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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, March 1, 2026

2 Corinthians 5:16-19

Title: Reconcilable differences

If you remember nothing else:

- **We are new creations in Christ**
- **Jesus Christ has reconciled us to God, and because of Him are trespasses are counted not against us**

**God is perfect, and we are not. Only His
perfect Son could provide the
reconciliation that we needed. The
apostles realized that, and doing so
changed their lives.**

Paul + the other apostles previously knew Christ after the flesh, meaning physically (2 Corinthians 5:16). Once he died, rose, and departed, they understood him differently.

That knowledge came about because they were new creatures in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) — same as you and I. We are fundamentally different now than we were.

Before, we only had our sinful human nature, but now we believers have the Spirit of God, which leads us and makes us see the Son of God for who He is.

**We are new creatures in Christ, having
acknowledged the Son of God for who
he is: Romans 8:9-15**

**We are new creatures in Christ, having
acknowledged the Son of God for who
he is: Romans 12:1-2**

**We are new creatures in Christ, having
acknowledged the Son of God for who
he is: Colossians 3:5-11**

Being a new creation in Christ means we also have been reconciled to God. That reconciliation comes via the same Christ, and He's the only one that can provide it.

**Jesus' Christ had no sin, so He could
reconcile us with His Father. Outside of
him, we had no other way to be
reconciled, and we should thank Him
for that.**

**God reconciled us to Himself via Christ
(2 Corinthians 5:18) and Paul mentions
the ministry of reconciliation. The
apostles had that, and we can speak to it
as well having been reconciled.**

**Even way back when, the sins of people
of Israel separated them from God:**

Isaiah 59:1-2; Isaiah 59:16-20

**The people of Israel understood even
then that God did not punish their sins
as He could have: Psalm 103:6-12**

**We all needed a way to be reconciled to
God, and Jesus Christ is the only one
who could have provided that: Romans
5:6-11**

**Jesus Christ, remember is separate from
sinners. That's why He could reconcile
us: Hebrews 7:22-28**

**Jesus Christ, said another way, had no
sin. That's why He could reconcile us: 1**

Peter 2:21-25

**Jesus Christ, who was separate from
sinners and had no sin, is the only one
who could have reconciled us to the
Father: Colossians 1:19-23**

It's especially significant that our trespasses are not counted against us (2 Corinthians 5:19). Instead of being with us, as believers we appreciate that they are counted against Christ.

**The OT acknowledged that a man could
avoid having her trespasses counted
against him: Psalm 32:1-2; Isaiah 53:4-6**

**Jesus Christ and Stephen both prayed
that God not count sins against people
that put them to death: Luke 23:27-34,
Acts 7:54-60**

We are new creatures in Christ. No longer are we subject to old perspectives, old viewpoints, etc. We are new having acknowledged who Christ is, and what He has done for us.

**We believers — new creations in Christ
— have been reconciled to God, and we
thus have the ministry of reconciliation.
The sinless Son of God Jesus Christ
reconciled us to His Father, once and for
all.**