

## INTRODUCTION

A bank reconciliation document is a document that compares different financial accounts and amounts in order to check that they add up to the same total or to explain any differences between them. The deposits and the withdrawals must balance. What is owed and what is paid must be balanced. The account with God doesn't have to be balanced. It can't be balanced. We will always owe, but that's alright and we should know why. The reconciliation Paul talks about in our verses today has to do with a total restoration of relationships.

### **Colossians 1:20-23 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

<sup>22</sup> in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight--

<sup>23</sup> 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.

Verse 20 tells us that by Jesus Christ we have been reconciled to Him as well as everything on earth was reconciled by Him. Why did everything on earth have to be reconciled? When Adam fell, not only was man's relationship with the Father lost, the entire earth lost relationship with the Father (Gen. 3:14-19). It is not known what things were reconciled in heaven, but perhaps in the heavens (moon, stars, planets) things had to be reconciled. The Bible isn't clear on that. However, the Bible does tell us how the reconciliation took place and that was through the blood shed by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In verse 21, Paul reminds some and informs others the reason why the reconciliation had to take place. Man was messed up from the beginning. God destroyed the world once by water for very specific reasons.

### **Genesis 6:5-7 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

<sup>7</sup> So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

Since Noah, man's moral code continued to spiral out of control. God already knew this would happen before the foundation of the earth and planned a remedy for it. First He (God) had to cleanse the earth leaving one family to "jump start" the human race. Outside of Christ's redeemed, the human race is morally bankrupt. Just think about where we would be had God not destroyed all life on earth those many years before? In 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 6:9-11, Paul describes the moral depravity of His day. The sins described in those verses are not foreign to any of us.

Verse 22 shows us with God all things are possible. No matter what evil we put our hand to, no matter what mischief our minds have devised, no matter what disgusting things we've exposed our souls to, no matter who we have made friends with (including Satan), the blood of Christ has delivered us from it all, reconciled us to Himself, then cleansed us from all unrighteousness to present us to the Father as if we had committed no sin at all. Praise God! The blood of Christ has separated us from our sin as far as the east is from the west and now the Father calls us His friend. There is now no gulf between us and God the Father. The blood of Christ has made our relationship with the Father brand new! Hallelujah to the Lamb of God!

Verse 23 provides the proof of true conversion. If one has turned away from what He has been told concerning the gospel of Jesus Christ, that person was probably never a part of Him in the first place. (John 6:53-64)