

What was our identity? - Daniel Bishop

21 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— **23** if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

COLOSSIANS Chapter 1 verses 21-23

- **Who once were alienated:** The ancient Greek word *apallotrioo* meaning 'estranged / non-participant / Alienated / not known' [Strong's G526]. We were enemies of God. But God had a rescue plan.
- **He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless:** The lord Jesus has reconciled or restored the relations between us and God through his death on the cross.

Notice that because of this reconciliation we are no longer to be blamed and unholy before the Almighty God. Wow!

Isaiah 61:10 further states:

I will rejoice greatly in the Lord,
My soul will exult in my God;
For He has clothed me with garments of salvation,
He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness,
As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

- Jesus is our Groom. We, the Church are His Bride. We, the Church, the Bride of Christ, are clothed in His righteousness, and have salvation through Jesus the Groom.
- The difference between being alienated and being reconciled through Jesus can only be measured and described in absolutes.
- Your old Identity before you were saved was absolutely destined for hell and destruction. That is who we were!! One part of scripture calls our old identity '**enemies of God**'.

Romans 5 verse 10 says:

¹⁰ For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. ¹¹ And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

- Our new identity in Christ is now determined for Heaven because when we accept Christ and are born again. We are a new creation. We receive the Holy Spirit which is a deposit guarantee.

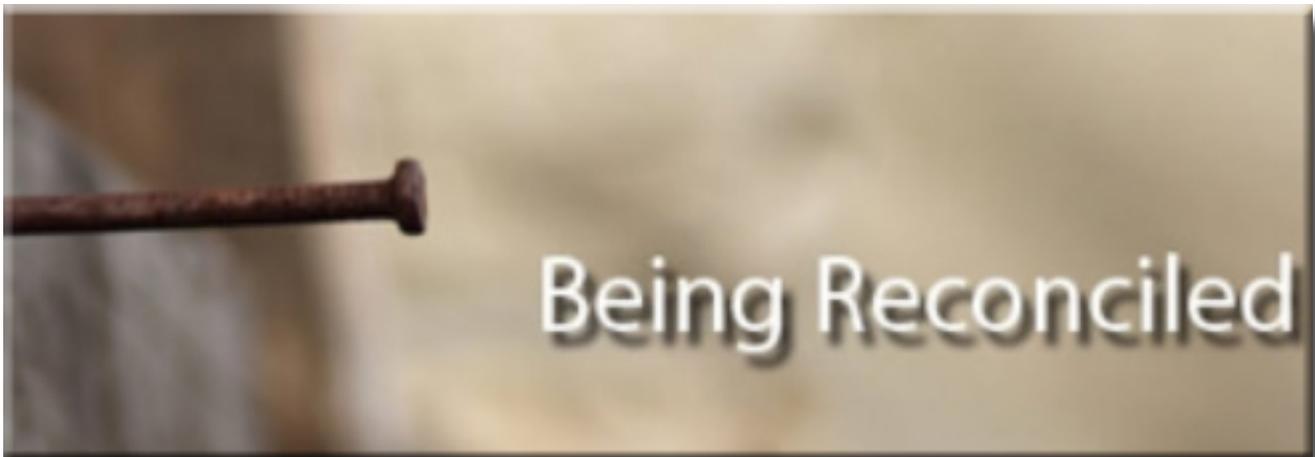
Ephesians 1 verse 13

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

In summary verses 21-23 show us **What was our Identity before we were saved:**

1. **We were once alienated from God**
2. **We were enemies of the Lord Jesus**
3. **We have been reconciled in the body of His flesh through death [the death of Jesus on the cross]**
4. **Because of Jesus, I can be presented holy, and blameless before God**
5. **Nothing of me or you! Only Jesus**
6. **He is our identity**

2



MARCH 14, 2021
BRIDGE LANE
LONDON - UK