

6. Paul and New Testament Ethics

1. Overview

- 1) The central theme of Paul's ethics is a new life in the gospel and in the Holy Spirit.
- 2) Paul does not describe Christian ethics as mere law observance but as living as a new creation led by the Spirit.

2. Theological Foundations of Pauline Ethics

- 1) New identity in Christ(2 Corinthians 5:17)
- 2) Spirit-led and sanctified life(Galatians 5:16–26)
- 3) Life under the new covenant(Romans 8)
- 4) Ethical life of those justified by faith(Romans 5–6)

3. Characteristics of Pauline Ethics

- 1) Relational ethics: restoring relationship with God, others, and oneself.
- 2) Love-centered ethics: love fulfills the law (Romans 13:8–10).
- 3) Community ethics: building up the body and unity of the church (1 Corinthians 12–14).
- 4) Eschatological ethics: living in light of God's coming Kingdom.

4. Practical Ethical Applications

- 1) Marriage and sexual ethics(1 Corinthians 7)
- 2) Attitude toward slavery and social structures(Ephesians 6:5–9; Philemon)
- 3) Respect for governing authorities(Romans 13)
- 4) sideration for the weak in faith(Romans 14–15)

5. elationship with General New Testament Ethics

- 1) Paul's ethics are related to the ethics of Jesus, especially the Sermon on the Mount, emphasizing inner transformation and practical obedience.
- 2) It is also in harmony with:
 - (1) The Johannine ethicsof love.
 - (2) The Petrine ethicsof doing good even amidst suffering.

6. Conclusion

- 1) Pauline ethics is deeply rooted in the gospeland calls believers to live

as new creations in the power of the Holy Spirit.

- 2) It demands a holy and practical life, both individually and within the church and broader society.
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