

# THE RECONCILER

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## STUCK ON LUKEWARM

In a time of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh and great worldwide prayer for revival why do many of Jesus' followers appear to remain lukewarm?

Since the days the apostles proclaimed God's grace and restoration (made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus) millions of lives have been transformed by their message. Many became so enthralled with this great reality of God's love that they devoted their lives to following Yeshua and spreading His life-changing message of reconciliation.

How is it in the light of this awesome redemption that so much of the Body of Christ seems to be STUCK ON LUKEWARM? Why do many Christians lose their enthusiasm for the Good news of redemption and the gift of His Spirit to slip back into lives of conformity to the world around them?

### There Is Much More

Paul addresses this issue in Romans Chapter 5 where he uses the phrase "*much more*" several times indicating that there is even more to the Christian life than

forgiveness and restoration to God's favor. *"For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, **MUCH MORE**, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."* (Romans 5.10)

If we are already reconciled to God by the death of Jesus how can there be "*much more*?" While the death of Jesus saves us from sin's *penalty*, it is the life of His Spirit coming into us that saves us from sin's *power*. However, being FILLED and YIELDING to the life the Spirit are not automatic; they require our co-operation. We do not turn back to self-righteous effort, but we deliberately RECEIVE the life of the Holy Spirit and consciously YIELD to it.

### Receiving & Yielding

*"And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace."* (Romans 5.13-14) Our part is not to go into self-effort but to deliberately come under the dominion of God's Spirit and YIELD TO HIS LIFE. Law (not just the

Law of Moses but every other kind of law) because it is based on self-effort cannot liberate us from sin's dominion. It is only by *coming under the rule and control of God's Spirit* that we experience liberation from sin's dominion and the power of the flesh. Religious self-effort cannot liberate us - only the indwelling Spirit of God.

As we come *under the control of the indwelling Holy Spirit* we begin to experience the abundant life that Jesus promised. It's not a matter of EFFORT but of simply RECEIVING and steadily YIELDING to the life of God's Spirit. In this way we overcome the flesh - that is the habitual selfish ways of the old life. When believers neither know nor practice this they remain "stuck in lukewarm." Jesus never intended for us to be stuck like this. He envisioned a body of people rising from the ashes of their sin, filled with and controlled by *His resurrection life*, serving as vibrant witnesses to His message and reality.

### **Choosing To Be His Follower**

The second way we become "stuck in lukewarm" is when our lives are controlled by the values and measurements of our surrounding culture. We can be liberated from this by this by CHOOSING to become followers of Jesus instead of followers of the world. When we lay hold of His calling on our lives we truly become His disciples. This is not automatic - it is a choice. God will not force His calling on

us - He INVITES us to become part of His plan. When we accept His invitation to make ourselves available to Him we become His agents of love and shining lights. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."* (Romans 12.1-2)

By presenting ourselves to be filled with the Holy Spirit, *yielding to His life* and seeking the agenda of our heavenly Father we escape being stuck in lukewarm and become alive to God. *"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6.11)

This generation should not be robbed of the challenge and adventure of total surrender to Jesus. When we show people how they can escape not only the guilt and penalty of sin, but also the control of the world and the flesh, they can experience the fullness of the life Jesus came to bring us. They will NO LONGER BE STUCK IN LUKEWARM but will become His enthusiastic, sold-out followers under the dominion of HIS GRACE!

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

### Spiritual Bondage

What a terrible thing it is to be in bondage! Yet how many of us are. In bondage to tradition, in bondage to each other, in bondage to human opinion, in bondage to forms and customs.

We forget that there's a wide gulf between the *form* of worship and the *spirit* of worship. There is a lot of difference between the man who "says his prayers" and the man who really prays! The day has passed when we can find God in the performance of ritual.

Perhaps they did it in the olden days, but those were the days of the SHADOW and not of the SUBSTANCE.

- C.S. Price - *'Made Alive'* page 97

### Trying To Get What We Already Have

It seems as though we Christians have developed a nasty habit of leading people into a radical encounter with God's unconditional love, forgiveness, acceptance and union only to spend the ensuing years teaching them how to become close to God **to earn his approval**. In this way we unwittingly deny their existing union with and in Christ. Perhaps we're trying to talk them out of their experience of first love because we no longer experience it ourselves.

- Ted Dekker *"The Forgotten Way"* p. 37

### Loving Jesus Enough To Follow Him

We have reached the time when nothing short of **FIRSTHAND CONTACT WITH THE LEADER** and immediate guidance by Him will suffice.

It never would, but it is more apparent now. The disciple of a disciple has always been pale and anemic in comparison with the immediate disciple of Christ. .... True discipleship starts in believing and loving Jesus well enough to leave all and follow Him. All the rest of the equipment follows if you continue to follow.

- Rufus Moseley *"A Heavenly View"* Compiled by Wayne McClain

### God Comes In The Clouds

*"The clouds are the dust of his feet."*  
(*Nahum 1.3*)

What a revelation to know that sorrow, bereavement and suffering are actually the clouds that come along with God.

- Oswald Chambers *"My Utmost For Is Highest"*.

### Last Year's Words

*"For last year's words belong to last year's language.  
and next year's words await another voice  
and to make an end is to make a  
beginning."* - TS Eliot

### Experts In What's Wrong

Many people accentuate everything that is negative about themselves and the world in which they live. Perhaps they pride themselves in knowing what is wrong with everything. They hurt themselves and, if permitted everyone around them. Don't allow yourself to be drawn into their web.

Merlin Carothers *"Praise News"*  
August 2025

# RECONCILER NEWS

Dear Friends,

Recently we have been connecting with friends through regular blog messages which go far and wide. However, we discovered some are not getting these blogs. If you know of anyone who is not receiving them please let us know - or tell them to check their spam.

The Lord continues to bless us with many opportunities to minister and share His word on a weekly basis at **Martin County Jail, Good Samaritan Ministries in Port St Lucie, Love and Hope In Action Ministries in Stuart** and at some local churches including **Visionary Church in Stuart and Hollywood Faith Community Church, Florida**, and our daily one-minute radio programs on **UCB Ireland**. Our **Thursday 10.30 a.m. morning Bible studies** continues to meet at Al & Beege Brown's home on Indrio Rd. each week, after a short break. Our **Stuart Bible Study** in the home of Frank & Chris Storino starts again in September each Wednesday at 7.00 p.m. (Call us for more details if you would like to join.)

This summer we also have had the opportunity to work with the **International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem** in a weekly webinar focused on releasing the Body of Christ from the antisemitic legacy of The Council Of Nicaea. You can join us each Monday 9.30 Eastern Time by going to the ICEJ website.

This year is the 1700th anniversary of the **Council of Nicaea** in 325 A.D.. The Nicene Creed that came

from this council basically became the statement of faith of the Catholic Church, the Greek Orthodox Church and the Anglican Church. This statement of faith airbrushed the place of Israel from the consciousness of Christianity for centuries and paved the way for Replacement Theology. Personally we believe that all churches should cease using the Nicene Creed as their statement of faith and repent of the antisemitism that comes from ignoring the eternal place of Israel in the economy of God.

We are also saddened to see so many Christian politicians and their followers in many different countries supporting those who call for the annihilation of Israel.

Our special free edition of the New Testament: "Good News for Ireland Today" continues to bear fruit. We appreciate the many workers who distribute these New Testaments on streets and door-to-door throughout Ireland. Our many books (see website) continue to be used by Bible Study Groups.

We want to thank all of you who remember us in your prayers and with your support. Without you and the Lord's faithfulness this ministry would cease to exist, and we appreciate your love and friendship.

One In His great love and service,

*Paul & Nuala*

