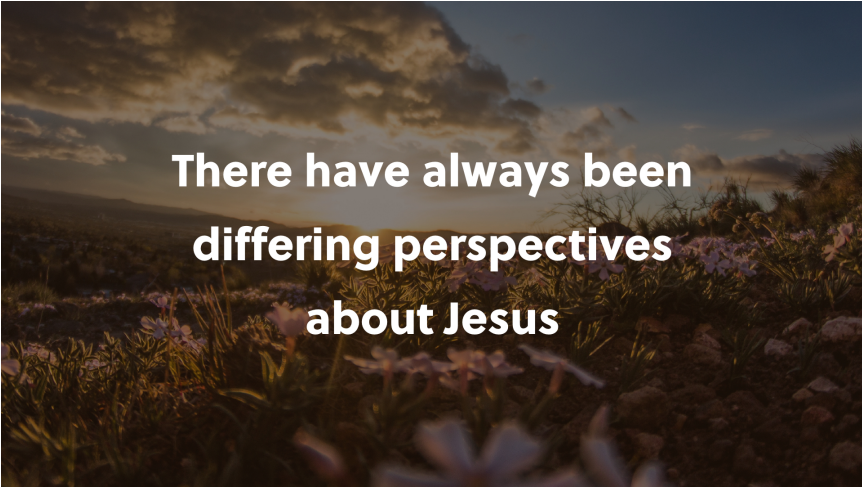




A Fresh Start

Easter 2016



**There have always been
differing perspectives
about Jesus**

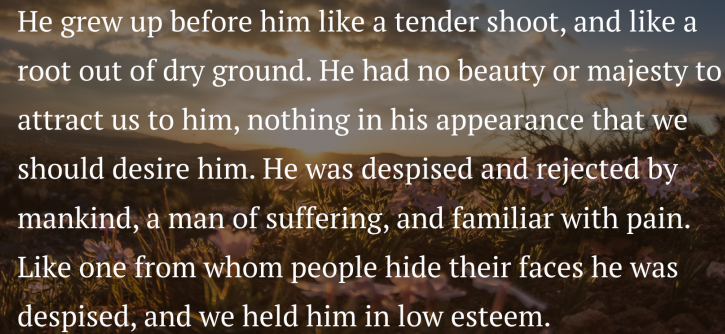


One only looks at the surface



So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point
of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way,
we do so no longer.

2 Corinthians 5:16

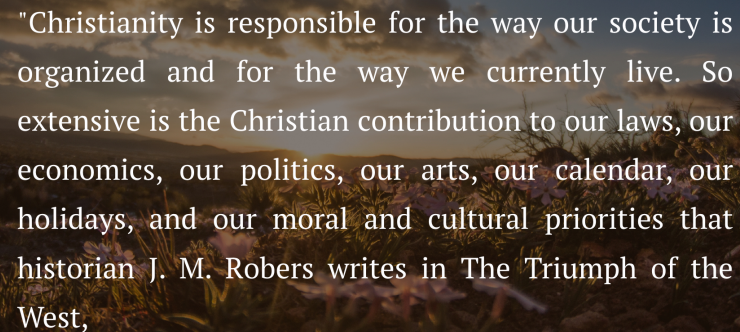


He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

Isaiah 53:3-4

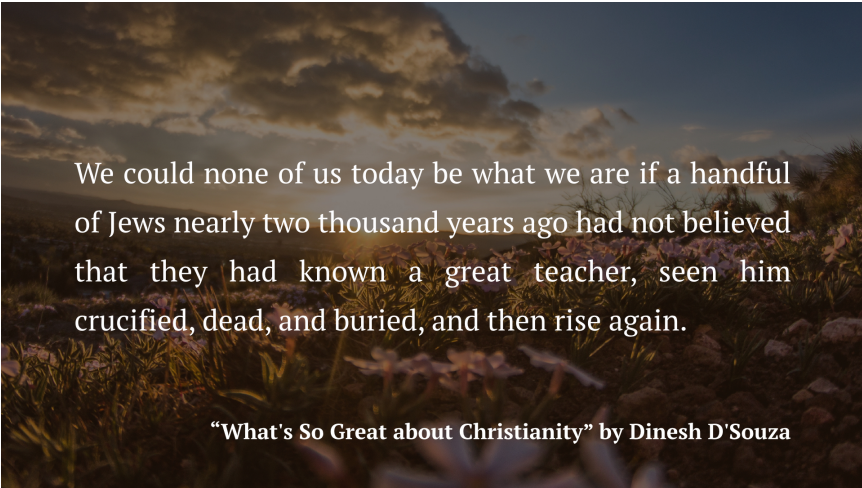


**Another perspective
sees the deeper realities**



"Christianity is responsible for the way our society is organized and for the way we currently live. So extensive is the Christian contribution to our laws, our economics, our politics, our arts, our calendar, our holidays, and our moral and cultural priorities that historian J. M. Roberts writes in *The Triumph of the West*,

"What's So Great about Christianity" by Dinesh D'Souza

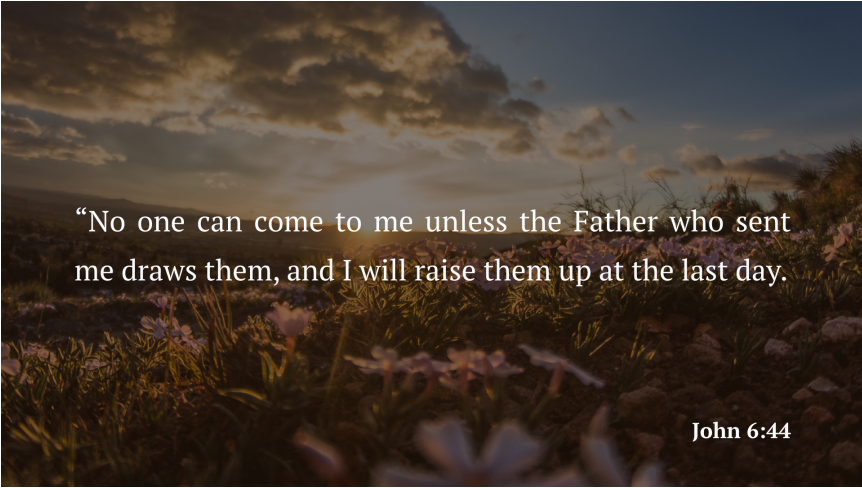


We could none of us today be what we are if a handful of Jews nearly two thousand years ago had not believed that they had known a great teacher, seen him crucified, dead, and buried, and then rise again.

"What's So Great about Christianity" by Dinesh D'Souza



**We all need to be awoken
to a grander perspective**




“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.

John 6:44



So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.

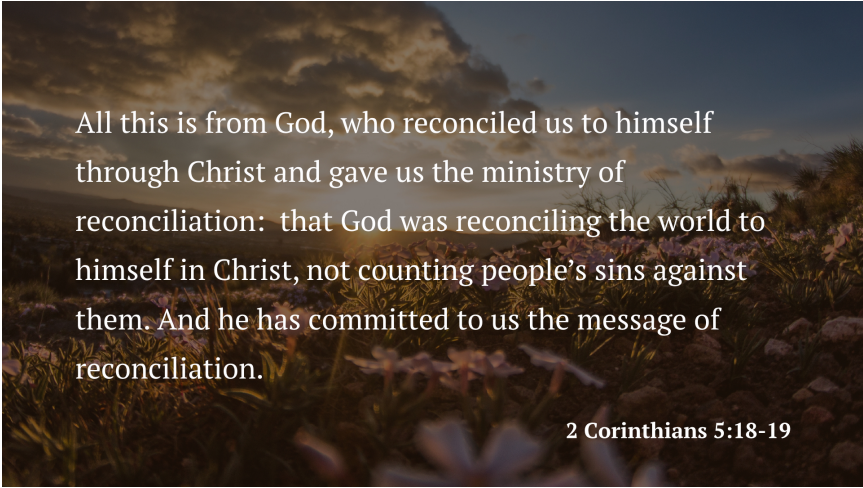
2 Corinthians 5:16



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!


Now we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a **fresh start**, is created new. (Message Version)

2 Corinthians 5:17



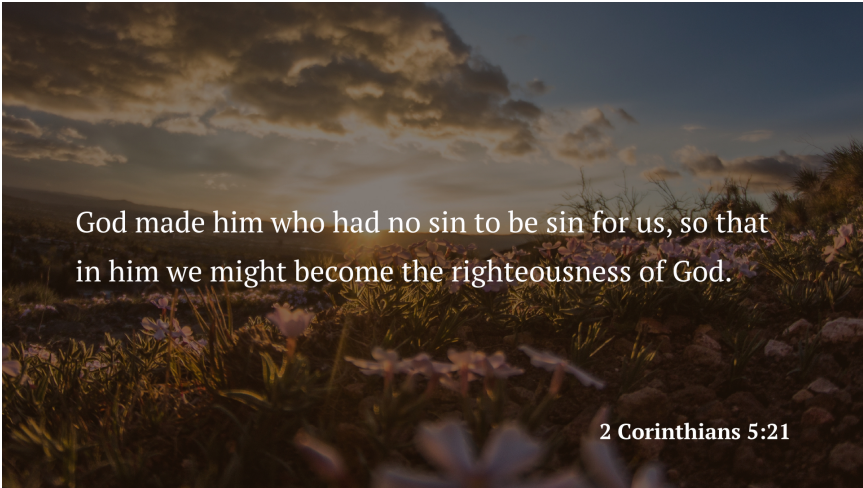
All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19



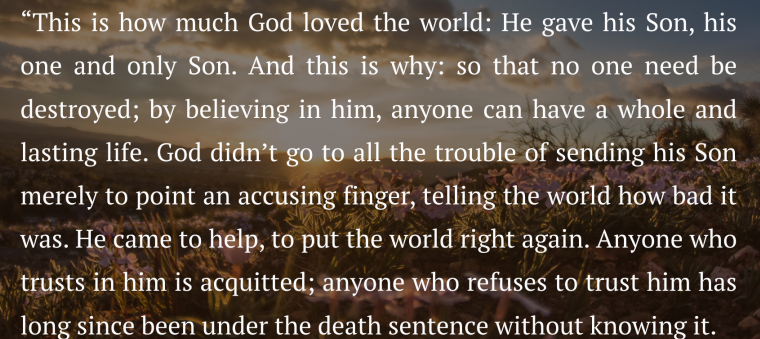
We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20



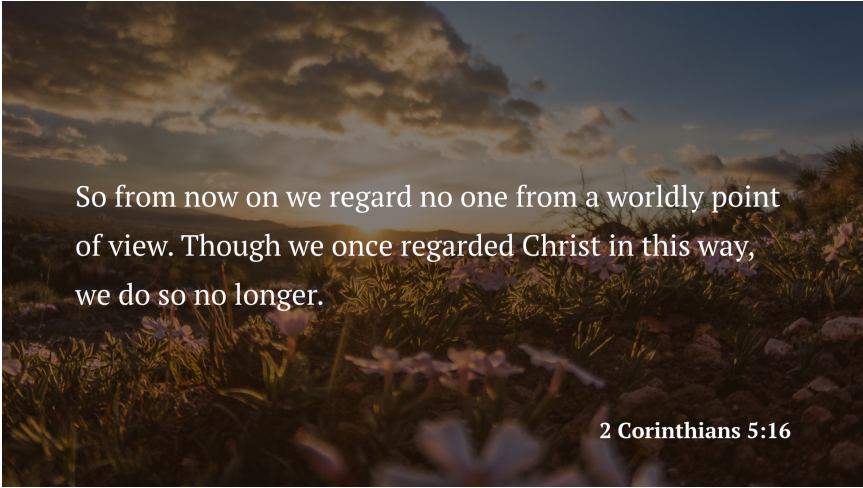
God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21



“This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it.

John 3:16-17 Message Version



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2 Corinthians 5:16



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