

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (Paul from Ephesus to Corinth @ 54 AD)

Anyone in Christ is a new creation: the old is gone and a new has come into being. All of this is God's work: through Christ he reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. That is: God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not holding our wrongdoings against us, and entrusted to us the message of reconciliation. So, we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were urging you through us, in Christ's name we appeal to you to 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.

Romans 8:1-8 (Paul from Corinth to Rome 56 AD)



There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the life-giving Spirit in Christ Jesus has freed you from the law of sin and death. The Law was rendered powerless by the flesh; so, God has done what the law was incapable of doing, by sending his Son for sin, in the likeness of sinful flesh. Thereby he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the rightful requirement of the law may be fulfilled in us, who walk, not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Those who live according to the flesh have their minds focused on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds on the things of the Spirit. Now the mindset of the flesh is death, but the mindset of the Spirit is life and peace, (for the mindset of the flesh is hostile to God - it does not submit to God's law, nor is it able

to do so). Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Philippians 2:5-11 (Paul from Rome to Philippi @ 66 AD)

Let the mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in God's nature, did not regard equity with God a thing to be exploited. He poured his self out in taking the nature of a servant; born in human likeness, and appearing in the form of a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the extent of death - even death on a cross. At this God exalted him to the highest and gave him the name above all names, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Ω God in Christ accomplished the work
- Ω The new creation is in Christ by the Spirit
- Ω Christ as second Adam is the exact opposite of first Adam
 - w The first Adam seeks advancement - the second Adam serves
 - w The new covenant is a new creation of an all-new mind and interest
- Ω Christ becomes man in his fallen condition and is faithful - obedient - fulfilling the "Love of God with the whole person."
 - w The "Gospel" is good news of the new status God has created for humans - in Christ
 - w This is God's "rightness". The core is belief in Christ's faithful obedience.
 - w Holiness is God's nature imparted into us in The Spirit - a new mindset and ethic.

Christ taught us that "The Knowledge of God" was the key to ageless life: *This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent.* (John 17:3)

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