

Following After the Mind of Christ (Phil. 2:1-11)

I. Display the Mind of Christ in Life (1-5)

A. Model the Unity of Christ (1-2)

1. Be United With Christ (1-2)

- a. If any encouragement in Christ
 - i. Is He enough?
 - ii. Is He your reward?
- b. If you have been comforted by His love
 - i. That he would sacrifice
 - ii. That he would adopt you
- c. If you have Fellowship in the Spirit
 - i. You have partaken
 - ii. you are led, guided, comforted
- d. If you have been shown affection and mercy
 - i. "bowels" in KJV
 - means compassion
 - used in MT. 18:27 – Lord pities servant
 - Lk 15:20 – father compassion prodigal
 - Lk 10:33 – Samaritan
 - 2 Co. 6:11-12 – Paul's heart "open wide"

2. Be United With One Another (2)

- a. Paul's only Desire
 - i. of all the things he could hope for
 - ii. He wants them united together
 - iii. This one thing fulfills his joy
- b. Paul's Definition of Unity
 - i. Being of the same mind (plural)
 - ii. Having the same love
 - love of Christ
 - love for each other
 - iii. Being united in Spirit (lit. joined in soul)
 - iv. Thinking one thing (same)
 - minding one purpose
 - single-minded

B. Model the Humility of Christ (3-5)

1. Humble yourselves before one another (3)

- a. Do nothing from selfish ambition
 - i. self-seeking desires
- b. Do nothing from pride / vanity
- c. Do nothing that exalts yourself
 - i. Everything is characterized by humility
 - ii. Everyone regarded as superior
 - each person sees others as better
 - each person sees others as more deserving
 - each person sees others as more important

- Yourselves is plural (church)

2. Concern yourselves with one another (4)
 - a. "looking after" other's things
 - b. not "looking" just after your own
 - i. interests
 - ii. concerns
 - iii. needs
 - iv. Issues
 - v. both spiritual and material
3. Consider Each other as Christ does (5)
 - a. See one another as Christ does
 - b. Agree with Christ about your value
 - c. Have the "mind" of Christ about one another

II. The Exaltation of the Mind of Christ (6-11)

A. Christ Humbled Himself Beyond Measure (6-8)

1. Christ Held the Ultimate Position (6)
 - a. He eternally existed as God (in his nature)
 - b. He did not consider deity something to be attained
 - c. He did not consider deity something to be held on to
2. Christ Emptied Himself of Position (7a) (Not deity)
 - a. He laid aside the prerogatives of deity
 - i. He did not cease being deity
 - ii. ekenosen = He emptied / poured out
 - iii. he emptied himself
 - reflexive – no one made him
 - He emptied willingly
 - what great humility
3. Christ Humbled Himself completely (7b-8)
 - a. He took the form of a servant
 - i. he didn't just humble himself a little
 - ii. He went from most exalted to lowest position
 - b. He took on a human nature
 - c. He gave himself over to death
 - i. No one took his life
 - ii. He gave it willingly
 - d. He gave himself over to be accursed
 - i. To die on a cross was lowest form of punishment
 - ii. So low Roman citizens couldn't be crucified
 - iii. "even" death on a cross

B. God Vindicated Christ's Humility (9-11)

1. He gave Him the Exalted Name (9)
 - i. Had always been "Lord" – Yahweh
 - ii. Now "Lord" = Yahweh is God/man Jesus
2. All creation will submit to Him (10)
3. All creation will Exalt Him (11)
 - i. Will call Jesus by "the Name"