



Philippians

Having The Mind of Christ

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Lesson 7 (Philippians 2:17-30) The Mind of Christ Toward Self

Philippians 2:17-30
(New King James Version)

17. Yes, and if I am being poured out *as a drink offering* on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.
18. For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.
19. But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state.
20. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.
21. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.
22. But you know his proven character, that as a son with *his* father he served with me in the gospel.
23. Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me.
24. But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.
25. Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;
26. since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.
27. For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.
28. Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful.
29. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem;
30. because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Intro

1. Philippians 2:5-8 describes the unselfishness of Christ and instructs us to have His mind.
2. In Philippians 2:17-30 we see the attitude toward self which was produced in three men who had the mind of Christ.
3. As we study this lesson, each of us should be asking if the mind of Christ has produced such an attitude in us. If not, do we truly have “the mind of Christ”?

Paul

1. What did Paul think might happen to him?
2. How did he describe it in 2 Timothy 4:6?
3. What relation did all of this have to the Gentiles (see Ephesians 3:1, Romans 15:15-16)?
4. How did he feel about the possibility of being offered in this manner?
5. What attitude did he want the Philippians to have about it?

Timothy

1. What benefit did Paul hope to receive from sending Timothy to Philippi?
 - a. How does this illustrate Philippians 2:4?
2. How was Timothy different from others whom Paul might have sent?
 - a. A question to ask ourselves – Would Paul have sent me?
3. Think carefully about verses 20-22. Timothy was more concerned about at least three others more than himself. Who are they?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. How did Timothy illustrate the instructions in Philippians 2:
 - a. Verse 2 –
 - b. Verse 3 –
 - c. Verse 4 –
5. When did Paul expect to send Timothy?
6. What did Paul hope to do soon?

Epaphroditus

1. What was Epaphroditus to Paul?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. What was Epaphroditus to the Philippians?
3. Why had Epaphroditus come from Philippi to Paul in Rome (see verse 25 and 4:8)?
4. What problem had Epaphroditus had while he was with Paul (27)? How serious was it?
5. What seemed to concern Epaphroditus most about his problem (26)?
6. How did God mercifully protect Paul from “sorrow upon sorrow”?
7. Why did Paul not exercise “healing power”?
8. How would sending Epaphroditus to the Philippians cause Paul to be less sorrowful?
9. Verse 30 mentions four different persons or groups – name them.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
10. Which of the four groups listed above was Epaphroditus least concerned about?
11. What attitude did Paul say the church should have toward such men?