

Phil.2:1 Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,

2:2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

2:4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

2:6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

2:7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

2:11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

From Today's Sermon.

The primitive church that fled persecution and worshiped while hiding in underground sepulchres. The verses that were later sung there like a hymn are verses 6-11 of today's sermon. In verse 1, Paul tells them, "If you have..." in a fourfold fold.

Paul shows how much love and comfort there is in the Philippians: "For you have the exhortation (encouragement) of Christ, the encouragement (comfort) of love, the fellowship of the Spirit, fervent love and mercy.

In verse 2, he carefully repeats the words over and over again.

'Please be of the same mind, of the same love, of one mind, of one heart, and of one mind, that you may fill me with joy.'

As one who believes in the One Christ and receives comfort and love, Paul tells us to be of the same mind, of the same love, to unite our hearts, to be of one mind... and to be more united and one than ever before. Do not do anything out of partisanship or vanity."...could it be that there was a storm raging that was dividing the church to such an extent?

Here is what leads us to the way of life: "Be humble in heart, regarding one another as better than yourselves... Consider not only yourselves, but also others.

Without the ever-present center of Jesus, we can easily fall apart as if we had lost the key to our fan.

Good morning, everyone. Just when we thought the heat was over, we had a heavy downpour in the Ishikawa area, causing damage from torrential rains. The year started with the earthquake disaster, typhoons, guerrilla downpours, and other climatic irregularities. Everyone has been anxious to stockpile rice, and it has been difficult to find rice in stores. The fires of war have not ceased, and we can only continue to pray.

In such times, we are anxious about what lies ahead, but we would like to remind ourselves that we have a source of hope.

2:1 If ye therefore have any encouragement from Christ, any exhortation of love, any fellowship of the Spirit, any fervent affection, any mercy,

2:2 I beseech you to be of the same mind, and of the same love, and of the same mind, and of the same mind, and of the same mind, and of one mind, that you may fill me with joy.

In verse 1, Paul speaks of a fourfold (fivefold) grace.

It is the encouragement (encouragement and comfort) by Christ, the encouragement (comfort and assurance) of love, the fellowship of the Spirit, fervent love and mercy.

We wish to remind ourselves that no matter how urgent the circumstances surrounding us, no matter if we are put in prison, no matter if we live in a situation where there is no hope in sight, like going to prison, we too have the fivefold blessing. They are the encouragement (encouragement and comfort) of Christ, the encouragement (comfort and security) of love, the fellowship of the Spirit, and the zeal and mercy of Jesus and God.

And Paul tells us that if we are sustained by such overflowing love, please be of one mind with the same mind.

2:2 Please be of the same mind, of the same love, of one mind, and of one heart, and fill me with joy.

Here again, he prays for the people of the church in Philippi four times over, as if he were wrapping up his prayer.

Please be of the same mind, have the same lovingkindness, be of one mind, and be of one mind.

What do you think? He is speaking from prison, prayerfully condensing what he really wants to convey. He is trying to convey what is really important, and he is speaking for the people of his beloved church in Philippi.

Please be of the same mind, of the same love, of the same heart, of the same mind, of one mind.”

I think this expresses our painful reality; it speaks of our weakness that we have spoken four times over, and that we have not spoken enough, even though we have spoken and spoken.

Paul knew how difficult it was for us to be of the same mind, to have the same love, to be of the same mind, to be of the same heart, to be of the same mind. Even in the Church, which has received forgiveness through the blood of Christ, it was a difficult thing to do.

Paul said, “Please be of the same mind, have the same love, be of one mind, be of one heart, be of one mind, and fill me with joy.”

That was Paul's joy. It was a communion of love worthy of Christ.

But the weakness of man was as follows.

2:3 Do nothing out of partiality or vanity, but in humility of mind set one another above yourselves.

2:4 Consider not only yourselves but also others.

It is difficult to be of the same mind, to have a loving heart, to be of one mind, and to be of one mind....

Everything is done out of partisanship. It is the selfishness of people, the partisanship and rivalry of people who think of themselves too much. It is the thought that you are the best. It is a mindset of selfishness. It is a selfish way of thinking. Such a mindset is inside of us. It is in our hearts.

It is vanity. There is vanity. There is pride. We envy others, we have enmity and hostility, we fight for power, we have rivalry when we win or lose, and we are conceited and boastful. They

are all about themselves and do not think about others. They are extremely self-centered. This mindset tormented Paul. Therefore, he says, "Please be of the same mind, have the same love, be of one mind, be of one mind, and fill me with joy. He tells us to "do nothing out of partisanship or vanity, but in humility of mind to one another, making one another better than ourselves.

Herein lies the very foundation and core teaching of what the church is, what faith is, and what a Christian is.

2:5 Let the same mind be in you that is in Christ Jesus.

Christ is the point. We are all selfish with one another, so each of us needs to look to Christ. We are to adopt the qualities found in Christ Jesus as the basis for our core way of life, our truths, our standards of living, and our value judgments. This is what it means to believe in Christ.

2:6 Christ, being in the form of God, did not consider equality with God a matter to be adhered to,

2:7 Instead, He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant, taking the form of a man.

2:8 And he abased himself, and was not like unto man,

2:8 He humbled Himself, and was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

It is said that this verse was passed down among the believers of the primitive church and sung as a hymn of praise.

The beautiful character of Christ Jesus is sung over and over again in praise. We, too, should gaze upon these words and take them as nourishment for our lives.

When Christ descended as Jesus in human form, He was God Himself, the One who had the nature and form of God. But Jesus did not cling to the idea of being equal to God. He did not think of himself as being equal to God. He took on the nature and form of a servant or a slave. The words "nature" and "form" are the same as the words "nature" and "form" of God used earlier, and a clear contrast is made.

Jesus had the "form and nature" of God, but willingly took on the "form and nature" of a servant or slave. There was no pride, no condescension, no calculation, no condition of exchange, just the "form and nature" of Jesus at the top, just the lowest of the low, the servant,

the slave, sold and bought, a servant to serve his master, the one who is the Lord of lords, the King of kings. And Jesus served the disciples, served sinful man, took up His cross, became a slave to serve for our sins, and even poured out His life for our sins.

2:7 Instead, He humiliated Himself and took the form of a servant, taking the form of a man.

2:8 And he brought them low, and poured out his life for them,

2:8 He humbled Himself, and was obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Taste this image of Jesus over and over again. Then, with our hands on our hearts, we think about how we should live our lives. This is Christianity. The key to Christianity is Christ Jesus. The key to Christianity is that the One who had the nature of God took the form of a servant and went to the cross of redemption. He then delivered us from sin, death, damnation, and misery. Herein lies the truth of Christianity. Jesus went that far in obedience. Obediently means that he followed the will of God the Father. This means that all the path Jesus took was filled with the Father's will. His willingness to go to such lengths, to sacrifice, to serve, to serve, and to sacrifice for us was the deep will of God the Father.

2:9 Therefore God exalted him and gave him a name above every name.

2:10 For at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, things on earth, and things under the earth,

2:11 And that every tongue might confess, "Jesus Christ is Lord," and return glory to God the Father.

When a person lives a fierce life of love for God and neighbor, serving God selflessly to that extent and obeying His will beyond his own thoughts, God will lift him up on high. God raises up just as He raised Jesus from the dead and from the grave.

God thus gives him a name that is above every name,

For at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of things in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess, 'Jesus Christ is Lord,' and glory be to God the Father."

Jesus is Lord. When the One who is Lord becomes our Lord, our subject, our master, our subject, when we accept and follow that this is the primary and important One in our lives, this One becomes our keystone. When we follow Him as our Lord, we will have happiness, joy, comfort, and encouragement far greater than when we used to childishly pamper

ourselves. In the church, we can be of one mind and have a peace that we do not have with the Lord Christ. And we can do great works.

Let us experience the depth of grace even more with the same mindset that Jesus has. We can not only see, hear, know, and admire, but we can have a deep and profound grace in the life that we live in Jesus.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. We are taught how important the person of Jesus is to us and how central he is to us. Without always returning to Him, we lack encouragement, comfort, love, and joy, and we do everything out of selfishness and vanity, which prevents us from being united in heart and mind. You unite us like a fan, forming a church that serves and encourages one another, being the keystone of our lives, and making all things work together for our good. Please lead all sufferers to God's salvation and peace. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.