

The Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:5-11 ESV Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- I. Introduction
 - a. Review major points from sermon about being the Best
 - b. Paul teaches this lesson in Phil. 2:1-4
 - c. How? By being like Jesus Phil. 2:5
 - d. Having the attitude or mind of Jesus.
- II. Key Statement
 - a. When we consider Jesus in His divinity, His condescension, His humiliation and exaltation, it is reasonable for us to submit ourselves to Him and to others for His sake. We do that by understanding and sharing in His attitude, by having the mind of Christ.
- III. His Divinity (Phil. 2:6)
 - a. In the form of God
 - b. Equal with God
 - c. Heb. 1:1-3
 - d. Us
 - i. Not God
 - ii. But in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27)
- IV. His Condescension (Phil. 2:7)
 - a. Made himself nothing
 - b. Became a servant
 - c. Became a man
 - d. Us
 - i. We do not lower ourselves by taking on humanity
 - ii. But we are being like Jesus
- V. His Humiliation (Phil. 2:8)
 - a. Obedient
 - b. Death
 - c. The Cross
 - d. Heb. 5:7-9
 - e. Us
 - i. We have many opportunities to be like Jesus in this way
 - ii. But on a much smaller scale
 1. Submission to equals, rather than dependents (Luke 2:51)
 2. Obedience to a perfect Lord, rather than weak and sinful oppressors (John 19:1-16)

- VI. His Exaltation (Phil. 2:9-11)
 - a. Exalted
 - b. High name
 - c. Universal worship
 - d. Universal confession
 - e. His condescension and humiliation was worth it to Him (Heb 12:1-4)
 - f. Us
 - i. To be His is glory now (1 Pet. 1:8)
 - ii. But later
 - 1. We will be exalted and share in his glory (2 Cor. 3:18)
 - 2. Greater than anything here (rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:16-18)
 - 3. Worth any suffering or sacrifice (2 Tim. 2:10)
- VII. Conclusion
 - a. To be like Jesus and to share in His mind
 - i. We must accept submission and humiliation as He did
 - 1. For Jesus to submit to us as humanity required a lower of Himself that was beyond measure
 - 2. For us
 - a. to submit to Jesus
 - i. requires a very slight lowering of ourselves – He is one to whom to submit oneself is an honor
 - ii. We will submit to Jesus one way or another sooner or later
 - b. To submit to others for Jesus’ sake requires a very slight lowering of ourselves
 - i. When the opportunity to submit to others presents itself, it often feels like a huge humiliation –
 - 1. Cleaning up someone else’s mess
 - 2. They have a really bad attitude about it
 - ii. Consider Jesus – he cleaned up the biggest mess their ever was
 - a. And the ones who made the mess hated Him
 - b. Mocked Him
 - c. Even while He was giving His life to clean up our mess
 - 2. It makes what we may do for others seem very insignificant
 - a. As a humiliation
 - 3. But very significant as an act of service performed for Jesus’ sake
- ii. We will be exalted as He was

1. His humiliation resulted in an exaltation that brought him rank, status, glory and privilege which was slightly greater than He had before
 - a. It consisted chiefly in adding to all His titles and privileges that of the Redeemer of the souls of men
2. Our humiliation results in an exaltation above our previous status which is beyond measure both here and especially in eternity
 - a. We become
 - i. Forgiven
 - ii. Children of God
 - iii. Heirs of eternal life
 - iv. Blessed with every spiritual blessing
 - v. Recipients of
 1. The encouragement of Christ,
 2. The consolation of God's love
 3. And the fellowship of the Spirit
 - vi. Like Him, and more like him the more we follow His example by submitting to Him and to others for His sake
 - b. On the basis of all of these truths, it is reasonable to submit ourselves to him and to others for His sake
 - c. In other words we should have the mind of Christ
 - d. INVITATION