

Have This Attitude

Philippians 2:1-11

The Joyful Christian life Paul seeks to bring believers into is not a bed of roses. There are trials & tribulations, Paul in prison awaiting death sentence. Church in Philippi had external problems w/ false teacher dividing the church plus internal problems w/ saints not getting along—a break down in unity of the church. False teaching from w/o, disunity from w/in & Paul dealing w/ these from a jail cell telling of the joy we have in Jesus. Joy not based on things around that make us feel good but things above, eternal things—truths we have of our future & hope in the Lord—Joy of the Lord is our strength.

1 If therefore 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.

Paul emphasizes unity in the body of Christ & how to maintain it. It has already been created by Jesus work on the cross, resurrection & Holy Spirit dwelling in born again believers. All of us are one in Christ, not separate.

*If...and there is....**Encouragement**--Come alongside & lift up & go forward; **Consoling love**--knowing your loved & thought about; **Spiritual fellowship**--Godly companionship-friendship-partnership; **Affection**--warmth & care **Compassion**-- empathy & sympathy. These are a work of God's spirit.. **2Cor 13:5 Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?***

All these go to the deepest part of our being. Surface accolades only last temporarily afterward we are back to dealing w/ negative feelings the world, flesh, devil confront us w/.

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Being single minded & of same mind Church like marriage it's permanent in God's eyes. Yes break ups happen but God's ideal in permanent unity. Reality sets in because of our human nature, selfishness, unrepentant attitudes and break ups happen. So here listed to keep unity but also to bring back unity to what's been broken. God never gives up on us, when we fall He is there to catch us and the saints there to restore us.

Paul's joy was in the people's love & unity being of one mind w/ same purpose. Me as **Kid-parents arguing**.

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Do nothing, not one thing....Older I get the more selfish I realize I am & can't make excuses for it. I used to justify, blame, give excuses for doing what I did. But in Christ as believer there are no excuses, can't play the blame game. He is perfect & we are not. I want to rise to where He is not bring Him down to where I am. So I can't excuse myself for bad behavior.

It's not natural to regard others more important but I don't want to live my old, natural self but live the new life in Christ. So *humble* yourself before the mighty hand of God and He will lift you up. We are not on the throne of our lives but He is. Steps to humility so I may be humble which I am not is.....

Regard—first thought, rule over, lead the way, have the opinion,—*More important than himself*--looking out for others relationship w/ God, seeking to elevate them to God, my actions show how important they are to God. We have your private time w/ God but in public they are the ones who count. *First thought* is them—It's inconvenient to think of others first but it is who God is. *Thinking*: How will this benefit them, bring them closer to Lord?

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5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, & being made in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Absolute--Attitude-to direct the mind & strive for, set affections on w/ intensity. From greater(God) to lesser(us). Not lesser to lesser then we'd strive to be like each other. Here is supernatural work looking to God.

Mystery of godliness-God becoming man *1Tim 3:16 And by common confession great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Beheld by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.*

Jesus being God in the flesh yet not using His deity, His divine powers to live as a man but tempted in all ways as we are & w/o sin. A thing he didn't have to do but chose to do for our sake to save us from sin & death. Now asks us to do for each other. Begrudged service God will not reward.

Jesus didn't empty His attributes as God but only His divine rights, taking the role of a bond servant w/ flesh & blood yet w/o sin. 'He became like us so we can become like Him' Trade our sinfulness for His righteousness.

Not grasped-Hypostatic union not something we can thoroughly comprehend but simply accept. Jesus Humility to point of obedience to death on a cross. IMPOSIBLE for us? Husbands love wives as Christ loved church & gave Himself. Only God can work the impossible in us. Ours is direction His is perfection.

Degree of Humility, God creator of all things, becoming man, abused by those He created in order to save & bring to heaven. *Heb 5:8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. 9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, ...James 1:13 God not tempted nor does He tempt w/ sin*

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9 Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Highly exalted – still maintained Trinitarian position but new addition as God-man. Living as a man tempted in all ways as we are yet w/o sin He became our merciful High Priest 5:10 who intercedes for our weaknesses

Because of Jesus selflessness & humility God exalted...seated at the right hand of glory in heaven. Exalted name above all & all knees to bow--all creation & tongue will confess Jesus Christ is Lord to Fathers glory.

Jesus prayer John 17 uppermost in His mind as He contemplated the cross was the glorify of the Father. *Jn 17:1....“Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son, that the Son may glorify Thee,*

Jesus relates Himself to OT sovereign Jehovah, therefore all the intelligent creation will be summoned to worship Him—angels, demons, redeemed, damned, heaven, earth, under earth will confess or acknowledge & agree to Jesus Christ Lordship. Lord means right to rule, Mastery over, ownership of people and property, sovereign authority.

He also gave His glory to us & we will share it w/ Him and the Father *17:22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.*

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters; 30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

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Realize we've only started our journey here on earth w/ Christ thru salvation & forgiveness of sins what follows is too wonderful & impossible to comprehend. Paul in paradise. **2Cor 12:44 was caught up into Paradise, and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak. NLT things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell. CEV heard things too wonderful to tell.**

Do not be weary in well doing...Gal 6:9..Joseph Gen 37 sold, falsely accused, prison, forgotten, exalted. We may not get many accolades here on earth...probably because we couldn't handle...we'd be puffed up w/ pride more than we already are.

WW The joy of the submissive mind comes not only from helping others and sharing in the fellowship of Christ's sufferings Phil 3:10 but primarily from the knowledge that we are glorifying God. We are letting our light shine thru our good works and this glorifies the Father in heaven.

1Pet 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,