



# THE MIND OF CHRIST AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Phil. 2:5, 1:9-11



Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Phil. 1:9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;  
10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;  
11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

## I. THE PERCEPTION OF THE CONCEPT

Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

A. The Imperative – “Let this mind...”

B. The Influence – “...be in you...”

C. The Imitation – “...which was also in Christ Jesus:”

Rom. 6:4 1 Cor. 11:1 Phil. 3:17



## II. THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

Mt. 6:10, 26:42

A. The Fellowship in the Gospel, Phil. 1:3-7

B. The Force Within the Gospel, Phil. 1:9-11

1. Love Abounding, 1:9

Phil. 1:9 And this I pray, that **your love may abound** yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;

- God's love is acquired at salvation – the foundation for discipleship!
- Divine love received becomes discipleship love radiated
- God's love is not static but dynamic – it is to “abound yet more and more”- indicating spiritual growth!
- God's love is a spiritual influence in a carnal world.
- God's love is focused on giving OF self not gaining FOR self.
- The emphasis of love's abounding is in depth and discernment.
- **“lifestyle foundation” – all that we are or are to become is dependent upon God's love working in our heart – for Him and for others.**

## 2. Love Approved, 1:10

Phil. 1:10 That ye may **approve** things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

- Spiritual growth includes the ability to “approve things that are excellent.”
- A believer is to know what is “genuine.”
- By knowing what is genuine, one will spot the counterfeit.
- The Scriptures indicate several examples of such “approval”:

Rom. 12:2, 1 Cor. 3:13, 2 Cor. 13:5, Gal. 6:4, 1 Jn. 4:1

- The “approval” is to detect the genuineness of what is “excellent.”
- The word “excellent” means knowing the “difference” regarding characteristics and quality of *better and best*, not just good and bad.
- A believer is to assess, and then pursue a life of excellence – according to God’s standard!

**In verse 9, the prayer is focused upon a believer's heart.**

**In verse 10, the prayer is focused upon a believer's head – the mind.**

- A believer is NOT to live life by the “seat of the pants.”
- A believer is to have a pure heart guided by a level head.

Rom. 12:2, Phil. 4:8, 1 Thess. 5:21

- The effect of having a pure heart and level head is a believer that is consistent in living like Christ.



The sequential steps are...

- Love from God, working in and through the believer – a pure heart.
- Such love leads to “approval” – proving that a believer knows the genuineness of what is believed – a level head.
- Such genuineness leads to discernment of excellence, incorporated in the life of a believer.
- Such excellence leads to a believer living a lifetime like Christ.
- Living like Christ produces results in and through believers that mirror Christ’s results during His earthly ministry =  
FRUITFULNESS



### 3. Love Affected, 1:11

Phil. 1:11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

- Verses 9 and 10 use subjunctive verbs, “possibility promises” “...that your love may abound...” --- “...that ye may be sincere and without offence...”
- “Being filled...” is a perfect passive participle – that has happened in the past time with continuing results.
- What motivated such “filling?”
- Looking toward the “day of Christ” – the Judgment Seat for believers, when an account of life will be rewarded for faithful works.

2 Cor. 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things done in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it* be good or bad.

Rom. 14:12 So then **every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**

- The verb looks back and sums up the life of the person.
- It views a completed state, or completed condition.
- It looks at the record of good works produced by God in a life of love, a life of discernment, a life of depth, a life of excellence, a life of genuineness, a life of holiness, and a life of fruitfulness.

- Such life produces glory and praise of God!
- What are “the fruits of righteousness”?
- Such fruits are those which righteousness produces as a result of the sequential development of a believer, one who is allowing Christ to work through him.
- The Greek word for fruit – *karpos*, means good works, product, results. And that’s what he has in mind.

**Original Word:** καρπός

**Transliteration:** karpos

**Definition:** (a) fruit, generally vegetable, sometimes animal, (b) met: fruit, deed, action, result, (c) profit, gain.

*karpós* – properly, fruit; **(figuratively) everything done in true partnership with Christ, i.e. a believer (a branch) lives in union with Christ (the Vine).**

The fruit produced in the believer is through the inherent working of Christ in this kind of Christian life – the fruit that righteousness produces.

Prov. 11:30 The **fruit of the righteous** is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

Jas. 3:18 And **the fruit of righteousness** is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Jn. 15:1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. ...

5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: **He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.** ...

8 **Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit;** so shall ye be my disciples.

2 Cor. 9:10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and **increase the fruits of your righteousness;**)

Eph. 1:12 That **we should be to the praise of his glory,** who first trusted in Christ.

## Conclusion

Phil. 1:9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;  
10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;  
11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

**In verse 9, the prayer is founded upon a believer's heart.**

**In verse 10, the prayer is focused upon a believer's head – the mind.**

**In verse 11, the prayer is finalized through a believer's hands – “fruits of righteousness.”**



LOVE +

DISCERNMENT +

DEPTH +

EXCELLENCE +

GENUINENESS +

HOLINESS =

FRUIT =

THE GLORY AND PRAISE OF GOD

Six (man's number) spiritual ingredients developed sequentially in the life of a believer will yield the seventh factor (God's number of completion) – fruit that produces “...the glory and praise of God.”



1 Jn. 4:17 Herein is **our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.**

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 **We love him, because he first loved us.**