

“The essence of the Christian life is
to be like Jesus
and live out the values of God’s Kingdom”

- Is Christianity basically a social ethic?
- Is this the way the Apostles would have expressed it?
- Can a person reach that objective as a Moslem, Mormon, or secular Moralist?

2 Corinthians 5

“¹⁶ Therefore from now on we recognize
no man according to the flesh;

A new view of humanity

God’s people may not share a common
world-view but they share a common world.

All humans are God’s creatures

by virtue of
creation

“in Adam”

bearing God’s image

The Covenant Community of faith
is distinct from the world.

All humans are God’s creatures

by virtue of
creation

“in Adam”

bearing God’s image



1. We can “down play” the distinction.

All humans are God’s family

by virtue of
creation

“in Adam”

bearing God’s image



2. We can exaggerate the distinction.

All humans are
spiritually dead
to God

by virtue of
original sin

“in Adam”



Common good, ground, & grammar

New Covenant



Respect
Compassion
Contact

Old Covenant



Disrespect
Fear
Segregation

2 Corinthians 5

“16 Therefore from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh;

A new view of humanity

even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.”

A new view of Jesus

“The Word of the Cross”

New Covenant



King
Reconciliation
Church

Old Covenant



Kingdom
Reform
Society

2 Corinthians 5

“17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”

A new view of Christians

Ephesians The Christian responds to Christ



**Bride and
Bridegroom
(no shame)**



**Body and
Head
(unity & diversity)**



**Building and
Cornerstone
(process)**

Old Covenant



New Covenant



shame	Everywhere	Removed
community	Pecking order	Unity with diversity
relationship	Slave	Adopted child
the outsider	Inferior	Image bearer