

Date: Thursday, Dec 13, 2018
Title: The Possibility of Harmony

Text: Romans 15:4-6

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 15:4-6, NRSV)

Conflict abounds in the world. Conflict over resources, power and access are everywhere present. The battle is always over who would be included and who would be left out. Family feuds rage on for generations. No one knows, any longer, what the issue is. All that remains is well established hostility.

Into this world is birthed a new possibility in Jesus Christ. The offenses of the past need not lock us in the posture of hostility forever. In Jesus we find encouragement to live in harmony because he comes to reconcile the world to God and to restore harmony in creation. Jesus comes into the world to break down the wall of hostility so that with one voice, people who used to attack each other in hatred might instead glorify the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thought to ponder: Walls have two sides. Be sure your side is down.

Prayer: God of healing and reconciliation. Heal our wounds. Restore our sanity so that we may live in harmony with each other as brothers and sister who are all children of God.