Restorative Justice Rwanda-Style















Reconciliation (apokatallassó)

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled (apokatallassó) you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation . . . (Colossians 1:21 and 22)

Reconciliation (apokatallassó)

His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit (Ephesians 2:15a to 18.)

Unity in Christ

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus [!] Galatians 3:28)

Reconciliation katallassó and katallagē

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (I Corinthians 5:17 to 21)

Reconciliation (katallassó and katallagē)

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (Romans 5:9



Genocide

Hutus murdered more than one million Tutsis in 100 days

1959 – Hutus came to power and began persecuting Tutsis

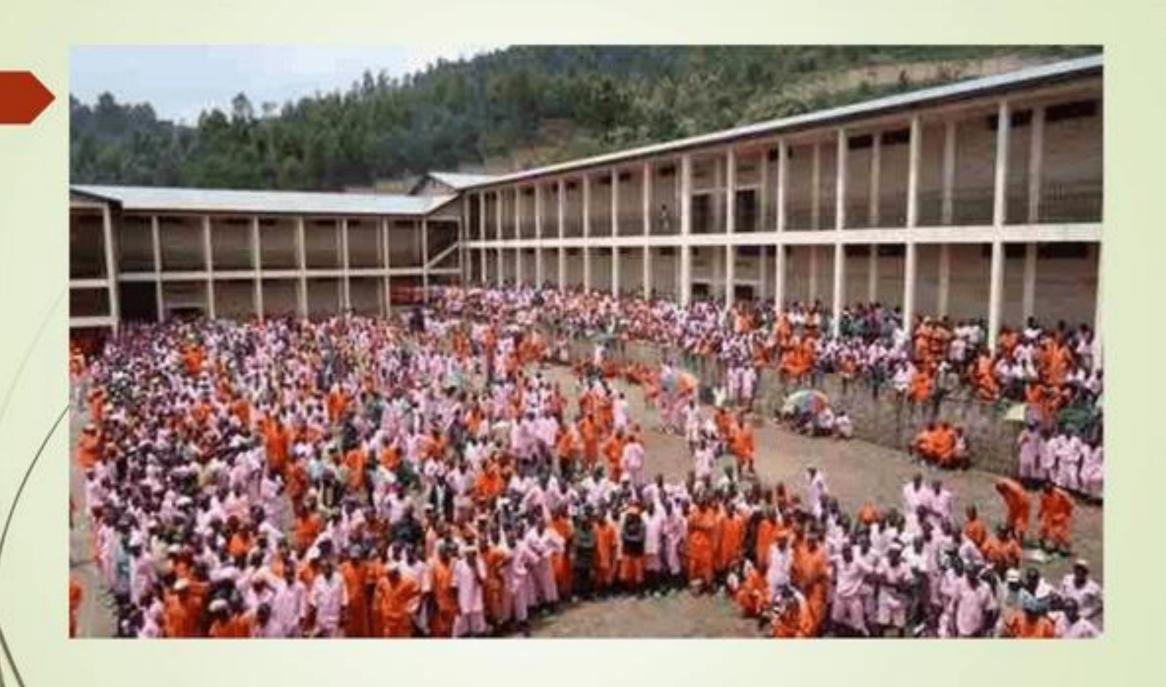
1994 – government-initiated massive genocide

■ 132,000 Hutus imprisoned

Gacaca Courts

More than 12,000 community-based courts tried more than 1.2 million cases throughout the country

Currently – 57,000 in prison (from 132,000)

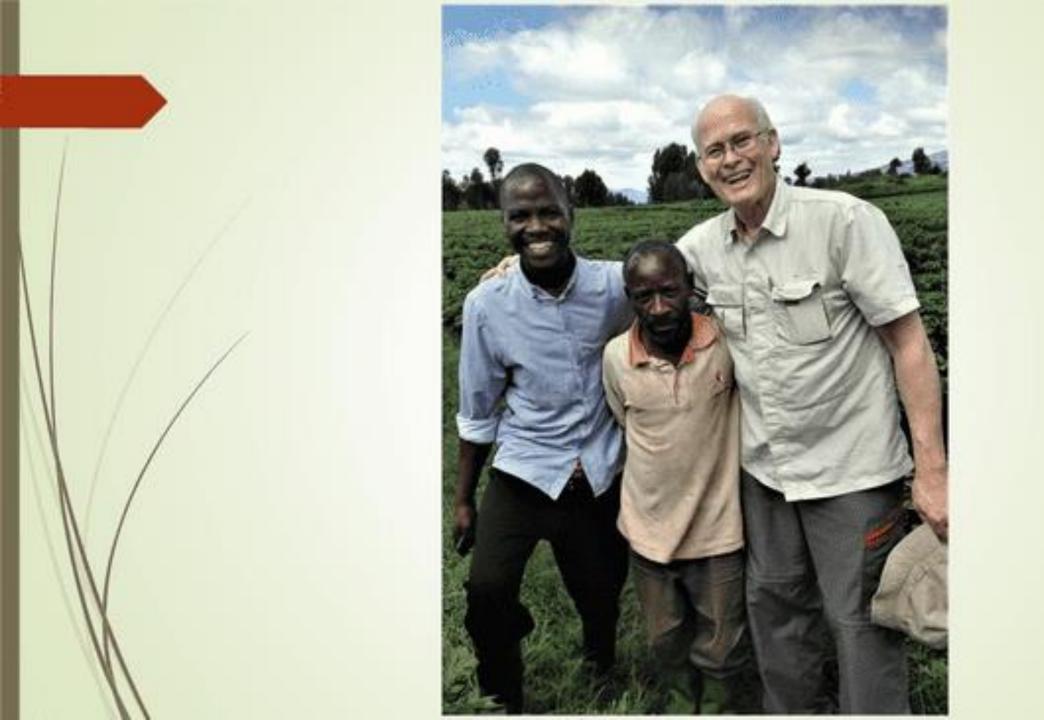






























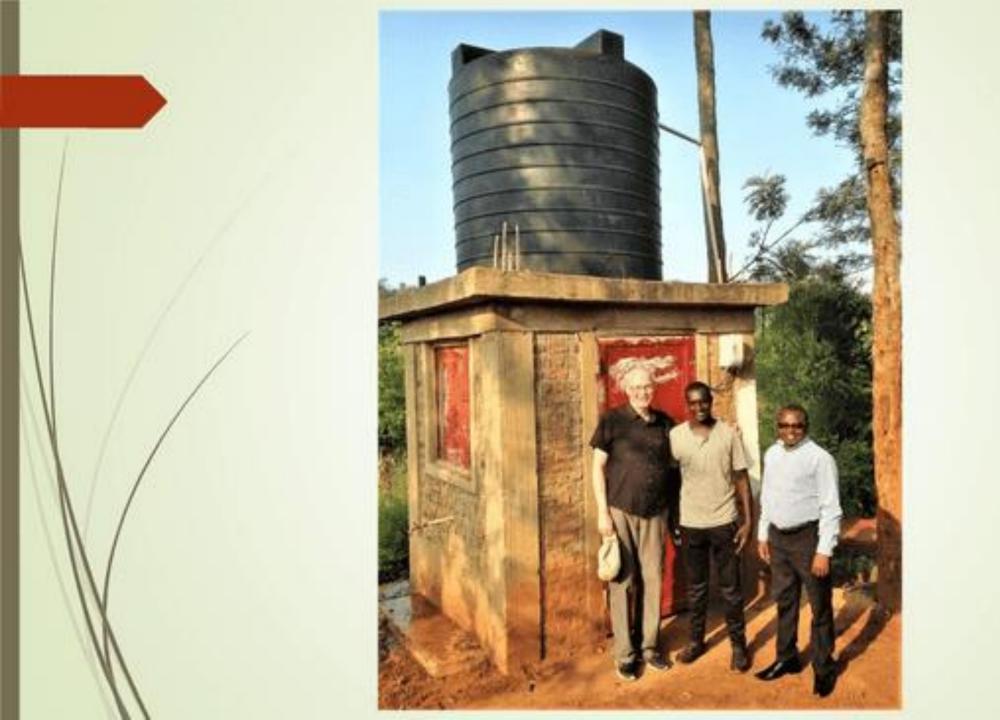














Peace and Justice

God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice [*dikaiosynē*], for they will be satisfied. the children of God.

God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called

God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

God blesses those who are persecuted for doing justice [dikaiosynē], for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

(Matthew 5:6 to 11)

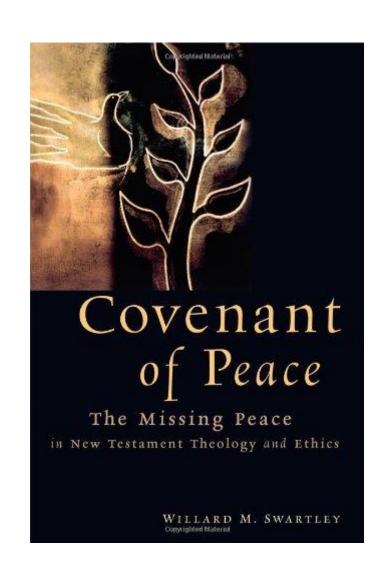
Peace and Justice

Mercy and truth have met each other: justice and peace have kissed. (Psalm 85:10)

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of justice[dikaiosyne]. (James 3:18)

Covenant of Peace

... peace is the heart of the gospel message and the ground of the **New Testament's** unity.



dikaiosynē

- harmony and well-being in all relationships
- right relationships
- "original sin" means "broken relationships"

Greek:

dik stem – always references relationships Like in Hebrew:

sdq root - always references relationships

Human Brokenness - "logical"

- towards God—theological
- towards ourselves—psychological
- towards others—sociological
- towards the Good Creation—ecological &

cosmological

1 Corinthians 15: 20 to 22: But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For

since death came through a man,

the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

For as in Adam all die,

so in Christ all will be made alive.

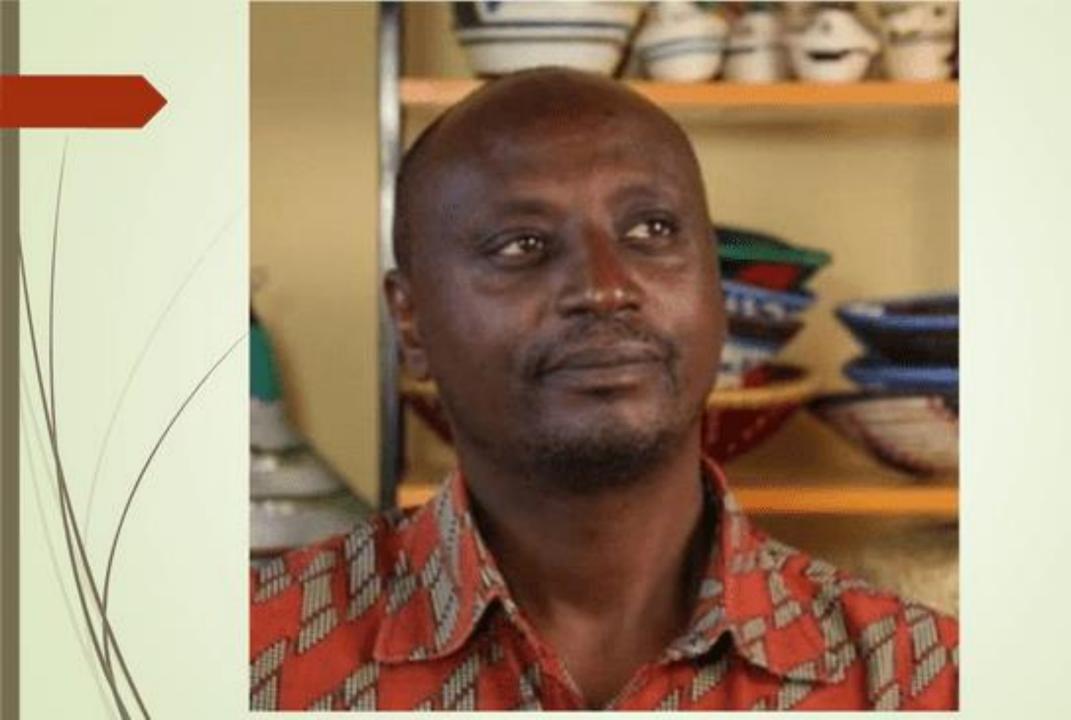
1 Corinthians 15:45 to 49:

So it is written:

'The first man Adam became a living being;' the last Adam a life-giving spirit

And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man,

so also shall we bear the likeness of the heavenly man.















God's Restorative Justice dikaiosynė But now for the good news: God's restorative justice has entered the world, independent of the law. Both the law and the prophets told us this day would come. This redeeming justice comes through the faithfulness of Jesus . . . (The Voice - Romans 3:21, 22a)