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BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES 1611 KING JAMES VERSION ONE SOUL AT A TIME

# THE SOULWINNER

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Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Inner City. Illustration, photography, graphic design and journalism by Jim Robinson. Most all pictures link. Past Issues of *The SouLwinner* can be obtained from [jartworks.org](http://jartworks.org).

## The Ministry of Reconciliation Ambassadors for Christ

In Meriam Webster's dictionary the word **reconciliation** means: *the act of causing two people or groups to become friendly again after an argument or disagreement*. In the same dictionary the word **ambassador** means: *the highest-ranking person who represents his or her own government while living in another country*. The Bible uses these two words this way: *2 Corinthians 5:18-21:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*



(Photo courtesy of Microsoft Publisher) Shaking hands is usually a sign of friendship or agreement, often used when saluting someone. It is symbolic for Jesus' work on the cross to pay for our sins and reconcile us to God.

The very blood that Jesus shed on the cross that was brought to God as a an atonement for our sin is the element that reconciles us to God. Jesus is the mediator between God and us, and without his blood there is no remission of sins. We then ought to be willing to go soul winning to reconcile others to God with Jesus as the mediator. We never do the saving, Jesus does. We just represent Jesus because he's not here. That's what makes us ambassadors. We communicate tot he world for God because our home is not really here, its in heaven. We are ambassadors from heaven.

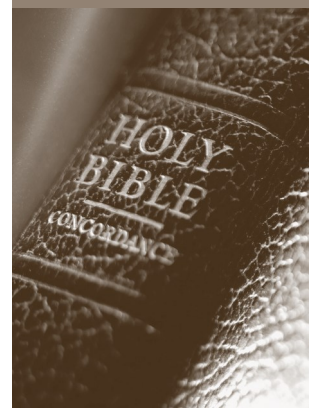
There is a hymn that has these words: *This world is not my home I'm just —a passin' through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue. The Lord beckons me from Heaven's open door, and I cant feel at home in this world any*

*more*. That hymn expresses perfectly our short nature here before we go to heaven. We sometimes get so tied up in the affairs of this world we fail to give glory to God. It is important for a Christian to be praying, reading his Bible, going to church and going soul winning. That maintains our relationship with God. In such a away we can be true ambassadors for Christ because we are a true testimony. I would not be comfortable trying to give the plan of salvation to someone when I know that earlier that day I cussed or committed some kind of presumptuous sin. I would feel like a hypocrite. Going soul winning has a way of keeping us clean from sin so that we are a good testimony when we do the work of an ambassador.

Reconciling people to God is **soul winning**. What we are doing is essentially restoring the covenant God made with a us when he died on the cross.

The ministry of reconciliation should be a major part of the church function. The church should have a day in the week for church-wide soul winning, and the pastor should be a part of it. That makes the church ambassadors for Christ. But **you** should take a personal responsibility to go soul winning and be a part of the ministry of reconciliation—bringing people back to God.

### E-mailed Daily Verses



(photo courtesy Microsoft Publisher)