Because of the rebellious, sinful attitude that every human being has against God and His standards (laws), God has declared Himself at war with man. But the Good News is that the sinner’s war with God has ended because man has been justified through Jesus Christ. Man has to acknowledge that he is a sinner, admit he has sinned, ask for forgiveness of his sins, and accept God’s gift of salvation through His Son Jesus Christ.

The Bible speaks of the end of this conflict as man being reconciled to God.

I. Sinful man did not make the choice to participate in this reconciliation – v. 1
   A. God sovereignly made this possible
   B. Everything related to man’s salvation was initiated by God
   C. God was able to reconcile Himself to man because of His Son
   D. God was satisfied with the sacrifice of His Son

II. We were at one time enemies of God –
   A. Hostile toward God
   B. Mind set on the flesh
   C. Not at peace with God (at war)

III. As a result of being reconciled the believer now has access to God – v. 2
   A. Access comes through Jesus Christ
   B. Jesus is the believer’s High Priest
   C. Jesus offered a new sacrifice under a New Covenant
   D. Jesus fulfilled the moral law by keeping it perfectly
   E. Jesus fulfilled the ceremonial law by being the embodiment of everything the law’s types and symbols pointed to
   F. Jesus fulfilled the judicial law by personifying God’s perfect justice

IV. Jesus has provided for us a permanent position in the grace of God –
   A. We do not deserve this position
   B. We cannot purchase this position
   C. We cannot work for this position
   D. Our position is given freely by the grace of God

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V. Since our position was given freely we should practice our position – How?
A. Rejoice in our present troubles – v. 3
B. Recognize that our present troubles will produce in us some spiritual benefits – perseverance, proven character, and hope – v. 4
C. Realize that our hope is the certainty of God’s Word – v. 5
   Love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit
   Who was given to us –

VI. At the RIGHT TIME Christ died for the ungodly – vv. 6-7

VII. God REVEALED HIS LOVE for the ungodly – v. 8

VIII. As a RESULT OF HIS LOVE we are saved from the wrath of God – v. 9

IX. Jesus keeps (sustains) us by His living power – v. 10

X. THE REALITY IS – God wills that sinful man be reconciled to Him – God has called Christians to proclaim the gospel of reconciliation – v. 11

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