

Christ's Mind in Me

Lesson 8: Philippians 2

February 23, 2020

Themes: Joy

- 1:4 always offering prayer with **j.**
- 1:18 Christ is proclaimed... I **r.**
- 1:18 Yes and I will **r.**
- 1:25 for your progress and **j.**
- 2:2 make my **j.** complete
- 2:17 poured out...I **r.**
- 2:17 share my **j.** with you
- 2:18 **r. in the same way**
- 2:18 share your **j. with me**
- 2:28 when you see him...**r.**
- 2:29 Receive him...with all **j.**
- 3:1 **r. in the Lord**
- 4:1 my **j.** and crown
- 4:4 **R. in the Lord always**
- 4:4 again I will say, **r.!**
- 4:10 But I **r. in the Lord**

Themes: Joy

- Context of joy
 - The person of other believers
 - The maturity of other believers
 - All situations that come our way
 - That Christ is preached
 - In the Lord, always
- Results of joy
 - Prayer
 - Sharing of joy with others
 - Less concern
 - Safeguard

Outline of the Letter

- 1:1-11 Introduction
- 1:12-3:1 Life in Christ
 - 1:12-26 The result of Paul's suffering for the gospel
 - 1:12-18 The spread of the gospel
 - 1:19-26 Ministry perspective in suffering
 - 1:27-2:11 Conduct worthy of the gospel
 - 1:27-2:4 Characteristics
 - 2:5-11 The example of Christ
 - 2:12-30 Working out our salvation
 - 2:12-18 Characteristics
 - 2:19-30 The examples of Timothy and Epaphroditus
 - 3:1 Rejoice

Outline of the Letter

- 3:2-4:20 Pressing on in Christ
 - 3:2-14 The foundation of life in Christ
 - 3:2-6 The flesh a false hope of salvation
 - 3:7-11 Righteousness from God true hope of salvation
 - 3:12-14 Paul's response to salvation
 - 3:15-4:9 The attitude of believers
 - 3:15-4:1 Our response to salvation
 - 4:2-3 Addressing disunity
 - 4:4-9 The Christian mind
 - 4:10-20 Contentment and provision
- 4:21-23 Closing

Lesson Outline

- 1:12-3:1
 - 1:27-2:11
 - 1:27-2:4 Life in Christ
 - 2:5-11 Conduct worthy of the gospel
 - 2:12-30
 - 2:12-18 Characteristics
 - 2:19-30 The example of Christ
 - 3:1 Working out our salvation
- 3:1
 - 3:1 Characteristics
- 3:1
 - 3:1 The examples of Timothy and Epaphroditus
- 3:1
 - 3:1 Rejoice

Conduct worthy of the gospel
Philippians 2:1-4

¹Therefore **if** there is any encouragement in Christ, **if** there is any consolation of love, **if** there is any fellowship of the Spirit, **if** any affection and compassion, ²make my joy complete by being of the **same mind**, maintaining the **same** love, united in spirit, intent on one **purpose**. ³Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

- 2:1-2 The essence of unity
- 2:3-4 The expression of unity
- What would make our joy complete?
- Humility helps with unity

Conduct worthy of the gospel Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, although He existed in the **form** of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied Himself, taking the **form** of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of JESUS EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- 2:6-8 Jesus as actor
 - Did not regard equality
 - But emptied
 - But humbled
- 2:9-11 God as initiator
 - Exalted highly
 - Gave Him the name
- Result
 - Worship
 - Confession

Working out our salvation Philippians 2:12-16

¹²So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at **work** in you, both to will and to **work** for *His* good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing; ¹⁵so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in **vain** nor toil in **vain**.

- Responsibilities
 - Us – work out
 - God – work in
- We work out **for** God works in
- Our behavior needs to prove we are light in the world
- Paul wanted to be a good steward over the Philippians

Working out our salvation Philippians 2:17-22

¹⁷But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. ¹⁸You too, *I urge you*, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

¹⁹But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. ²⁰For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. ²¹For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. ²²But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child *serv*ing his father.

- Christian joy is to be shared
- Paul wanted encouragement about how the Philippians were
- Our interests need to be subservient to those of Christ

Working out our salvation Philippians 2:23-27

²³Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things *go* with me; ²⁴and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will be coming shortly. ²⁵But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need; ²⁶because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

- Visitors to Philippi
 - Epaphroditus – with, or before the letter
 - Timothy – shortly, as soon as Paul see how things go with him
 - Paul – shortly
- Epaphroditus
 - Brother
 - Fellow worker
 - Fellow soldier
 - Messenger
 - Minister

Working out our salvation Philippians 2:28-30

²⁸Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned *about you*. ²⁹Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard; ³⁰because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your service to me.

- Seeing believers again should be a joy
- Epaphroditus risked his life to serve
- Those who work hard for the Lord are to be honored

Summary

- Unity is a joy
- We should regard others as more important than ourselves
- Those who have the mind of Christ are humble
- Those walking humbly with God are obedient to Him
- We are to work out our salvation for God works in us to will and to work for His good pleasure
- We need to be blameless and innocent children of God in the world
- We need to seek after the interests of Christ Jesus