

Being of the Same Mind

Phil 2:1-4

Nov 15, 2020

Introduction:

Phil 2:1-18 is the next section in this book; having to do with the mind of Christ.

Christ our mind 2:1-18

Being of the same mind 2:1-4

The attitude of Christ 2:5-11

Work out your Salvation 2:12-18

Being of the same mind Phil 2:1-4

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

“if there is any ... in Christ”; The following five traits are given to us in Christ – IF – we receive and nurture them in our lives. These traits are necessary to have unity and harmony in the church.

These are traits of our new creation nature. [v. 1]

2Cor 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (Rom 2:28-29; Gal 5:24; 6:15; Rom 6:4-6; Eph 4:22-24)

“encouragement [paráklēsis] in Christ”

to cause someone to be encouraged or consoled, either by verbal or non-verbal means; admonition or encouragement for the purpose of strengthening others

This trait is characteristic of Jesus and the Holy Spirit – to encourage, comfort and strengthen the believer. (Jn 14:18; 1Thes 5:11; Isa 40:1)

“consolation [paramúthion] of love” (Jn 13:34-35; 15:12; 1Thes 3:12; 1Pt 1:22)

To comfort verbally; the word means literally, “to come to the side of one to stimulate or comfort him.” It has the element of tenderness and persuasion involved in its meaning.

“fellowship [koinonia] of the Spirit” (2 Cor 13:14)

participation, communion, fellowship (Ac 2:42; 1Cor 1:9; 10:16; 2Cor 6:14; 13:14; Gal 2:9)

“affection” [splágchnon] (Col 3:12)

The word used here refers to the upper organs, the stomach, liver, and lungs, another word being used for the intestines. The bowels were regarded by the ancients as the seat of the tender affections. We would say “the heart.”

“and compassion” [oiktirmós]

pity or compassion which one shows for the sufferings of others; to feel sympathy with the misery of another, especially such sympathy as manifests itself in action

Paul found joy in hearing of their maturity and unity.

“complete” = “fill full”. His joy was fulfilled as he hears and sees that they are living as new creations in Christ; evidenced by their unity [v. 2].

“being of the same mind”

Be likeminded,” literally, “think the same thing,”

Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another; ... (Rom 12:16; 2Cor 13:11)

“maintaining the same love”

to have i.e. own, possess; to have (hold) in the hand, to have (hold) possession of the mind.

“united in spirit”

This word is made up of two words “sun” (together with) and psuchos (soul, self, inner life, or the seat of the feelings, desires, affections). So the word refers to being united in spirit or harmonious. Paul desired the Philippians to be united in their affections - one in Christ in all desires! Used only here in the NT

“intent on one purpose”

to employ one’s faculty for thoughtful planning, with emphasis upon the underlying disposition or attitude - ‘to have an attitude, to think in a particular manner; to have a mindset.

Things that disrupt and hinder church harmony [v. 3-4]

“Do nothing from selfishness”

used in the sense of those who seek only their own self-interest; contention, strife, rivalry. (Rom 2:8; 2Cor 12:20; Gal 5:20; Phil 1:6; 2:3; Jas 3:14, 16)

“or empty conceit”

is the translation of a word made up of two words, one word meaning “empty,” or “vain,” used in the sense of “to no purpose, futile,” and the other meaning “opinion.” Thus the total meaning is “empty pride;” boasting without reason, conceited, eager for empty glory.

“only looking out for your own personal interests.”

to exert effort in continually acquiring information regarding some matter, with the implication of concern as to how to respond appropriately - ‘to be aware of, to be concerned about, to consider’

Things that builds and contribute to church harmony [v. 3-4]

“humility of mind”

having a humble opinion of one’s self; modesty, humility, lowliness of mind.

“regard one another as more important than yourselves”

Rom 15:1-3 Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. 2 Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. 3 For even Christ did not please Himself; ...

Jas 2:8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,” you are doing well.

“looking out ... also for the interests of others.

References Used:

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