



# THE MIND OF CHRIST AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Phil. 2:5-11

*“When Life Gets in the Way, Remember This”*

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

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## 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

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

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

C. The Fall-out from, and for, the Gospel, Phil. 1:12-20

D. The Future due to the Gospel, 1:21-30

E. The Face of the Gospel, 1:27-30

## III. THE PUBLISHING OF CONCERN, 2:1-4

A. The Relationship to Consider, 2:1-2

## The Motives for Unity

- The Consolation – “If *there be* **therefore** any **consolation** in Christ...”
- The Comfort – “...if any **comfort** of love...”
- The Communion – “...if any **fellowship** of the Spirit...”
- The Compassion – “...if any **bowels and mercies**...”



## The Marks of Unity

Phil. 2:2 Fulfil ye my joy,

- The Correct Thinking – “...that ye **be likeminded...**”
- The Consistent Thoughtfulness – “...**having the same love...**”
- The Close-knit Testimony – “...**being of one accord...**”
- The Catalyst for Totality – “... **of one mind.**”

## The Means of Unity

- Eliminate Ambition, 2:3a – “*Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory...*”
- Elevate Another, 2:3b – “...but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.”
- Evaluate Altruistically, 2:4 – “Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”



## IV. THE PATTERN FROM CHRIST, 2:5-11

Mt. 23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and **he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.** (Lu. 14:11)

The Scriptural principle is that God rewards self-sacrifice, when accompanied with humility, which is motivated by a love for the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. The Attitude of Christ, 2:5-6



1. The Attitude in Reasoning, 2:5 – “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:”

2. The Attitude of Respect, 2:6 – “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:”

a. The Essence of Being – “Who, being in the form of God...”

Col. 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the **image** of the invisible **God**, the firstborn of every creature:

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that **in all things he might have the preeminence.**

19 For it pleased *the Father* that **in him should all fulness dwell;**

b. The Equality of Being – “...thought it not robbery to be equal with God:”

**The Lord Jesus did NOT have to “TAKE BY FORCE” being equal with God = HE IS, WAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE GOD!**

1 Tim. 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh...**”

- v. 6 – Having the right attitude in relationship with/to God

B. The Actions of Christ, 2:7-8

Phil. 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

### 1. The Selfless Servant, 2:7

Phil. 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

- v. 7a – Purposely laid aside self-benefits
- v. 7b – Purposely identified Himself with mankind

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2 Cor. 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, **though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.**

**Properly, such a slave is someone who belongs to another; a bond-slave, without any ownership rights of their own.**

## 2. The Submissive Son, 2:8

Phil. 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Isa. 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

2 Cor. 5:21 For **he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;** that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Jas. 4:10 Humble **yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

1 Pet. 5:6 Humble **yourselves** therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

**We are admonished to humble ourselves in a similar fashion as to reflect the example of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jn. 15:13 **Greater love hath no man than this**, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Heb. 5:8 Though he were a Son, **yet learned he obedience** by the things which he suffered;

Rom. 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the **obedience** of one shall many be made righteous.

- v. 8a – Deliberately humbled Himself
- v. 8b – Learned obedience
- v. 8c – Went to the extent of death
- v. 8d – Even the horrible tormenting death of crucifixion

## C. The Acclamation of Christ, 2:9-11

Phil. 2:9 Wherefore **God also hath highly exalted him**, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- v. 9a – God HIGHLY exalted the Lord Jesus
- v. 9b – God gave Him a name above ALL names
- v. 10 – Jesus is Sovereign over all
- v. 11 – Jesus Christ is LORD!

“To urge men and women to believe in a divided Christ is bad teaching—for no one can receive a half or a third or a quarter of the divine Person of Christ!” – A. W. Tozer

<http://www.cmalliance.org/devotions/tozer?id=161>

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but **the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Rom. 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 16:31 “And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...**”

Rom. 8:37 Nay, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,  
39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be **able to separate us from the love of God**, which is in **Christ Jesus our Lord.**



## Conclusion

2 Cor. 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but **Christ Jesus the Lord**; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.