SCRIPTURE: Philippians 1:27-2:18
SERMON: We are Happy to Serve You!
21 December 2014

INTRODUCTION: <u>AN HISTORIC CUP</u> (1963, Sherri Cup Co.(Solo), Leslie Buck; <a href="http://wearehappytoserveyou.com/pages/the-cup-story">http://wearehappytoserveyou.com/pages/the-cup-story</a>)

## I. CHRIST WAS HAPPY TO SERVE US!

**A. BEFORE: THE FORMAL GLORY OF GOD** (6; see Is.6:1; Ezk.1,etc.; Rev.4 /Jn.1:1f; 5:18; Col.1:19; Heb.1:3)

- B. DURING: RELEASED HIS FORMAL GLORY & TOOK OUR FORMAL HUMILITY (6,7;
  - Jn.1:1,14; Col.2:9; Rom.8:3; see Gen.1:26 vs. Heb.1:3, etc.)
    - 1. the rights of God & the duties of Man (6-8; see 1Cor.9:12f,15,18 & Gen.1:26f; 2:7f; Gal.4:4f; 5:3; Jms.2:10)
    - 2. being glorified & humbling Himself (6-8; see Mk.10:45; Jn.10:18; 13:1f; 4,13f; Rom.12:10; 2Cor.8:9)
    - 3. the prerogatives of holiness & the liabilities of sin (8; see 2Cor.5:21; 8:9)
- **C. AFTER: THE FORMAL GLORY OF MAN** (9-11; see Gen.1:26; 2:7f; Mt.28:18,19; Acts 2:33; Eph.2:18f; Rev.12:5f; 21:24f; 22:2)
- **D. POINT: UNION WITH CHRIST** *IN HIS THINGS* (3-5; see Mk.10:45; 2Cor.8:9; see Rom.6:4; 8:17; see 1Cor.9:18f; 2Cor.4:15)

## II. TIMOTHY & EPAPHRODITUS WERE HAPPY TO SERVE THE PHILIPPIANS!

- **A. THE TESTIMONY OF TWO MEN** (2:1f with 19f & 25f; see Dt.19:15; see Phil.2:17,8)
- **B. TIMOTHY: LYSTRA, SONSHIP, GLORY** (Acts 16:1f; Phil.2:20-22(21,4); 1-5; 2Tm.4:6-8)
- C. EPAPHRODITUS: PHILIPPI, BROTHERHOOD, HONOR (2:25b; 25a,30; 29)

## III. WE ARE TO BE HAPPY TO SERVE THE OSWEGONIANS!

- A. BEFORE: IMMORAL SELFISHNESS, IDOLATROUS CONCEIT (3a /3:19; Eph.2:1f; 1Cor.6:9f; 1Pt.4:1f)
- **B. DURING: INTO & IN CHRIST** (5,1; see 12,13; Mt.28:19; Rom.6:3f)
  - 1. die in Christ & raised in Christ (5,1; see Rom.6:3f)
  - 2. humble ourselves (worship) in order to serve (morality) (3b,4; 21; see Mt.22:37f)
  - 3. have put off our arrogant selfishness & put on Christ's humble service: one & begun (3a & 3b-5; see Mt.22:37f; Col.3:9&10; Eph.4:22-24)
  - 4. putting off our arrogant selfishness & putting on Christ's humble service: more & more (1-5; see Col.3:5f&12f; Eph.4:25f)
- C. AFTER: GLORIFIED IN & WITH CHRIST (9-11; see Rom.8:17; 2Tm.4:6-8; Rev.3:21)

## CONCLUSION: MERRY CHRISTMAS! BE HAPPY TO SERVE!

- A. THANK GOD FOR HIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT IN JESUS! (5-11; see 2Cor.9:15; 5:21)
- B. MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO BE A CHEERFUL SERVANT! (1-5f; Mk.10:45; Lk.6:27-36; 2Cor.9:7; Acts 20:35)
- C. BE HAPPY TO SERVE GOD, ONE ANOTHER & THE WORLD IN CHRIST! (4:13; 2:1-5f /Mt22:37f)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)