

Having The Mindset of Christ (Phil. 2:1-11)

I. UNITY THROUGH HUMILITY

A. Philippians 2:1-4 is a challenge for us to live in unity with one another.

²Fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. (Phil. 2:2)

B. Paul again used three expressions to describe the unity the we should display as Christians towards one another. –*In like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord.* (v.2) The word *one accord* comes from two words: “sun” together with, and “psuchos”, meaning the soul, self, inner life. It means, to live in harmonious togetherness as believers.

C. Unity does not mean uniformity. As Christians we may never all do the same thing, the same way, but we can live in Christian unity with one another. Jesus prayed that we all would be one with Him and with one another.

“That they all may be one as You Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me” (Jn 17:21)

II. THE MINDSET OF CHRIST

D. Next, Paul describes the mindset that Christ had when taking on human flesh and walking this earth as the Son of man to give His life as a sacrifice for our sins.

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross.” (Phil. 2:5-8).

E. ¹The Kenosis of Christ: ***“Let this mind be in you”*** describes a term in the study of scriptures known as “The Kenosis of Christ”. It comes from The Greek word: kenoo (G2758), to empty out, drain. It is translated "make void" (Rom. 4:14; 1Cor. 9:15); "make of no effect" (1Cor. 1:17); (i.e., He emptied Himself; Phil. 2:7).

F. Of what did Christ empty Himself? It could not have been His divine nature, for He was God not only from all eternity (Mic. 5:1-2 Jn. 1:1-2 Heb. 1:8; Rev. 1:8-11), but God manifest in flesh during His life on earth (Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7 Mt. 1:18-25 Jn. 1:1-2,14, 1Tim. 3:16).

G. Christ emptied Himself of the following:

1. Equality with God (Phil. 2:6-7 Jn. 14:28; 1Cor. 11:3)

2. God-form or God-body, the spirit body that He lived in from eternity, to take human-form (Phil. 2:6-8; 3:21; Mt. 1:18-25 Lk. 1:35; Jn. 1:14; Lk. 24:37-40 Zech. 13:6; Gal. 4:4; Rom. 8:3)

¹ Dake Study Bible Notes, Phil 2

3. Immortality of body (1Cor. 15:3; Ps. 16:10; 1Pet. 2:24; 3:18)
4. The glory that He had with the Father before the world was (Jn. 12:23; 17:5; Mt. 16:27; Phil. 2:5-11)
5. His authority in heaven and in earth, which was given back to Him after He rose from the grave (Mt. 28:18; Phil. 2:9-11 Eph. 1:20-23 1Pet. 3:22)
6. His divine attributes and outward powers that He had with the Father from eternity. He had no power to do miracles until He received the Holy Spirit in all fullness (Jn. 2:11; 3:34; Isa. 11:1-2; 42:1-7; 61:1-2 Lk. 3:21-22; 4:16-21 Mt. 12:28; Acts 10:38). He could do nothing of Himself in all His earthly life. He attributed all His works, doctrines, powers, etc. to the Father through the anointing of the Holy Spirit (note, Jn. 8:28).

H. Servant of All Lyrics [Misty Edwards]:

I wanna be Your lover so show me how to go lower
For in the depths I will find You where You're serving my brother

I wanna be with You where You are I wanna be with You wherever You are
I wanna be with You where You are You're the servant of all

I'm in love with a king who became a slave
I'm in love with a God who is humble

You gotta go down if you wanna go up
And You've gotta go lower if you wanna go higher and higher
Well you've gotta hide and do it in secret if you wanna be seen by God

Cause it's the inside outside upside down kingdom
Where you lose to gain and you die to live