

The World for this Hour

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: II Corinthians 5:18-6:2.

B. A Christian today ought to have a light in his eye because of the eternal glory waiting for him.

C. That a Christian can hide nothing from God, God's love in a person and God's power to touch any life are motives for the Christian life.

II. The ministry God has given us—the ministry of reconciliation.

A. The ministry of reconciliation is from God, so we are responsible to do this.

B. The message is that God did not count sins against men. We all need this.

C. Ways the message comes.

1. It does not come talking about the judgment of God over sin. God is concerned with human evil, but he deals with it differently.

2. God sends people to be reconcilers.

D. The message requires a voluntary acceptance. People are not automatically saved.

E. Reconciliation achieves the righteousness of God—believers become right before God.

1. God has paid the penalty of all our sins through Christ.

2. God accepts us completely in His love.

3. We start the Christian life in righteousness because God has dealt with all our past and future sin.

F. Christ has given us power to do what is right and reject what is wrong—the grace we have given is not to be received in vain. The time to act is now.

Application questions:

1. What is the ministry of reconciliation?

2. Why does God not require personal righteousness from a person before He accepts them?

3. What ways do Christians often receive God's grace "in vain?" What can you do to prevent the same thing from happening to you?
