

An Ambassador of Christ

2 *Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV)*

The Gospel Of Christ Is The Power That Selects Us As Ambassadors

2 Corinthians 5: 17 (ESV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5: 21 (ESV) For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

You Have An Important New Identity!

2 Corinthians 5: 17 (ESV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- 1. It's all from God, so it's God's doing.
- 2. God accomplishes His mission through the Gospel.
- 3. One aspect of our new identity... we are ambassadors for Christ!

What Is The Significance Of Being An Ambassador?

- 1. An Ambassador is selected.
- **1 Thessalonians 1:4 (ESV)** For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.
- 2. An Ambassador lives in a foreign land.

1 Peter 1:1 (NKJV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia...

3. An Ambassador represents his home country.

Acts 1:8 (ESV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

- 4. An Ambassador's home and body are sovereign territory. **Romans 6:14 (ESV)** For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace...
- 5. An Ambassador will be called home.

1 Corinthians 15:51 (ESV) Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

<u>1 Thessalonians 4:16 (ESV)</u> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

How Should You Respond To This New Identity?

- 1. Realize you're on a greater mission than just getting by.
- 2. Release your grip on the things of the world.
- 3. Represent Jesus to a lost and dying world.

Are You Living Out Of Your New Identity?