

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 2:1-4

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“UNITY,
THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT THING” – PART 1**
DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Joy, Peace, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

We come now to one of those sections of the Book of Philippians
that makes this epistle, such a powerful tool in our lives as we grow
more and more like Jesus in this world.

1 John 4:17

Love (Jesus) has been perfected (made complete) among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; (why) because as He is (because He is), so are we (confidence) in this world.

It's a section that is “commanding”, even “demanding” of us,
that we who are Christians do manifest in our devotional life to God a real living-out of our lives “to the attention of, and to the praise of Jesus Christ!”

And That Is What God is Doing in The Lives of His People.

This Theme of God Dwelling or being “**Alive In Us**” is replete throughout the Bible – **First Taught in The Old Testament**

Jeremiah 31:31-33

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah - **32** not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. **33** But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Isaiah 11:10a

“And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; **For the Gentiles shall seek Him**

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if there is any **consolation** in Christ, if any **comfort** of love, if any **fellowship** of the Spirit, if any **affection** and **mercy**, **2** fulfill my joy **by being like-minded**, **(1) having the same love**, **(2) being of one accord**, **(3) of one mind**. **3** Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or **conceit**, but in **lowliness** of mind **let each esteem** others **better** than himself. **4** Let each of you **look out** not only for his **own interests**, but also for the **interests of others**.

UNITY, THE 2ND MOST IMPORTANT THING

1.) **Humility creates unity** vs. 1-4

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if there is any **consolation** in Christ, **if** any **comfort** of love, **if** any **fellowship** of the Spirit, **if** any **affection** and **mercy**, **2** fulfill my joy **by being like-minded**, **(1) having the same love**, **(2) being of one accord**, **(3) of one mind**.

1a.) A Christ centered humility **softens** our hearts vs. 1-2a

Therefore if there is any **consolation** in Christ, **if** any **comfort** of love, **if** any **fellowship** of the Spirit, **if** any **affection** and **mercy**, **2** fulfill my joy by being **like-minded**,

This “**Therefore**” is fix to what Paul had said in

Philippians 1:27b

that you **stand fast** in **one spirit**,
with **one mind** - - striving together for **the faith of the gospel**,

It’s not a “**Let’s Get Along**” thing – It is a “**Doctrinal**” thing.

##1- if there is any **consolation** in Christ = **paraꞥklhsiꞥ paraklesis**,
par-ak´-lay-sis; rest, encouragement, comfort, calm.

But What Does This Look Like?

##2- if any **comfort** of love = **paramu/qion paramuthion**, *par-am-oo´-thee-on*; a Christ originating love. A driving or persistent love. To push forward

But What Does This Look Like?

##3- if any **fellowship** of the Spirit = **koinwni+a koinonia**, *koy-nohn-ee´-ah*; a bonded partnership, homogeneous, social intercourse,

But What Does This Look Like?

Officially; Biblical Christianity is Relationship Based.

That is, it is not a religion as religions go. Mormonism, JW, Judaism, Islam – the ism’s all have a “religion dependent” upon what they can or must do - - not Christianity. **It’s 100% God based and God provided.**

**Christian Fellowship can Only Happen when,
It is Christ-Centered Fellowship.**

1 John 1:6-7

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**These next two are inseparable. They are two separate words but,
one cannot exist without the other.**

Verse 1b-2a

##4a- if any affection = *splaꝯgcnon splingchnon*, *splangkʰ-non*; probably strengthened from *splh/n splen* (the “spleen”); deep intestinal effect. pity or sympathy: — the effect of emotions = bowels, the inward-seat of the heart.

Matthew 9:36

But when He saw the multitudes, He was **moved with compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

The Result is – a Literal, Physical, Tangible MERCY is distributed.

##4b- if and mercy = *oiktirmo/β oiktirmos*, *oyk-tir-mosʹ*; to do acts of pity, to do merciful acts.

The one cannot exist without the other.

because one is the internal, gut level conviction that causes the external, practical level action.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to **do justly**, To **love mercy**, And to **walk humbly** with your God?

all of these things are good, but they become the best when...

we find ourselves together in the midst of a difficulty or hardship.

(consolation, comfort, fellowship, affection, mercy is what we need when the world presses in upon us)

Example = what we witnessed this week here in SoCal;

(Events, Hardships, Challenges, Crises – Terrorist Attacks)

Is Binding People Together. The Trial both Exposes and Unites.

http://media.npr.org/assets/img/2015/12/04/gettyimages-499859786_custom-c3e7f667bc8b56d4b2030f0f78810b27dd59f994-s900-c85.jpg

Verse 2

fulfill **my** joy (ok Paul, how?) by being **like-minded**,

conclusion is fulfill my joy by being like-minded = keep, keeping on the doing of being like Jesus Christ.....

Paul Asks Several Deliberate Questions Here.

Is there any encouragement belonging to Christ? Any comfort from His love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate?

O.K. then make me super joyful by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, to love other people more than yourself, and to be working together with one another with the same goal, mission end in sight.

Acts 2:42

And they continued steadfastly (*tightly bound together, glued*) in the apostles' **doctrine** and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

One of Satan's most effective weapons against the Christian and the church has been this assault on unity.

And one of the main reasons why Satan uses disunity is because it affects so many people with such little effort on his part.

And here is the painful rub. He must use another Christian brother or sister to achieve his goal. He has never lacked to find an unsuspecting accomplice-victim within any church at any time.

He looks for bitterness, resentment, jealousy, envy, in a word "pride" - to gain a foothold.

What unites us this morning?

How can unity be achieved?

What does unity look like when it's lived out?

How does unity increase (the foundation)?

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35** By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Luke 6:46-49

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? **47** Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: **48** He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. **49** But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

are you a Christian today?

End of Study

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