

Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Do You Have the Mind of Christ?

Sub-Topic: What type of mind do you have? Scripture: Philippians 2:5-13

Becoming truly Christ-like is only possible with the help of the Spirit. <u>Isaiah 64:6 declares</u>, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." God can pick us up from our depraved condition and teach us through the Spirit the true and proven principles that yield eternal life. Paul also tells us, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6). **In every perplexing situation ask yourself, "What would Jesus want me to do**? When the Holy Ghost points out what is right, do it eagerly.

Word was made flesh (John 1:14), which means becoming human. By doing so, Christ became (1) **the perfect teacher** in Jesus' life we see how God thinks and therefore <u>how we should think</u> (Philippians 2:5:11); (2) **the perfect example**—as a model of what we are to become, He shows us how to live and gives us the power to live that way (1 Peter 2:21); (3) **the perfect sacrifice**—Jesus came as a sacrifice for all sins, and His death satisfied God's requirements for the removal of sin (Colossians 1:15-23). This is the clearest statement of Jesus' divinity He ever made, *"I and my Father are one"* (John 10:30).

There was nothing majestic in the physical appearance of Jesus (Isaiah 53:2). Israel miscalculated His importance—they only consider Him an ordinary man. But even though Jesus would not attract a large following based on His physical appearance, He brought salvation and healing. **Many people even today miscalculate the importance of Jesus' life and work**. Jesus became poor by giving up His right as God became human; He set aside His glory and rights (2 Corinthians 8:9). Yet by doing so, He made us "rich" so that we can receive salvation and eternal life.

Jesus' mission was to span the gulf of estrangement between the Holy God and the depravity of mankind. Our eternity depended on Christ's obedience to the death, burial, and resurrection. The name of Jesus Christ is highly exalted both by <u>His work of salvation</u> and by <u>the praises of His people</u>. Jesus Christ is the greatest human being that has ever walked the face of the earth. No question should ever arise regarding <u>His position</u>, <u>His authority</u>, or <u>His final judgment</u> of the earth in the end. Because of who He is and what He did, every knee will bow before Him and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. We can choose now to lovingly commit our lives to Jesus as Lord or be forced to acknowledge Him as Lord when He returns.

When you are facing difficult transitions, it is good to follow Paul's advice to Timothy and look back at your experience (2 Timothy 1:13-14). Also, when we become a child of God, the Holy Ghost comes to live in us. Therefore, we no longer own our bodies. We have been "brought with a price." Christ's death freed us from sin, but also obligates us to His service. Since, our body belongs to God, we must not violate His standards for living. No matter how impure your life is right now. God offers you a fresh start. You can have your sins washed away, receive a new heart for God and have His Spirit with you.

The administration of the gifts of the Spirit began after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Moreover, Jesus promised that the Holy Ghost would be the enabler: "*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you*" (Acts 1:8). <u>Before the Cross</u>, people wanted to do right and tried to do right; but the weakness of the flesh greatly hindered them. <u>After the Cross</u>, however, mankind received a powerful enabler that helps a person do the will of God.

We have eyewitness reports of the risen Jesus, the continuing power of the Holy Ghost unleashed at Pentecost, easy access to the Bible, and knowledge of 2,000 years of Christ's acts through His church. With the knowledge and insight available to us, our response to Christ ought to be even more complete and wholehearted. When we become aware of how much God loves us, our outlook on life totally changes. From the very beginning of creation, God had a special place for mankind as His eternal companion.

Do you have a mind like Christ? What type of mind do you have?