

STRENGTH in WEAKNESS

Reconciling Grace

The **beautiful truth**:

You can be _____ to God!

2 Corinthians 5:20b (ESV)

²⁰We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

This truth presupposes ...

How can I be reconciled?

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

By recognizing ...

By repenting ...

By receiving ...

The **earnest appeal**:

2 Corinthians 6:1 (ESV)

¹Working together with him, then, **we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.**

Have I embraced a _____ Gospel?

Have I accepted an _____ Gospel?

Am I living an _____ Gospel?

The remedy:

2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV)

⁵Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

See also: Galatians 2:2, Philippians 2:16, 1 Thessalonians 3:5

3 implications for Christians:

2 Corinthians 6:3-10 (ESV)

³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. ¹¹We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. ¹²You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. ¹³In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

Be careful not to _____ the Gospel

Be certain to _____ the Gospel ...

In _____

In _____

Be constant in _____ the Gospel

1 implication for non-Christians:

2 Corinthians 6:2b (ESV)

²...Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

_____ what you'll do with the Gospel; while you still can.