

INTRODUCTION

- * In his greeting, Paul referred to himself and Timothy as bond-slaves of our Lord Jesus Christ. As Christ's bond-slave, Paul understood that his life on earth was actually supposed to be lived for the glory of Jesus. In fact, he declared: "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Understanding his role as a bond-slave enabled him to see the greater purpose of his trials. His imprisonment provided the opportunity for the Roman soldiers who were guarding him to hear about the Good News of Jesus Christ!
- * After sharing his personal testimony, Paul then exhorted the Philippians to see their afflictions as opportunities, granted by God, to make Christ known.
- * Today, continue in our study of Paul's letter to the Philippians by considering Paul's continued exhortation to them to be joined-together in the mind of Christ! This unity and oneness, Paul shares, will only truly happen when each of those in the church also voluntarily take upon themselves the role of a bond-slave of Jesus Christ.
- * In this section, Paul will provide them with his exhortation and then the ultimate example of One who chose to be bond-slave for us - Jesus Christ! In fact, while Jesus was on the earth He called for His disciples to follow His example. (cf. Matthew 20:25-28)

INSTRUCTION

I. PAUL'S EX _____ (v. 1-5)

A. His Challenge (v. 1)

1. CONSOLATION IN CHRIST
2. COMFORT OF LOVE
3. COMMUNION OF THE SPIRIT
4. COMPASSION and TENDERNESS

B. His Charge (v. 2)

1. LIKE-MINDED IN LOVE
2. LIKE-MINDED IN SOUL
3. LIKE-MINDED IN THOUGHT

C. His Counsel (v. 3-5)

1. PUT OFF SELFISHNESS! (v. 3a)
 - a. Not According to S _____ (cf. Phil 1:16; Romans 2:8; 2 Cor 12:20; Gal 5:20; James 3:14,16)
 - b. Not According to V _____ (cf. Galatians 5:26)
2. PUT ON SELFLESSNESS! (v. 3b-4)
 - a. Considering the V _____ of Others Above Your Own (v. 3)
 - * cf. Acts 20:19; Eph 4:2; Col 3:12; 1 Peter 5:5
 - * cf. Phil 2:6,25; 3:7,8(2x); 1 Thess 5:13; 2 Thess 3:15; 1 Tim 6:1; James 1:2
 - b. Considering the N _____ of Others Above Your Own (v. 4)

II. JESUS' EX _____ (v. 5-11)

A. His Nature (v. 5-6)

B. His Humility (v. 7)

C. His Obedience (v. 8)

D. His Exaltation (v. 9-11)

1. HIS NAME
2. HIS GLORY (cf. Isaiah 45:18-23)
3. HIS IDENTIFICATION (cf. Isaiah 42:8; 44:6; 45:12; 45:18-23; 48:11-16; Zechariah 2:5-11)

INTROSPECTION

- * How would you describe your "love" and "consideration" for everyone else in this assembly?
- * Have you made it a point to meet each person in the assembly and get to know them?
- * What change in your life are you willing to make in order to become a more committed "bondslave" of Jesus Christ?
- * Who is Jesus to you? Is He your Lord?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Read Matthew 20:25-28, Matthew 25:31-46 and John 13:1-17. How do these teachings of Jesus apply to the understanding of Philippians 2:1-5?