

# *Philippians*

## (5) Unity in the Church

*Phil 1:27a*

27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...

*Phil 2:1-4*

2 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

NIV

### **How worthy conduct behaves...1:27-30**

What did Paul *expect* to hear about the conduct of the Philippians? 1:27-28

**That they were standing firm, in one spirit, contending as one (unity) for the faith.**

What about their reaction to the opposition? 1:28 Lu.21:12-19; Heb.13:6; Rev.2:10

**Unafraid of them. This was a sign to those opposing that God is going to judge!**

Of what does Paul now remind the Philippians? 1:29-30; 3:10; Acts 5:41; IPet.4:13

**God had granted them on behalf of Christ not only to believe on Him but to suffer for Him**

What is so 'counter-intuitive' about this message? (grant = gift) Rom.8:17; IPet.4:12-16

**Believers tend to expect deliverance from trials/suffering. Who would sign up for this??**

### **Worthy conduct puts unity on display...2:1-4**

What is Paul's challenge to these believers? 2:1-2; Rom.12:4-5:16; Jn.13:34-35

**Be of the same mind, have unity among the believers. This is of MAJOR importance!**

Is this 'of the same mind' an isolated teaching? ICor.1:10-13; IICor.13:11; Gal.5:26; Eph.4:1-6

**Absolutely not! It's repeated over and over. It's to be our 'trademark' as believers!**

What is a key principle to bear in mind re unity in the church? Rom.15:5-7

**We are to accept one another just as Christ accepted us! What an all-inclusive example!**

What are some of the things we often hear instead of unity?

**'you don't understand...', 'I just can't forgive that...', 'it hurt me too deeply...', etc.**

Does this mean that we're to have 'peace at any price'? ICor.5:1-5; Gal.2:11

**Of course not! Sometimes sin needs to be publicly addressed/rebuked. (Strive for private)**

What is Paul's point in 2:3-4? ICor.3:3; Lu.14:7-11; Eph.4:2

**Don't be divided by your pride! Don't focus solely on your interests, but those of others.**

Why do you think Paul is emphasizing the issue of unity for the church?

**They had doctrine, convictions, strong in the faith. Often that strength is unyielding!**

# *Philippians*

## (5) Unity in the Church

*Phil 1:27a*

27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...

*Phil 2:1-4*

2 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

NIV

### **How worthy conduct behaves...1:27-30**

What did Paul *expect* to hear about the conduct of the Philippians? 1:27-28

---

What about their reaction to the opposition? 1:28 Lu.21:12-19; Heb.13:6; Rev.2:10

---

Of what does Paul now remind the Philippians? 1:29-30; 3:10; Acts 5:41; IPet.4:13

---

What is so 'counter-intuitive' about this message? (grant = gift) Rom.8:17; IPet.4:12-16

---

### **Worthy conduct puts unity on display...2:1-4**

What is Paul's challenge to these believers? 2:1-2; Rom.12:4-5:16; Jn.13:34-35

---

Is this '*of the same mind*' an isolated teaching? ICor.1:10-13; IICor.13:11; Gal.5:26; Eph.4:1-6

---

What is a key principle to bear in mind re unity in the church? Rom.15:5-7

---

What are some of the things we often hear instead of unity?

---

Does this mean that we're to have 'peace at any price'? ICor.5:1-5; Gal.2:11

---

What is Paul's point in 2:3-4? ICor.3:3; Lu.14:7-11; Eph.4:2

---

Why do you think Paul is emphasizing the issue of unity for the church?

---