

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Current Book: Philippians – verse by verse

Scriptures for Today: Philippians 2:1-11 – unified by the humility of Jesus Christ

Today's Message:

"The Humility of Jesus Christ"



INTRODUCTION

Last week, we were exhorted to live for Jesus Christ. He ought to be our life! Amen. And we are to be truly set apart for Jesus Christ – for His magnification and service daily. Paul was not concerned with whether he lived or died because either way he would **GLORIFY** Christ! Today, we have arrived at one of the greatest passages in the Bible. Few doctrinal truths surpass the **HUMILITY** of Jesus Christ. However, the context of the passage may surprise you. Sometimes, we are so focused on the theology of this chapter that we forget the lesson that is being taught to us. This is God's message to you...

LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text Philippians 2:1-11

A. The Context – the Holy Spirit's focus is on unity for the Gospel's sake.

1. Paul begins with an appeal to what they have **EXPERIENCED** in Christ.

Important Note

The context of chapter 2 is the end of chapter 1 ... a focus on the unity of the believers for Christ and the Gospel's sake.

- **Philippians 2:1** – If there be **THEREFORE** any...
- **Philippians 1:27** – Only **let your conversation be** as *it becometh the gospel of Christ...*
... **that ye stand fast in ONE SPIRIT,**
... **with ONE MIND striving together** *for the faith of the gospel;*
- **Ephesians 4:3** – Endeavouring to keep **THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT** *in the bond of peace.*

Blessings found in Christ:

- **Consolation in Christ** *Comfort; alleviation of distress of mind; hope, joy, courage*
- **Comfort of Love** *To strengthen; to cheer or enliven; to relieve or help*
- **Fellowship of the Spirit** *Companionship; consort; familiar communications and care*
- **Bowels and Mercies** *The seat of emotions; pity or kindness; compassion*

Personal Application

How has Jesus Christ comforted you through these and other experiences in Him?

John 14:18, 27

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you...

B. The Charge – believers must esteem others above themselves.

2. Paul exhorts the believers to be likeminded and **UNIFIED** in Christ.

- **Philippians 2:2** – Fulfill ye **my joy**, that ye **be** **LIKEMINDED**,
having THE SAME LOVE, being of ONE ACCORD, of ONE MIND.

"Fulfill ye my joy..."

The Apostle Paul was exhorting the believers he loved dearly and prayed for often to not allow small disagreements and disunity to become a hinderance to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

3. Paul continues his exhortation as to **HOW** to be accomplish this unity.

Question

How much unity would there be if believers cared more about OTHERS than themselves?

- **Philippians 2:3** – Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but **in lowliness of mind** let each esteem OTHER better than themselves.
- **Philippians 2:4** – Look not every man **on his own things**, but every man also on the things of OTHERS.

Opposing Character Qualities:

- **Strife or vainglory** Contention for superiority; struggle for victory (James 3,4)
- **Lowliness of mind** Freedom from pride; humility; humbleness of mind
- **Esteem other better** To set a higher value on; to put their needs before your own
- **Others** Not you! Stop thinking about yourself...

Personal Application

Evaluate your life? With whom is there strife? Will you obey the word of God?

C. The Christ – the most glorious example of Paul’s teaching – Jesus Christ!

4. Paul appeals to the greatest example of **HUMILITY** every known to man!

- **Philippians 2:5** – LET THIS MIND **be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

<u>The Humility of Christ</u>	<u>Our Beautiful Saviour</u>	<u>Worldly Opposite</u>	<u>The Bible</u>
Who, being in the form of God , thought it not robbery to be equal with God : But made himself of no reputation ,	Jesus Christ voluntarily emptied Himself of the privileges of deity. He set aside His rights and glory to accomplish the Father’s will and save the world!	Promote yourself; protect your reputation, Live for yourself! If you do not care about you, nobody will. Politicians and celebrities spend fortunes to protect an image; avoid public humiliation at all costs.	Luke 2:7 Mt 8:20; 26:53 2Cor 8:9 James 4:6 Prov 16:5
and took upon him the form of a servant , and was made in the likeness of men :	Jesus Christ did not demand royal treatment, even though all creation was His! He became a man so that He could pay the price for your sins!	Climb the ladder of success, get all you can, get others to serve you! That job is beneath you. Do you know who I am? The manager or leader will not do lower level work; elites are served first.	Mt 23:11 Mark 1:40-42; 6:41-44; 10:14, 45
And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself , and became obedient unto death , even the death of the cross.	Jesus Christ obey His Father’s will to the end. He willingly went to the cross, suffered and died so that you might be saved!	The world says, “Do your own thing, live by your truth, resist authority no matter what.” People reject the Bible when inconvenient, disobey rules/laws for personal gain.	Isaiah 53 Luke 22:42 Heb 5:8 Prov 14:12

Personal Application

What about your life? What must you change to let THIS MIND be in you?

How much more unity and peace would there be in the church and your life if so?

“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him...”

God has exalted our Lord Jesus Christ to the highest place! The highest honor was gained by the lowest descent. Jesus Christ is above all names... every knee will bow... and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father! Considering this truth, how ought you to live for Him?