

LIVING IN A SINFUL WORLD
HAVING THE MIND OF CHRIST-PT 2
PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11 (VS 5, 8)

Introduction

Verse 5 says, “*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.*”

Every believer should desire to be more like Jesus in their lives. Because as *Romans 8:29* points out, it is our destiny!

“*For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*”

Colossians 3:3-4–“*3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*”

Here in our text, we see the **APOSTLE PAUL** exhorting **BELIEVERS** to see **JESUS** as our example for living the **CHRISTIAN** life!

Last week in *verses 1-2* we saw four things that express how **CHRIST** would have us to be...all of them are **HARMONY** related!

1. **WE NEED TO BE LIKEMINDED!**
With that **MIND** being the **MIND** of **CHRIST!**
2. **WE NEED TO HAVE THE SAME LOVE!**
The same **LOVE** that **CHRIST** had and has for each of us is the same **LOVE** we are to have for each other!
3. **WE NEED TO BE OF ONE ACCORD!**
Every **BELIEVER** has the **HOLY SPIRIT** living inside! If we each walk in the **SPIRIT**, there will always be **HARMONY!**
4. **WE ARE TO BE OF ONE MIND!**
An expression which means “*thinking the same thing.*”

These expressions denote the same thing. The **LORD** would have **HIS CHURCH** to be in complete **HARMONY** as members of **CHRIST’S BODY: union of heart, union of feeling, union of plan, union of purpose!** He wished them to *avoid all divisions and strife.*

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Next, we see how “**WE NEED TO BE LIKE JESUS IN OUR HUMILITY**”. *Verse 8* says of the Lord Jesus Christ, “*And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death.*”

I. FIRST, LET’S LOOK AT THE OPPOSITE OF HUMILITY –PRIDE!

And we are definitely living in an age of **PRIDE**, are we not?!

A. What Is PRIDE?

According to Webster’s Dictionary, **PRIDE** is when someone has an inordinate amount of self-esteem. It is an unreasonable conceit of one’s own superiority, whether that superiority be in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, rank or elevation in office.

B. How Does PRIDE Manifest Itself?

Again, Webster’s dictionary tells us that **PRIDE** manifests itself in lofty airs, distance, reserve, and often in haughty contempt for and rude treatment of others.

C. Where Does PRIDE Come From?

The Bible says that **PRIDE** stems from the old Adamic nature, man’s fallen nature that he is born with!
Mark 7:22–“*For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*”

SATAN’S original **SIN** is shown to be **PRIDE** as well in *Isaiah 14:13-14* with his five “**I will**” statements!
“*13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*”

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D. What Is God's Perspective On PRIDE?
Proverbs 8:13—“. . . *pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*”

Proverbs 6:16—“*These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look. . .*”

E. What Does PRIDE Do?

1. PRIDE Causes Contention!
Proverbs 13:10—“*Only by pride cometh contention*”

2. PRIDE Brings Deception!
Speaking of Edom, *Obadiah 3*—“*The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?*”

3. PRIDE Hardens A Person!
PHARAOH hardened his heart in MOSES day.
This stemmed from his PRIDE!
Exodus 5:2—“*And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.*”

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S mind was hardened in PRIDE in DANIEL'S DAY. *Daniel 5:20*—“*But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:*”

PRIDE will cause one to turn from seeking after GOD! *Psalms 10:4*—“*The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.*”

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4. PRIDE Leads Men Into Other Wickedness And Vileness!
GOD says that PRIDE was one of the chief sins of SODOM!
Ezekiel 16:49—“*Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.*”

5. PRIDE Sets One Up For Judgment!

a. It Is What Caused SATAN To Be Brought Low! *Isaiah 14:15*—“*Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.*”

b. It Is What Caused Others To Be Brought Low!

1. Pharaoh's PRIDE brought him down!

2. Nebuchadnezzar's PRIDE brought him down! (*Daniel 5:20-21*)

3. Belshazzar's PRIDE brought him down! (*Daniel 5:22-23; 25-26*)

4. Edom's PRIDE brought her down!
Obadiah 4—“*Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.*”

5. PRIDE Will Bring Us Down Too!
Proverbs 16:18—“*Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*”

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WE'VE LOOKED AT THE OPPOSITE OF HUMILITY-PRIDE!

II. NOW LET'S LOOK AT HUMILITY!

A. What Is HUMILITY?

Webster's Dictionary defines it as "freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth."

Webster goes on to say that with regard to the things of **GOD**, "humility may consist of lowliness of mind; a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God; self-abasement; and submission to the Divine will."

Again, **HUMILITY** is the opposite of **PRIDE**, and it is also the opposite of vainglory, haughtiness, being puffed up, boasting, self-will, self-glory, and self-promotion.

But our text also tells us that **HUMILITY** is having the **MIND OF CHRIST!** (*Vs 5, 8*)

B. What Does Our Text Say About The Characteristics Of The HUMILITY That We Are To Manifest?

1. **HUMILITY** is not seeking or demanding personal recognition! (*vs 3*)
2. **HUMILITY** is esteeming others better than oneself! (*Vs 3*)
3. **HUMILITY** is caring for others, not just for self! (*Vs 4*)
4. **HUMILITY** is having the **MIND OF CHRIST!** (*Vs 5*)
5. **HUMILITY** is submitting to **GOD** and **HIS WILL!** (*Vs 5-8*)

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6. The bottom line is this: **HUMILITY** is not to have self-confidence, but to be totally dependent upon **GOD!**

C. What HUMILITY Is Not.

We know that **CHRIST** was **HUMBLE!** **HE** was **MEEK AND LOWLY IN HEART!**

Matthew 11:29—"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

So by observing **CHRIST**, we can not only see what **HUMILITY** is, but also what it is not!

1. HUMILITY Is Not Cowardice Or Timidity!

- a. **JESUS Drove The Merchants And Money Changers Out Of The Temple!**

(John 2:13-17)

- b. **JESUS Was Not Afraid To Rebuke Folks Where Needed!**

John 8:44—"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

- c. **JESUS Did Not Back Off From Speaking The Truth Even In The Face Of Danger!**

(John 10:31-39)

- d. **JESUS Did Not Back Off From Pointing Out The Error Of Others!**

(Matthew 23:1-12)

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HUMILITY Is Not Cowardice Or Timidity!

2. **HUMILITY Is Not Having An Apologizing, Self-Degrading Attitude! (John 6)**
3. **HUMILITY Is Not Uncertainty!**
Matthew 7:29–“For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”
4. **HUMILITY Is Not Quietness In The Face Of Unrepentant Evil! (Matthew 23:13-33)**

D. Why Do We Need HUMILITY In Our Lives?

1. **The BIBLE Says We Are To Be Clothed With It!**
Colossians 3:12–“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;”
(Also, *1 Peter 5:5* below)
2. **HUMILITY Precedes Being Given Grace From GOD! *1 Peter 5:5-6***–“Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and **be clothed with humility**: for God resisteth the proud, and **giveth grace to the humble. 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:**”
3. **HUMILITY Is Needed To Receive God’s Word Properly!**
James 1:21–“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.”

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4. **Humility Precedes Being Exalted Or Honored By God! (Philippians 2:9-11)**
1 Peter 5:6 (above)
Matthew 23:12–“And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.”

James 4:10–“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.”

Proverbs 15:33–“The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.”

Proverbs 18:12–“Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.”

Proverbs 22:4–“By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.”

5. **HUMILITY Is Essential For Greatness In GOD’S Kingdom!**
Matthew 18:4–“Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

E. Where Does HUMILITY Come From?
HUMILITY is a product or fruit of **THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD** In our lives. *Galatians 5:23*–“**Meekness**”

PRIDE is a product or fruit of the flesh.

So, **HUMILITY** comes from walking in the **SPIRIT!**
Galatians 5:16–“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.”

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HUMILITY comes from letting the **MIND OF CHRIST** be in you!

*(i.e. We see **CHRIST'S HUMILITY** and **DESIRE IT** and **SURRENDER TO IT** and **EMBRACE IT** in our own life!)*

Conclusion

CHRIST is our example for life.

Whose **MIND** do you have?

The **MIND** of **SATAN**?

The **MIND** of the **WORLD**?

The **MIND** of the **FLESH**?

Or the **MIND** of **CHRIST**?

What **JESUS** wants is for us to have **HIS MIND!** It begins with **SALVATION!** It requires **SURRENDER!**