

## New Year: Who's the New 'Guy'?

a Theology of Reconciliation

(relational resolution)

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 and vs.16

*16 So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.*

*At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view.*

*How differently we know him now!*

*17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

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*18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

### Theology of Reconciliation

1. Reconciliation was initiated by God. (vs. 18)
2. Reconciliation was accomplished on the cross. (vs. 18b)
3. Reconciliation means God doesn't count our sin against us. (vs. 19b)
4. Reconciliation is a message God wants us to share with the world 19c-20)
5. Reconciliation means that we are new creatures in Christ. (**Vs. 17**)

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Introduce Prayer

Music

Sermon Part 2

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How differently we know him now! 2 Corinthians 5:16*

**Ambassador** - an authorized representative or messenger  
2 Corinthians 5:20

**Reconciled** - to restore to friendship or harmony  
(mentioned 5 times in 2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

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### **So Who's the New 'Guy'**

We are new creatures in Christ. We view ourselves differently - as ambassadors of reconciliation. We also view others differently because of who Jesus is and what Jesus does.