

## 2 Corinthians 5:16-6:2

This section of Scripture is **Straight Up Gospel**. *There's nothing more important than this right here!*

**Title:** "Gospel Realities"

### **The New Creation (verse 17)**

V. 17 - If anyone is in Christ - To be "In Christ" is available to "ANYONE" - *Are you in Adam or in Christ?*

V. 17 - He is a new creation - Those in Christ are **completely new creatures!** Think of Paul's Life...

V. 17 - Old things have passed away - In Christ means the "old things" (the penalty of sin) are over.

V. 17 - Behold, all things have become new - You're also made new and welcome into God's Family!

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - "I used to chase sin, but now sin chases me" - *How does that minister to you?*

### **The New Outlook (verse 16)**

V. 16 - From now on we regard no one according to the flesh - We don't have a "worldly" view anymore.

V. 16 - Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh - Check out Matthew 16:13-16

V. 16 - Yet now we know Him thus no longer - Read Philippians 3:4-8 to see Paul's testimony of this,

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - *We now view Jesus and all the people of this world differently. In what ways?*

### **The Restored Relationship (verses 18a, 19a)**

V. 18 - Now all things are of God - **Creation & Salvation** - they are all **initiated by God**. *They are gifts.*

V. 18 - Who has reconciled us to Himself - To be reconciled implies **there's a problem** - Romans 5:12

V. 19 - Through Jesus Christ - Born in Adam is the problem | Born again through Jesus is the answer!

V. 19 - Not imputing their trespasses to them - Our sins are **JUSTIFIED** through Jesus. Romans 5:1

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - *We have been forgiven much & now have peace with God. Comments?*

### **The Glorious Ministry (verses 18b, 19b, 20)**

V. 18 - And as given us the ministry of reconciliation - We are all in **full time ministry**. *A responsibility!*

V. 19 - Committed to us the word of reconciliation - And, it is a "spoken" ministry. Romans 10:14-15

V. 20 - Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ - We are Christ's "representatives" here on Earth.

V. 20 - As though God were pleading through us - *The Lord desires that none would perish.* 2 Peter 3:9

V. 20 - We implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God - Our ministry is not timid, but **BOLD**

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - *We have been given a huge privilege & responsibility. How do we live it out?*

### **The Great Exchange (verse 21)**

V. 21 - For He made Him who knew no sin - Jesus was born without sin and never sinned. **SPOTLESS!**

V. 21 - To be sin for us - He took our sin and the wrath of the Father upon himself. **SUBSTITUTE!**

V. 21 - That we might become the righteousness of God In Him - **It just keeps getting better!**

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - *We understand all that Jesus bore on our behalf - What does this stir up?*

### **The Urgent Plea (chapter 16, verses 1-2)**

V. 1 - We then, as workers together with Him - We **work** with Christ as His ambassadors...

V. 1 - Plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain - Receive this message and **LIVE IT OUT!**

V. 2 - "In an acceptable time I have heard you; in the day of salvation I have helped you" - Isaiah 49:8

V. 2 - Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation - This is an **URGENT** plea!

\*As **NEW CREATURES** - *We know that time is short; day is at hand. What does your mission look like?*