Strange things are happening. You know things are bad when people in jail call you to cheer you up. I might be losing it. It’s up to God whether or

not that happens. I’m still taking care of myself. Every day is a struggle, however, and the only way I can explain it is that it’s the final years (months?) of Millennium 6.

Grace and peace to you and thank you for your love and support. —Martin



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© 2019 by Martin Zender/Published by Starke & Hartmann, Inc.
email: mzender@martinzender.com