



Philippians 2

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Philippians 2:1-4

We see Paul encouraging the Philippians to have the right thinking for their life, circumstances, and for others. Because there is encouragement in Christ, His love comforts us, we have participation with the Holy Spirit in and for the purpose of the Gospel, and because there is the inward love of Christ which cries out for us to have compassions for others. Paul says that because of these things we should be like-minded in the Gospel of Grace, having the same love for the Gospel, of one accord for the Gospel and to have this one mind among us. Being unselfish, humble, without violent conflict, and doing things without deception.

Study Questions:

Why does Paul make so many “if” statements in verse 1?

What encouragement do we have in Christ?

How does Christ comfort the Christian?

What participation does the Christian have with the Holy Spirit?

What does the inward love of Christ cause the Christian to do?

Knowing that these are true, what response does Paul hope to see from the Philippians?

What does Paul say would bring him much joy to hear the Philippians are doing?

What is the like-minded Paul is talking about?

What should Christians have the same love for?

How do divisions affect the Church?

How effective is a Church when it has divisions, or clicks?

How would you summarize Paul's goal for the Philippians in verse 2?

What does it mean to have no selfish ambition?

When is it alright to be selfish?

What does empty conceit mean?

How should the Christian act at all times?

Why should we consider others as more important than ourselves?

Philippians 2:5-11 – Christ as our example

Philippians 2:5-8

Paul writes to the Philippians that Christ is the extreme example of this mind for the Christian. Paul writes that there were seven steps Jesus took in self-humbling Himself before the eternal plan of the Lord.

Philippians 2:9-11

Paul writes that there are seven gains Jesus had in His glorification.

Study Questions:

What is the Christians biggest benefit?

Who gives the Christian the mind of Christ?

What does it mean “being in the form of God”?

What does it mean “He, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God”?

How did Jesus make Himself of no reputation?

What is a bondservant?

How did Jesus humble Himself to the point of death?

What was Jesus’ obedience that took Him to the Cross?

Who will bow their knee to Jesus?

What does “bow their knee to” signify?

When are Christians expected to bow their knee to Jesus?

Will atheist bow their knee to Jesus?

Will Muslims, Buddhists, Hindu’s, adnostics, demons, Satan bow their knee to Jesus?

What will happen to these after they bow their knee and confess Jesus is Lord after their death?

What happens if an individual confesses now instead of later?

What should the response of the individual be to these truths?

Philippians 3:12-18

Paul encourages the Philippians how one applies the Christ as our example in their life. Paul says to be a light in a lost World. Paul encourages the Philippians to continue obeying Christ in every area of one's life and just as Jesus worked out His obedience to the Cross we should also do so, by trusting in the will of God and laying down our own plans for the Lord's eternal plan for our lives. That we walk worthy of our calling of Salvation, to a new Christian life; and that we should do all of this not thinking highly of ourselves but humbly. So that we may be blameless and harmless in a crooked and perverse generation, holding tightly to God's Word as our light to navigate it. The opposite of this would be complaining and disputing with other Christians. The sacrifice of our wants and desires for that of Christ and His eternal plan is highly valuable for the World which is stumbling in darkness and perishing, and that everything we do should be worship to the Lord.

Study Questions:

What does it say about the Philippians that they obeyed that which was given to them, whether Paul was there or not?

What does it mean to work out your salvation?

What does it mean with fear and trembling?

How does it help Christians to know God is at work in us?

Why does God do this work in us?

Why should Christians not complain and dispute?

What does this attitude do for the Christian?

Why should the Christian walk in this mindset?

What is the best thing a Christian can do in the World?

How can we shine as lights among a perverse generation?

What is the Word of Life?

How can we hold fast to it?

How did Paul hold fast to the Word when He spent 3 years in Ephesus?

What did this do in the life of those who came to be taught the Word?

How did this impact the surrounding area?

What does Paul running refer to?

Why would it not be in vain?

What kind of life is spent in vain?

What is a drink offering?

What does it mean to be poured out as a drink offering?

What did Paul ask that the Philippians would rejoice with him in?

Philippians 2:19-30

Paul gives the Philippians a few examples from those who have also decided to self-humble themselves and lay aside their own desires for the calling, character, and how they operate day in and day out.

Study Questions:

Why did Paul think so highly of Timothy?

What things did Paul say the Philippians should imitate of Timothy?

What was Paul and Timothy like-minded in?

What does Paul say is important to Timothy about others?

How was Timothy's character?

Why did Paul think so highly of Epaphroditus?

What does the word "worker" convey about the life of a believer?

What does the word "soldier" convey about the life of a believer?

Why is Epaphroditus called "their messenger"?

Do they know Epaphroditus?

How can we know?

How did Epaphroditus's healing affect Paul?

Why should the Philippians hold Epaphroditus in high regard?

What does Paul tell us how those who serve the Lord faithfully should be treated?