

6. Paul and New Testament Ethics

1. 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 a mere observance of laws but as living as a new creation led by the Spirit.
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2) Theological Foundations of Pauline Ethics

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

- (1) Relational ethics: Restoration of relationship with God, others, and self
 - (2) Love-centered ethics: Love fulfills the law (Romans 13:8–10)
 - (3) Communal ethics: Life that builds up the body and unity of the church (1 Corinthians 12–14)
 - (4) Eschatological ethics: Living in light of the coming Kingdom of God
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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) Consideration for the weak in faith(Romans 14–15)
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5) Relation to Broader New Testament Ethics

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

- (1) Pauline ethics are rooted in the gospel and call believers to live as new creations in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- (2) They demand a holy and practical life, not only for the individual but also within the church and society at large.