

Church of Christ

...Heart to Heart...

We need to have the attitude or mind of Christ. Paul told the Philippians, **“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.”** (Phil 2:5) What *“attitude”* or mindset did Christ have? What does it really mean to have the mind of Christ?

In order to answer such, we need to look at what Jesus saw as most important. That’s the only way one can have His attitude. In John 17, His prayer before His death, you can see what His *“attitude”* was, what meant the most to Him. Let’s note a few of things about His *“attitude”*: (1) He was concerned about His purpose, and that was to glorify the Father (v.1,4-5). No matter what came in His life, He wants God to have all the glory. Is this our *“attitude”*? (2) The followers of Christ belong to God, God gave them to Jesus, and they kept God’s word (v.6,8). In all this, there is a bond and a tie. One can’t have the *“attitude”* of Christ and ignore or have little to do with God and His people. His word teaches us that! (3) The word of God, when applied properly in the heart and mind of a follower of Christ, will separate them from the rest of the world in attitude and actions (v.14). The world doesn’t care about God and His word! (4) Jesus wants His own to be kept from the evil one (v. 15). To have His *“attitude”*, it must make us do the same. We should be constantly on the look, watching what we involve ourselves in and where we attend in our activities. Remember, the devil is on the prowl, looking for someone (those tied to Christ) to devour (I Pet. 5:8)! (5) Only the truth will sanctify a person (v.16-19). That means truth must be upheld as Jesus upheld the truth. (6) Jesus’ mind set was for unity (v.20-21). Unity can only be maintained through oneness with God, oneness with Jesus and oneness with the truth of His word. Only through unity can we get the world to believe in Jesus and Him crucified! Notice how easily people get upset when something doesn’t go according to their idea or thinking, and they threaten or walk away. Where is the *“attitude”* of Christ? Where is the glorification of God? Where is the bond, the tie that binds us as one? Where is the keeping from the evil one? Unity is at the heart of the *“attitude”* of Christ. The only way one can give up their selfish feelings and desires is to be tied to God and His desires! The world is involved in religion, but not the truth. Only through unity can people see the truth!

Jesus never lost His desire for God and His mindset toward God. How fervent are we in our mind set and attitude toward the Lord? Do we really have the mind of Christ? Go back and read John 17, see what Jesus prays for and you will see His *“attitude”*. Ask yourself, “How close am I to His mindset?” Think about it!!!