

"I must admit, some great power is at work here."

SPHERE	SIN IMPACT	JESUS	HIS WORK	RESULT	PASSAGES
Human Nature	Condemnation & Death	Second Adam	Obeys	Grace	Rom. 5:12–21; Gen 3:1-24
Relationships	Alienation	Peacemaker & Propitiation	Reconciles	Peace & Siblingship	1 John 4:7-12; 2:1-17; 2 Cor. 5:18–20; Eph. 2:12–17; Col. 1:20–23
Conscience	Inner Turmoil & Confusion	God Incarnate	Inaugurates Age of the Spirit	Baptism, Sealing & Fruit of the Spirit	Gal 5:16-26; John 14:16-21; John 14:25-27; John 15:26-27; John 16:5-15; Mark 1:8
Power & Agency	Slavery	Redeemer	Delivers	Freedom	Gal 5:13-15; Mt 20:20-28; 1 Pet. 1:13-25
Morality	Guilt	Substitute	Pays Penalty	Justification & Forgiveness	Rom. 3:23–26; Gal. 3:10-14; Col. 2:13-15
Identity	Shame	Incorporator	Adoption	Inheritance	Eph 1:3-14; Luke 8:43-48
Spirituality	Warfare	Champion	Defeats Foes	Victory	Col. 2:13-15; Romans 6:1-14; 1 Cor 15:1-58

Creation – Thorns, Toil, Banishment
from the Garden (3:15-24).

Self – They immediately feel shame,
realizing they are naked (3:7).

Others – They experience estrangement
between each other - blame, pain, sorrow (3:10-13).

God – They sense separation, hiding from
God in fear (3:8-10).

Reconciliation = (Confession + Forgiveness) x Jesus

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

“I forgive you,” Nadine Collier said through tears to the accused killer of her mother, Ethel Lance. “You took something very precious away from me.”

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

I will never get to talk to her again. I will never be able to hold her again... You hurt me. You hurt a lot of people. But God forgives you and I forgive you.”

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

Next came Anthony Thompson, husband of Myra Thompson. He began by addressing the court rather than his wife's accused killer.

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

“I would just like him to know that, to say the same thing that was just said: I forgive him and my family forgives him. But we would like him to take this opportunity to repent.”

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

The husband then spoke directly to Dylann Roof, who was watching and listening via a video connection from jail.
“Repent. Confess.

Excerpts from *The Daily Beast*

Give your life to the one who matters most – Christ.
So that He can change you and change your ways.”

Stacy Patton,
Black America Should Stop Forgiving White Racists

“The parade of forgiveness is disconcerting to say the least... The almost reflexive demand of forgiveness, especially for those dealing with death by racism, is about protecting whiteness, and America as a whole.”

60% of voters think members of the other party
constitute a threat to America.

40% would call the other party evil.

Nearly 1 of 5 agree their political adversaries “lack the traits to be considered fully human.”

When asked “Do you think we would be better off as a country if large numbers of the opposing party just died?” Approx. 20% of Democrats and 16% of Republicans think on occasion that the country would be better off if large numbers of the opposition just died.

When asked “If the opposing party wins the 2020 presidential election, do you feel violence would be justified?” 18.3% of Democrats and 13.8% of Republicans said violence would be justified.

Approx. 40% of Americans are choosing “to keep their mouths shut rather than express their opinions.”

Self-censorship has more than tripled over a generation.

Prof. James Gibson, WashU. Dept of Political Science

“Because people so dislike each other and detest each other’s view and values, they perceive a great cost associated with sharing their opinions public, for little or no reward...”

Prof. James Gibson, WashU. Dept of Political Science

Worry that expressing unpopular views will isolate and alienate people from their friends, family, and neighbors seems to drive self-censorship...

Prof. James Gibson, WashU. Dept of Political Science

Free speech has never been free; but the cost of such speech today has skyrocketed.”

Forgiveness is a renunciation of power.
It is prioritizing the rebuilding of community
over self-autonomy.

Confession is self-deprecation rather than self-actualization.
Confession is a humble admission that you have done wrong
and are a work in progress.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making His appeal through us;

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that
in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Barbara Reynolds

“Trained in the tradition of Martin Luther King Jr., we were nonviolent activists who won hearts by conveying respectability and changed laws by delivering a message of love and unity...

Barbara Reynolds

the ethics of love, forgiveness and reconciliation that empowered black leaders such as King and Nelson Mandela in their successful quests to win over their oppressors are missing [today].

Barbara Reynolds

The power of the spiritual approach was evident recently in the way relatives of the nine victims in the Charleston church shooting responded.”

Donald Kraybill, professor at Elizabethtown College and co-author of *The Amish*

"They're more cautious — more suspicious — wondering is this going to be helpful or is it going to be detrimental? Is it going to bolster our life together, as a community, or is it going to somehow tear it down?"

Colossians 1:15-23

We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment.

Colossians 1:15-23

And when it comes to the church, He organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body.

He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—He is supreme in the end. From beginning to end He's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is He, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in Him without crowding.

Colossians 1:15-23

Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of His death, His blood that poured down from the cross. You yourselves are a case study of what He does. At one time you all had your backs turned to God, thinking rebellious thoughts of Him, giving Him trouble every chance you got.

Colossians 1:15-23

But now, by giving Himself completely at the Cross, actually dying for you, Christ brought you over to God's side and put your lives together, whole and holy in His presence. You don't walk away from a gift like that! You stay grounded and steady in that bond of trust, constantly tuned in to the Message, careful not to be distracted or diverted. There is no other Message—just this one. Every creature under heaven gets this same Message. I, Paul, am a messenger of this Message.