



Philippians

Having The Mind of Christ

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Lesson 5 (Philippians 2:1-11) The Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:1-11
(New King James Version)

1. Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,
2. fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.
3. *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.
4. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.
5. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,
6. who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,
7. but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.
8. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.
9. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,
10. that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,
11. and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Intro

1. The word therefore in verse 1 points back to the previous chapter. According to the last verses of that chapter, what had the Philippians experienced in common with Paul?

Fulfillment of Paul's Joy

1. Paul's joy – What two things in chapter 1 did Paul say gave him joy or caused him to rejoice?
 - a.
 - b.
2. Paul mentions something else in chapter 2 in which he was glad and rejoiced – what was it?
3. Grounds for Paul's appeal – Verse 1 contains four "if's". What are they?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
4. Things necessary to fulfill Paul's joy
 - a. Verses 2-4 tell what things would fulfill Paul's joy and make it complete. Think of one word which would summarize each of them:
 - i.
 - ii.

- iii.
- iv.
- b. If they were to have “one mind” what was the one mind that they should all have?
- c. What are some things one might do in church out of selfish ambition or conceit? Give an example from chapter 1.
- d. Why should it really be easy for us to think of others as better than ourselves?
- e. Does verse 4 mean that we should attend to everybody else’s business rather than to our own? Explain.

The Great Example

1. Trace the steps of Christ’s humiliation.
 - a. “Being in the form of _____”
 - b. “Emptied Himself taking the form of a _____”
 - c. “Being found in appearance (fashion) as a _____”
 - d. “He humbled Himself and became _____ to the point of _____”
 - e. “Even the _____ of the _____”
2. Was this voluntary or involuntary? Suggest some ways in which this illustrates what was enjoined in verses 2-4.
3. What was the reward for this action of Christ?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. General questions for discussion:
 - a. Do these verses say that Christ was equal to God?
 - b. Do you think there is any significance in the fact that Paul says “Christ Jesus” in verse 5 and “Jesus Christ” in verse 11?
 - c. What did Jesus give up to become a man? Of what did He “empty Himself”?
 - d. What is the name given to Him that is above every name? At what name will we all bow? Is this the name that you would expect? Explain.