Others' Lives Matter (Philippians 2:1-11)

Note: see Narcissistic Christianity (9/18/20)

The Right Way to Think

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

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, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Philippians 2:1-2 NKJV

<u>Comfort of Love and Fellowship of the Spirit</u>

- "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 Amen." II Corinthians 13:14 NKJV
- ""I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you." John 16:12-15 NKJV
- "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit... (6) For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not

have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His." Romans 8:1, 6-9 NKJV

- Like Minded, Same Love, One Accord, One Mind
 - One Spirit with One Mind: "Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel," Philippians 1:27 NKJV
 - That they may be one: ""I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." John 17:20-23 NKJV
 - One Accord: "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 2:1 NKJV

- **One New Man:** "Therefore remember that you, once $\mathbf{\overline{\mathbf{V}}}$ Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself **one new man** from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father." Ephesians 2:11-18 NKJV
- Unity of the Spirit: "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

endeavoring to keep the **unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. There is **one body and one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:1-6 NKJV

Unity of the Faith: "And He Himself gave some to be $\mathbf{\overline{\mathbf{V}}}$ apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the **equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:11-16 NKJV

"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." Philippians 2:3-4 NKJV

Selfish Ambition and Conceit

- Seeking Your Own: "For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:21 NKJV
- Provisions to Satisfy the Flesh: "Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts." Romans 13:13-14 NKJV
- Other's Well-Being: "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being." I Corinthians 10:23-24 NKJV
- "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 NKJV
- Self-seeking equals evil: "Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not

boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace." James 3:13-18 NKJV

The Internal Battle: "Where do wars and fights come from among you? **Do they not come from your desires** for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"? But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to

God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. **Do not speak evil of one another**, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?" James 4:1-12 NKJV

- Your Own Desires: "A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment. A fool has no delight in understanding, But in expressing his own heart." Proverbs 18:1-2 NKJV
- <u>His way vs. Your Way:</u> "Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it. Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness." Psalms 119:35-36 NKJV
- Esteeming Others so you deny Your Own Interests for the Interests of Others
 - I prefer what is better for you? "For to me, to live isChrist, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this

will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. **Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.**" Philippians 1:21-24 NKJV

- Nothing Moves Me! "And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:22-24 NKJV
- I no longer live! "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV
- Deny Yourself: "When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them,
 "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For

whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it." Mark 8:34-35 NKJV

- Pleasing ourselves vs. Pleasing our neighbors: "We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me."" Romans 15:1-3 NKJV
- The Payoff: "There is one who scatters, yet increases more; And there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself."
 Proverbs 11:24-25 NKJV

The Humbled and Exalted in Christ

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 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.

Therefore God also has highly **exalted Him** and given Him the **name which is above every name,** 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**, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:5-11 NKJV

Philippians 2:5-11

- "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,"Philippians 2:5 NKJV
 - Mind of Christ
 - Living in God: "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love." John 15:10 NKJV
 - The Mind of Christ: "For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing

spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**" I Corinthians 2:11-16 NKJV

- Renewing the Mind: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 NKJV
- Take Every Thought Captive: "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all

disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." II Corinthians 10:3-6 NKJV

- "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 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." Philippians 2:6-8 NKJV
 - **<u>Equal with God</u>**
 - He is One with the Father: "Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one."" John 10:25-30 NKJV
 - <u>One:</u> ""I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that

they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me." John 17:20-21 NKJV

- Equal: "Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill
 Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also
 said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with
 God." John 5:18 NKJV
- Equal: "The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."" John 10:33 NKJV
- The Fullness of the Godhead: "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."
 Colossians 2:9-10 NKJV

<u>M</u> <u>The Bondservant Option—become a man, stay a man</u>

- See The Bondservant and His Master (Ephesians 6:5-9)
- "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."" Luke 22:41-42 NKJV

Obedience Unto Death—a humiliating death, one that makes a statement

- The Cross is Symbolic of one Accursed by God: ""If a man has committed a sin deserving of death, and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain overnight on the tree, but you shall surely bury him that day, so that you do not defile the land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance; for he who is hanged is accursed of God." Deuteronomy 21:22-23 NKJV
- "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")," Galatians 3:13 NKJV
- Hung on a Tree: "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness— by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." I Peter 2:21-25 NKJV

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- A joy to hang for us! "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV
- "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken." Isaiah 53:5-8 NKJV

 "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 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, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11 NKJV

Marcon All Names

- "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 NKJV
- "Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." II Thessalonians 1:11-12 NKJV
- Salvation by the Name: "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they

marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, saying, "What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But so that it spreads no further among the people, **let us** severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to **no man in this name.**" So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but **speak the things which we have seen and heard.**" So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, since they all glorified God for what had been done. For the man was over forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had been performed." Acts 4:12-22 NKJV

Ask in the Name: ""Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And **whatever you ask in My name**, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **If you ask anything in My name**, I will do it." John 14:12-14 NKJV

- Justified by the Name: "And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." I Corinthians 6:11 NKJV
- Victory in the Name: "And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."" Mark 16:15-18 NKJV
- <u>Every Knee Will Bow (from all three people groups) and</u>
 <u>Every Tongue Will Confess—for the Father's glory</u>
 - ✓ The Passover Story: How many people groups can you identify?
 - Who needs the blood to be safe? (Two options)
 - Who does not need the blood?

- What happened to all those who did not need the blood to be safe?
- Mow many people groups are represented in the story?
 - Those that had faith and applied the blood (they required the blood)
 - Those that had no faith and and did not apply the blood (they also required the blood)
 - Those who had faith and did not require the blood
- **^{III}** Those who had no faith and did not require the blood
- **Revelation:** How many people groups can you identify?
 - The Healing of the Nations: "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:1-2 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

A Good Witness (Philippians 2:12-30)