Christ's Mind

10-24-21

Philippians 2:5 (YLT)

Let this mind be in you that is also in Christ Jesus.

Literal word for word translation. We have learned from the Bible that our Christian life is not about following rules but relationship with Jesus. Here we see that this relationship is not superficial but is so <u>all encompassing</u> that we should have the very mind of Christ in all things. This means our behavior should be consistent with Jesus' behavior.

Philippians 2:3 (ESV)

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Like Jesus we are to consider others more significate than ourselves. Selflessly Jesus went to the cross for us so that we would be able to spend eternity with HIM. Therefore:

Philippians 2:4 (ESV)

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

The bottom line for sin is self. The only way to deal with sin is to deal with self. Our separation from Christ's power is due to self. Thus, "Let this mind be in you that *is* also in Christ Jesus."

Now we are told what this selfless mind of Christ looks like.

Philippians 2:6-7 (ESV)

⁶Though Jesus was in the form of God, HE did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but <u>emptied himself</u>, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

We in our meager human existence have a hard time humbling ourselves. However, Jesus who was the form of God or "being in the very nature God" did not hang on to that position but empty HIMSELF and become a servant. Christ became part of humanity: "being made in human likeness." God cannot cease to be God; but Jesus made the decision not to use HIS divinity, and to live as man. Jesus lived as a perfect man <u>always under the direction of the Father and the Holy</u> Spirit. Jesus did only what the Father told HIM to do.

John 5:19 (ESV)

So Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing."

This mind of Christ applies to us!

John 15:5 (ESV)

I am the vine; you are the branches. <u>Apart from me you can do nothing.</u>

Jesus did nothing of his own accord! Thus, we should do nothing of our own accord! Jesus did what the Father told HIM and was obedient even to the death.

Philippians 2:8 (ESV)

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Jesus was so committed to the Father's plan that he obeyed it as far as death even the disgraceful death by crucifixion. This is the mind of Christ. Because Christ emptied HIMSELF and became obedient unto death, God exalted HIM.

Philippians 2:9 (ESV)

Therefore, God has <u>highly exalted</u> him over all things.

When we have the mind of Christ, God moves to highly exalt us and move powerfully on our behalf. This is not living in immediate gratification, but it is living by faith with an eternal view and the larger work of God.

Therefore, counting others more significant than ourselves, looking to the interests of others, emptying ourselves, humbling ourselves, being obedient to what God says, God HIMSELF will move on our behalf. Because of Christ's obedience while in human form, God put HIM over all things for all eternity.

Philippians 2:9–11 (ESV)

⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Christ's humiliation and subsequent exaltation was intended to encourage us to have an attitude of Christlike humility. If we are to be identified as Christ's followers, we should demonstrate HIS characteristics by the power of the Holy Spirit. God will highly exalt us! Through Christ's death and resurrection as we empty ourselves, we receive power through the promised Holy Spirit.

Galatians 3:13-14 (ESV)

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Prophetic Prayer