

**Any and All in Christ - 2 Cor 5:17**

1. As we relate to others, we demonstrate our "selves."
2. 2C 5 - THE definition of the self for the Xn - v14-17 loved by Jesus whose love is demonstrated in the cross & resurrection - v15b
3. *Therefore* [result]: v16 - new way of knowing; v17 we are made new

**1st: Any and All in Christ = TITLE**

1. *all* in v14-15 is bounded by the saving work of Christ: now live for Christ.
2. v17 *anyone* w/o distinctions [*according to the flesh* -v16]. Col 3:9b-11. We are aware of differences but define in relation to Christ. 1C9:19-22; Rm 3:23
3. Crucial distinction: *if he is in Christ*. 2 groups: in Christ or in Adam. Rm 5:12-19 contrast lives & legalities - 2 "Federal [Cov] Heads"
4. How to view another Xn? Discern differences, but define *in Christ*.
5. v18ff trusted w/ message of reconciliation - discern & define men

**2nd: To Be in Christ**

1. *in Christ* [73x] = defines "Xn" now & future. Indicative then imperative. Positioned then practice; made alive then live the life.
2. *in Christ* - 2C5:14-15 united to Christ in His death & resurrection
3. Baptism - Rm 6:1-13 ordinance = paradigm for Xn life: repent & faith

4. LT: Phil 3:8-11 union w/ Christ in His death & res = Paul's identity

**Applic #1: How Do I View Myself?**

1. *If any man* -> question: am I in Christ? 2C5:14-15.
2. Phil 3:12-14 - retain & persevere. Live in communion w/ Jesus & His love.

**Applic #2: How Do I View Other Believers?**

1. Phil 3:15-16 *you* in v15 is plural. Differences among Xns do not remove our unified identity *in Christ* - we are *all taught of God* [Jn 6:45].
2. Jn 21:19-22 Peter on beach - sees Jn: what about him? *You follow Me*.
3. Forebear - exemplify consistent growth as Father disciplines: follow Christ.

**Applic #3: How Do I View Those Who Are Not in Christ?**

1. Compassion. Deceived. Eph 2:12 *in world, w/o God, w/o hope!*
2. Tit 3:1-7 Cretans [1:12] see in rln to eternity: either cross or hell: mercy!

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3. LT; resolve to live in union w/ Jesus: alive *in Christ*, then live *in Christ*.