

Notes: Last time we talked about being humble and likeminded in the church. God can rightfully say to us if anyone knew humility it was Jesus.

I. Jesus teaches the true meaning of humility. Philippians 2:5-7

1. Jesus was God in the flesh. (6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: If anyone had the right to be served it was Jesus. **1 Timothy 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. **Hebrews 1:2-3** Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; That tells us who Jesus really is.

2. Paul wants us to let the mind of Christ Jesus to control us. (5;7) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: Because of the Holy Spirit we have the mind of Christ within. **1 Corinthians 2:16** For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. The best picture of the mind of Christ is found in **John 13:3-5; 12-15** Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.....So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Jesus knew he was about to return to God and that his work would soon be done meaning He who is worthy of worship instead performs the duties of the lowest of servant. He did it to show the disciples that God valued service of others more than positions of power. Jesus had to significantly lower himself just to become a human let alone do the work of a servant. **Dr. J. Gordon Henry writes:** *Am internal conflict rages within each us between the flesh and the Spirit. The flesh urges a person to remember how good and valuable he is. The attitude is "Don't serve others, but let others serve you. You deserve it." Then the flesh often leads him to think it is acceptable to exercise his privilege as a critic. On the other hand, the Spirit reminds the believer that he is called to labor in the vineyard as a servant. As he goes about sowing seed, he is to exercise care to minister to the saints.* The mind of Christ is Spirit driven.

II. True humility results from being obedient to God. 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. The phrase became obedient unto death does not mean he once was disobedient. It means that every time he faced a decision concerning sin or obeying God's will He always made the right choice. Jesus was obedient even to the point of death on the cross. That was the length Jesus went to. **Dr. Gutzke has another idea:** *If Christ is to walk with me, if it is to be "Christ in you the hope of glory," a change must take place in me. From the inside I will be moved to humble myself, to become obedient to death, which means self-denial, "even to death of the cross" in which I actually deny myself.* God's will in a church is for its members to work

together to bring glory to God. Our example is Jesus. That will only work if you take care of your own pride; you need to humble yourself. Before we are saved we want to satisfy the desires of the flesh. Folks may say not all unsaved people are bad; some are even more moral than Christians. That is true but they are still seeking the things of the flesh; they are not thinking about God at all. What is the process of transformation? Conviction, repentance, faith in Christ shed blood and belief in the resurrection; salvation. But there is more to the process. The Christian life is daily surrender. Let me show you what I mean. **1 Corinthians 15:31** I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. We know he is not dying physically or spiritually so what is he talking about? **Luke 9:23** And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. That means I surrender my will on a daily basis. I die daily to self; I take up my cross. From the: **Opening up Philippians, Opening Up Commentary** *The death of Christ was nothing less than Christ experiencing hell for his people so they would never have to experience that hell themselves... What self-sacrificing humility our Lord displayed! We are saved by virtue of his willingness to humble himself and put our interests above his own comfort. We cannot receive the benefits of his sacrifice and then refuse to follow his example.*

1). God's grace is applied when we are humble. 1Peter 5:5b-6 for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. ⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Notice he says that specifically God gives grace to the humble. God will exalt us; that means, lift us up, encourage us and empower us when we humble ourselves. Humbling ourselves involves obedience. The power and importance of the exaltation is given by grace and hindered by pride. **Verse (7)** Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Casting our cares flows from our mind as we humbly acknowledge that God is sovereign; He is in control of our lives. It becomes natural for me to cast my cares to Him.

III. God exalts the name of Jesus above all names. (9-11)

1. Jesus is our example that humility leads to exaltation. (9) Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, Notice it is God who exalts Jesus. Jesus path to exaltation was obedience, cross, resurrection and ascension. His obedience brought glory to God. **James 4:10** Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. When we humble ourselves God lifts us up. That also brings God glory.

2. We must remember the power of the name of Jesus. and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; There is no neutral ground when it comes to Jesus. Everyone who has come face to face with gospel has made a decision. If you accept him you are saved and He is your Savior. If you reject him or do nothing you have said no and you will one day bow to him. The choice is to humble yourself or be humbled by God.