

## “LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU”

### Introduction

- 1) Paul authors an epistle to the saints in Philippi (Phil. 1:1; AD 61-63)
  - a) Church established on Paul’s second missionary journey (Acts 16:11-40; AD 51-53)
  - b) Paul now in prison in Rome for his preaching of the gospel of Christ (1:3-7, 12-13)
- 2) Philippian brethren themselves are now suffering for the gospel (1:27-30)
  - a) Paul stresses to these brethren the need for unity in the face of this suffering (v. 27)
  - b) To make this possible, he next emphasizes having the proper mindset (2:1-11)
- 3) They needed the **same mind** in them that was in Christ Jesus – *and so do we today!*

### I) **Blessings Shared and What We Strive For (2:1-2)**

#### A) The *blessings* Christians share

- 1) *Consolation in Christ* – encouragement and exhortation in the fellowship of Christ
- 2) *Comfort of love* – the tenderness resulting from love
- 3) *Fellowship of the Spirit* – unity made possible by the Spirit of God
- 4) *Affection and mercy* – compassion and love toward one another

#### B) The *unity* Christians must strive for (and will bring joy!)

- 1) *Same mind* – thinking the same thing
- 2) *Same love* – same dedication to one another
- 3) *One accord* – blending of souls together
- 4) *One mind* – united on doctrinal unity

### II) **How To Achieve (2:3-4)**

- A) Not selfish ambition or conceit – BUT – in lowliness of mind esteem others better than self
- B) Not only look out for own interests – BUT – also for the interests of others
- C) One example of this mindset – *“we are brethren”* (Genesis 13:8-9; Acts 4:32)

### III) **The Mind That Was In Christ Jesus (2:5-11)**

- A) **The Humble Attitude:** Being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery (a thing to be grasped) to be equal with God – BUT – made himself of no reputation (emptied himself) (cf. 2 Cor. 8:9)
- B) **The Humble Action:** Took the form of servant, came in the likeness of men, obedient to the death of cross
  - 1) Contrast to the glorious majesty and form He enjoyed with the Father (Jn. 17:5; Matt. 17:2)
  - 2) Willing to walk in our “skin” and submit to the will of the Father (Jn. 1:14; Heb. 2:14)

### IV) **Let This Mind Be In You!**

- A) **Mind** = total content of thought that shapes our attitude and personal characteristics
  - 1) Our thinking must create an attitude like Jesus of selflessness, not to please self, but to look out for interests of others, humbled to become of no reputation
- B) **“Emptied Himself”** (NASV)
  - 1) Not void his deity, but empty *Himself* in humility and lowliness of mind
  - 2) He demonstrated His own teaching that we are to “deny self” (Matt. 16:24; Jn. 13:3-5, 13-15)
  - 3) Willingly laid aside His interests to seek our interests first (2 Cor. 8:9; Rom. 15:1-7)
- C) Must be of this same mind to enjoy unity and God’s blessings (Eph. 4:31-5:2)

### Conclusion

Is the selfless mind of Christ in you? Do you esteem others better than yourself? We must be unified as we face the onslaught of the world (Phil. 2:12-18). Obey and follow Jesus today.