

The Mind of Christ

Introduction

1. In Philippians 2:1-5 the apostle Paul admonishes:
Philippians 2:1-5
2. It is very important that every Christian strive to have the mind of Christ – a mind that is spiritually minded.

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but **to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

A. Later in verse 13, Paul says,

Romans 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but **if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

- 1) **We can see that we are to put to death the deeds of the body that are wrong and contrary to spiritual or Christian living.**
- 2) **This is the only way to have the mind of Christ, who said:**

John 8:29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for **I always do those things that please Him.**"

What Our Minds Dwell On

1. If we have the mind of Christ, what will our minds be dwelling on?

Psalms 1:1-2 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

A. "Meditates day and night"

- 1) Will we be thinking of new ways and devices to make more and more money?
- 2) Will we be thinking of bigger and better and more expensive recreation to entertain ourselves and impress our friends?
- 3) OR – will we be more concerned with the spiritual life and preparation for eternity?

2. Death is coming to all of us.

- #### A. Therefore, why not be thinking of ways that we can build up the church and contribute what we can to make it strong?

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

3. If we truly have the mind of Christ we will be concerned with reaching the lost with the gospel of Christ.

- #### A. We will be interested in saving our friends and relatives by encouraging them to study the Bible with us and do what is right.

4. **If we have the mind of Christ we will have a desire to increase our understanding of the will of God that we may better serve Him and be able to teach and help others get to heaven.**

Living the Christian Life

1. **Listen carefully to the word of God in Colossians 1:10:**

Colossians 1:9-10 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

- A. **In spite of such teaching there are some in the church who claim to be living the Christian life who have never increased much in the knowledge of the scriptures.**

- 1) **Unfortunately, some of these know little more now than they did when they first obeyed the gospel of Christ.**
Hebrews 5:12-14

2. **How can a person really have the mind of Christ if he knows very little about Christ?**

- A. **Knowledge of the scriptures today is not a spiritual gift.**

- 1) **It is something that is acquired by study.**
2 Timothy 2:15

- 2) **The apostle Peter says:**

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ....

Gain Knowledge

1. **Knowledge is one of the graces or characteristics we are to add to our faith (2 Peter 1:5).**

- A. **Solomon says:**

Proverbs 1:7 The **fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge**, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

- 1) **It could be that some Christians today just do not fear the Lord enough to put forth the effort to increase knowledge of His will.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God and keep His commandments**, For this is man's all.

2. **If we are really going to have the mind of Christ, we have to know what God's will is, so we can do it, as Jesus did.**
3. **We must constantly and eagerly read the Bible and take advantage of opportunities to learn from others.**
 - A. **Listen to the preaching of the gospel with the intention of increasing our knowledge and understanding.**

Conclusion

1. **The Christian life is worth living wholeheartedly – or it is not worth living at all.**
2. **We should instill in the hearts of our children a love for the scriptures and the desire to know what the Bible teaches.**
3. **We should encourage every Christian to have the mind of Christ and the best way to do this is by our example in all that we say and do.**

