

Let this Mind be in You

Scripture Passage

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, [and] coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to [the point of] death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV)

Thesis

The Christian walk begins and ends with humility.

Commentary

Paul has explained how the Philippians were with him in his chains. He has made the wonderful statement, for me to live is Christ to die is gain. Therefore, Paul places us in this thought, and then gives us our perfect example, Christ. There are a couple of things worth our attention in this passage. They are the position that Christ held and the obedience that Christ displayed.

Jesus Christ has always been the Son of God. He lives in eternity with the Father and the Holy Spirit. There has never been a time when Christ did not exist. Therefore, it is reasonable for Paul to say that Christ did not find it robbery to be equal with God. Jesus is God.

We, on the other hand, were rebellious creatures who without Christ would have joined the mob that cried, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” There is none good, no not one before Christ’s work of grace. All have become unprofitable (Rom. 3:10-12).

However, Christ did something beyond our imagination. He left the glory of His Father and humbled Himself by making Himself of no reputation, taking on the form of a bondservant. He became obedient to the point of death on the cross. He died for sinners like you and me. Oh the preciousness of that thought!

He began His life as a helpless baby, and gave up His Spirit naked and beaten, humiliated on a Roman cross. He lived a life of humility from beginning to end, and became our example.

Becoming a Christian is about humility. My dear friend, if you have never been humbled by your sinfulness and need for a Savior, then you are not His. No one can be His disciple without denying himself and taking up his cross (Mark 8:34-38). It all starts with humility.

It also ends with humility. Christ remained on the cross even when He could have judged every living soul at that moment. He would have been just in sending everyone into the flames. However, He loved us when we were yet sinners. He died for the ungodly.

We too must follow His example. It matters little if you have a great emotional outcry and temporary reformation, if you return to your sinful, selfish ways. Yes, there may be waxing and waning of the Spirit, but if you leave the way, you have left Christ.

Believer, God has called you to walk in humility. However, He has not done so without also promising reward. "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life." (Matthew 19:29 NKJV) God has a wonderful plan for your life; it is to walk in humility from beginning to end.

Heavenly Father, we desire to follow you. Forgive us when we allow the comforts of this world to pull us from the way in which you desire us to walk. Gently guide us back with your staff. Do not deal with us in your righteous anger, but give us more grace to repent, amen.