

Jesus, Savior and Lord – Philippians 2:1-11

(1-2)

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

First, notice the word **complete!** (See it through to completion!) All for the glory of Christ, participating with the Spirit of God.

(Same mind, same love, together with one mind.)

There are those that say there are no impossibilities. (Sounds great) In this case, it is not true! (Wait, am I saying that this is not possible?) Let's consider.

- There is no *"in Christ"* if not alive spiritually.
- You can't live the power of salvation if Jesus is not your Lord, meaning that you are walking in Christ.
- This task was to a particular local church and has its design for a local church.
- Local church must be alive spiritually as far as empowered churches are concerned.

This brings up the need for spiritual unity, and not uniformity.

So, can a person and church be humble if Christ is not the Lord of them? (**Humility comes from being concerned about the things of God and others.**)

So, a "same minded" church is humanly impossible. / Only spiritually possible, which you can see why this would bring joy and encouragement when occurring.

JV Magee- speaks of a lot of churches are nothing more than those on the pastors' side, and those that aren't. (The idea in this message is that we are all on the side of Jesus!)

1. Together- (3-4) Church is not accomplished by self and looking out for self. (**Which goes way against what we philosophically are indoctrinated with these days.**)
 - a.) It is why many people refuse church these days. It is also why many back off it.
 - b.) Could we be missing a very important part of what Christ had in mind for us?

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

- c.) Note: not selfish ambition or conceit. (With humility, for the sake of others.) Doesn't happen without church, doesn't happen without a Spirit led effort.

Why did Jesus come to the earth taking on humanity anyhow? For the sake of others/all.

Why do we meet? Why do we share our faith with the lost? (Or we don't!)

2. Serving with the mind of Christ- (5-8) (Having the same attitude as Christ)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

a.) Jesus never stopped being God. (He, caring for us humbled Himself to the point of dying on a cross of man-made execution)

Hebrews 12:2 (NET)^{12:2} keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set out for him he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and *has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne* of God.

b.) Satan was given privilege but demanded more. Same with mankind.

c.) One key ingredient for a successful church is the same kind of “**one another**” as Christ exhibited for us. (Which we certainly do not deserve.)

d.) Jesus thought of others in order to spare mankind. (Makes the conversation of us being humble, almost cheap, because of this kind of sacrificial example.)

JV Magee – speaks about how when Jesus arrived, he didn't even have a big turnout! And today, the turnout at the churches is not one that speaks of his greatness. **Yet He came.** (Except if people can come and feel good. Then the turnout is better.)

e.) I have had some **humbling things occur**, but **Jesus willingly humbled** Himself. (See the difference?)

f.) This world wasn't created fallen; it fell due to man's sin. (Death was man's choice, and Jesus chose to redeem us.)

- Many will help until there is sacrifice? And then...

John 10:15–18 (NET)

^{10:15} just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

^{10:16} I have other sheep that do not come from this sheepfold. I must bring them too, and they will listen to my voice, so that there will be one flock and one shepherd. ^{10:17} This is why the Father loves me—because I lay down my life, so that I may take it back again. ^{10:18} No one takes it away from me, but I lay it down of my own free will. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it back again. This commandment I received from my Father.”

3. For the glory of Christ- (Can you/church humble yourself before Jesus our Lord?) (9-11) Verse 3 said **not out of strife, or conceit/vainglory**. (Jesus did what He did to save us.)

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

a.) God exalts Him, and so should we. (After all, we were lost in sin, doomed)

b.) He is our Savior, and He is the Lord of All. (God exalted)

c.) The power of God was victor over sin and death. (Notice that even the ones who denied it will not ultimately deny Jesus His throne!)

d.) Yes, Jesus humbled Himself to the death, but the power of God raised Him and exalted Him. (This is why we can serve one another and Him.)

Close

- This world without Christ does not amount to anything.
- We wouldn't either.
- We are overinflated with vanity.
- The One who gave anything value, humbled Himself for us and we are to serve together with the same mind.
- What an opportunity a church has to reflect the gospel in such a way, if we could humble ourselves the way that God is challenging us to!
- He gave all for salvation, so should we.

1 Peter 5:5–6 (NET)

^{5:5}In the same way, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God ***opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.*** ^{5:6}And God will exalt you in due time, if you humble yourselves under his mighty hand