



Go for God!

## **“LET’S THIS MIND BE IN YOU!”**

### **Philippians 2:1-11**

> THREE MINDS, IF YOU DON’T MIND:

#### **#1 - HAVE THE MIND FOR FELLOWSHIP (v1-4)**

- Observe 7 thoughts of mindful/thoughtful *fellowship*:

(The term “if” in this passage means *there is and should be* if it is not.)

#1 – *Consolation in Christ* – The Greek word is *paraklesis* meaning to *draw near, to comfort*, which Christ and the Holy Spirit do for us always!

#2 – *Comfort of love* – This is speaking of God’s “*agape*” love.

- Unger defines this *love* in the life of the believer powerfully, he writes, “Love is the preeminent virtue inculcated and produced by Christianity. The whole law is summed up in love, not in the sense of rendering all other requirements as inconsequential, but in the sense that love is fundamental, expresses the spirit of all others, and with enlightenment will lead to the observance of all others (Matthew 22:37-39; 5:43-48; John 14:15,21; 15:12-14; Romans 13:8; 1 Corinthians 13:1; Galatians 5:14). Accordingly, love is declared to be the chief test of Christian discipleship (John 13:35; Matthew 5:44; 1 John 3:14). Also, love is the highest motive or ground of moral actions. Without this all other motives fall short of furnishing the true stimulus of Christian living. As all sin roots itself in selfishness, so all virtue springs out of love; and yet the love that is presented in the NT as the mainspring of holy living is grateful love as distinct from the love that is wholly disinterested.”

#3 – *Fellowship of the Spirit* – Harmonious relationships springing forth in the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

#4 – *Affection (bowels) and mercy* – The word affection is *splanchna* in Greek, speaking of an intestine, which relates to having pity or sympathy for others, thus the term bowels of mercy.

#5 – *Joyful unity* – By being like-minded, having the same love, of one accord, on mind.

#6 – *Beware of selfish ambition and conceit*, but practice humility. Develop the heart of esteeming others.

#7 – *What are your interests?* (Share with others.) *What is the interest of others?* (Find out ask!) Be interested and encourage one another (i.e. – Husbands, wives, children).

#### **#2 - PUT ON THE MIND OF CHRIST! (v5-8)**

(v5) *Let the mind of Christ be in you!* The mind in Greek is *phroneo* meaning to exercise the same, to entertain or have the same sentiment or opinion, same interest, same affection, same humbleness of heart.

*(v6) This passage affirms the deity of Christ, the second person of the trinity. The word “form” (Gk. – morphe) speaks of the in-most nature. C.I. Scofield writes, “This word form is the external appearance by which a person or thing strikes the vision; yet it is an external form truly indicative of the inner nature from which it springs. Nothing in this passage teaches that the eternal Word (Jn. 1:1) emptied Himself of either His divine nature or His attributes, but only of the outward and visible manifestation of the Godhead. God may change form, but He cannot cease to be God. The word “equal” defines things that are the same in every sense. Jesus is equal to God and constantly claimed to be so during His earthly ministry (cf. Jn. 5:18; 10:33,38; 14:9; 20:28; Heb. 1:1-3). (See back page for scriptures that affirm the “Deity of Christ”).*

**- In the MacArthur Study Bible, we find the following defense of the “DEITY OF CHRIST”:**

First, in John's gospel Jesus repeatedly assumed for Himself the divine name “I am” (cf. 4:26; 8:24,28,58; 13:19; 18:5,6,8). In 10:30, He claimed to be one in nature and essence with the Father (that the unbelieving Jews recognized this as a claim to deity is clear from their reaction in v. 33; cf. 5:18). Nor did Jesus correct Thomas when he addressed Him as “My Lord and my God!” (20:28); in fact, He praised him for his faith (v. 29). Jesus' reaction is inexplicable if He were not God.

To the Philippians Paul wrote, “[Jesus] existed in the form of God,” possessing absolute “equality with God” (Philippians 2:6). In Colossians 2:9 he declared, “For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.” Romans 9:5 refers to Christ as “God blessed forever”; Titus 2:13 and 2 Peter 1:1 call Him “our God and Savior.” God the Father addressed the Son as God in Hebrews 1:8: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.” In his first epistle John referred to Jesus Christ as “the true God” (1 John 5:20).

Second, Jesus Christ receives titles elsewhere in Scripture given to God. As noted above, Jesus took for Himself the divine name “I am.” In John 12:40 John quoted Isaiah 6:10, a passage which in Isaiah's vision refers to God (cf. Isaiah 6:5). Yet in verse 41 John declared, “These things Isaiah said because he saw His [Christ's; cf. vv. 36,37,42] glory, and he spoke of Him.” Jeremiah prophesied that the Messiah would be called “The Lord [YHWH] our righteousness” (Jeremiah 23:6).

God and Jesus are both called Shepherd (Psalms 23:1—John 10:14); Judge (Genesis 18:25—2 Timothy 4:1,8); Holy One (Isaiah 10:20—Psalms 16:10; Acts 2:27; 3:14); First and Last (Isaiah 44:6; 48:12—Revelation 1:17; 22:13); Light (Psalms 27:1—John 8:12); Lord of the Sabbath (Exodus 16:23,29; Leviticus 19:3—Matthew 12:8); Savior (Isaiah 43:11—Acts 4:12; Titus 2:13); Pierced One (Zechariah 12:10—John 19:37); Mighty God (Isaiah 10:21—Isaiah 9:6); Lord of lords (Deuteronomy 10:17—Revelation 17:14); Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8—Revelation 22:13); Lord of Glory (Psalms 24:10—1 Corinthians 2:8); and Redeemer (Isaiah 41:14; 48:17; 63:16—Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:12).

Third, Jesus Christ possesses the incommunicable attributes of God, those unique to Him. Scripture reveals Christ to be eternal (Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6), omnipresent (Matthew 18:20; 28:20), omniscient (Matthew 11:27; John 16:30; 21:17), omnipotent (Philippians 3:21), immutable (Hebrews 13:8), sovereign (Matthew 28:18), and glorious (John 17:5; 1 Corinthians 2:8; cf. Isaiah 42:8; 48:11, where God states that He will not give His glory to another).

Fourth, Jesus Christ does the works that only God can do. He created all things (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16), sustains the creation (Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3), raises the dead (John 5:21; 11:25-44), forgives sin (Mark 2:10; cf. v. 7), and His word stands forever (Matthew 24:35; cf. Isaiah 40:8).

Fifth, Jesus Christ received worship (Matthew 14:33; 28:9; John 9:38; Philippians 2:10; Hebrews 1:6)—even though He taught that only God is to be worshiped (Matthew 4:10). Scripture also records that both holy men (Acts 10:25-26) and holy angels (Revelation 22:8-9) refused worship.

Finally, Jesus Christ received prayer, which is only to be addressed to God (John 14:13-14; Acts 7:59-60; 1 John 5:13-15).

*(v7) Jesus made Himself of “no reputation”* – One scholar writes, “This is the doctrine of Christ’s self-emptying in His incarnation (Gk. – kenosis). This was a self-renunciation, not an emptying Himself of deity nor an exchange of deity for humanity. Jesus did, however, renounce or set aside His privileges in several areas:

(1) heavenly glory – while on earth He gave up the glory of a face-to-face relationship with God and the continuous outward display and personal enjoyment of the glory (cf. Jn. 17:50)

(2) independent authority—during His incarnation Christ completely submitted Himself to the will of His Father (cf. Mt. 26:39; Jn. 5:30; Heb. 5:8);

(3) divine prerogatives—He set aside the voluntary display of His divine attributes and submitted Himself to the Spirit’s direction (cf. Mt. 24:36; Jn. 1:45-49);

(4) eternal riches—while on earth Christ was poor and owned very little (cf. 2 Cor. 8:9); and

(5) a favorable relationship with God—He felt the Father’s wrath for human sin while on the cross (cf. Mt. 27:47). (Let us look at His humble service in John 13:1-17.)

*(v8) Our Lord’s humble obedience led to His death on the cross for our glorious salvation!*

### **#3 - HAVE THE MIND OF WORSHIP! (v9-11)**

*(v9) His name is above every name!* – Jesus is known as Son (Matthew 11:27), Son of God (John 9:35), and Son of man (Matthew 8:20), Messiah (John 1:41), Lord (Romans 14:8), Word (John 1:1), Wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:30), Bridegroom (Mark 2:19), Shepherd (John 10:11), Vine (John 15:1), Light (John 1:9), and “I AM” (John 8:12). Peter said in Acts 4:12 – “*Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*”

*(v10-11) The word “confess” means “to acknowledge,” “affirm,” or “agree” willingly for salvation, or admittedly resulting in condemnation. (See John 20:26-31; Romans 10:8-13; Revelation 3:7-13.)*

> Memory verses: Philippians 1:6; 1:21; 2:9-11; 3:13,14; 4:6,7; 4:8; 4:13; 4:19

***Philippians 1:6 - being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ***

***Philippians 1:21 - For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.***

***Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***