

Devote All to Christ

Phil. 2:1-11

Jan. 27, 2019

Pride is the mother hen under which all other sins are hatched. C. S. Lewis

Unifying Principle:

Personal interests and selfish ambition can lead to controversies that threaten our relationships. How can people overcome their divisiveness? Paul commends the example of Christ, who humbly emptied Himself in order to serve God and others through His sacrifice.

What is the Mind of Christ?

Phil. 2:1-5

The trait of consolation: (1) The word “consolation” in the present context means encouragement, comfort and strength.

- a. Love: The comfort of love that is in Christ.
- b. Fellowship: Once a person has trusted Christ as his Savior, the Holy Spirit enters the believer’s heart and life to comfort, guide and use him as a witness for Christ.
- c. Compassion: Compassion is the trait that stirred Christ to reach out for us.

The trait of concern for one another’s joy: (2) The believers in a church are to be concerned for each other’s joy. “When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.” Ethiopian Proverb

The trait of humility or lowliness of mind: (3) They desired recognition or distinction, not from pure motives, but merely from selfish ambition.

The trait of controlling self-interest or concentration upon oneself: (4) Each believer should not be completely absorbed in his or her own concerns and spiritual growth, but should also look at others noting their good points.

Christ is the supreme example: (5) Jesus Christ is God, yet He humbled Himself and became Man. Take the mind of Christ and let it flow through you. Take all you are and have and get down where the needs really are.

Attributes of the Mind of Christ

Phil. 2:6-8

Christ is of the very nature of God: (6) He was not *like God*; He is God.

- Jesus Christ is of the *being* of God: He is the very essence of God, what a person is; that part of a person that cannot be changed.

- Jesus Christ is *in the form of* God: It is the unchangeable being.
- Jesus Christ is *equal* with God.

Christ emptied Himself and became a man: (7) The Lord whom we are to serve, came and served us. The Lord whom we are to love, came and loved us.

Christ humbled Himself to the point of utter humiliation: (8)

- a. Jesus Christ humbles himself to the Father:
- b. Jesus Christ humbled himself to men:

Cultivating the Mind of Christ

Phil. 2:9-11

Christ was rewarded: (9-11)

- a. Given name above every name. (9) God has highly honored Christ.
- b. Given supreme power and authority. (10) God has destined every knee to bow before Christ.
- c. Given supreme worship as Lord. (11) God is going to see to it that every creature confesses that Jesus Christ is Lord.
 - Every nation and language.
 - Every race, color, creed.
 - Every king, leader, and authority.

Principle: God calls us humbly to love and serve others.

References: Holman NT Commentary

Life Application Bible Commentary