

**A Study of the Book of Philippians**  
**Theme: "OUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL!"**

Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.  
Pastor David R. Nehrenz

**Lesson: 10 Chapter 2:1-11**

**Date: 10-27-19**

**BIBLE TEXT:**



(1) So if there is any encouragement in **Christ**, any comfort from love, any participation in **the Spirit**, any affection and sympathy, (2) complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (3) Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. (4) Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

(5) Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in **Christ Jesus**, (6) **who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped**, (7) **but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men**. (8) **And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross**. (9) **Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name**, (10) **so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth**, (11) **and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father**.

(12) Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, (13) for it is **God** who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (14) Do all things without grumbling or questioning, (15) that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, (16) holding fast to the word of life, so that in **the day of Christ** I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

(17) Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. (18) Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

(19) I hope in **the Lord Jesus** to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. (20) For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. (21) They all seek their own interests, not those of **Jesus Christ**. (22) But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. (23) I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, (24) and I trust in **the Lord** that shortly I myself will come also.

(25) I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, (26) for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. (27) Indeed he was ill, near to death. But **God** had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. (28) I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. (29) So receive him in **the Lord** with all joy, and honor such men, (30) for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

## STUDY NOTES:

**(vv. 1-11) The Trinity:** *encouragement in Christ (Gal 2:20) participation in the Spirit (2 Cor 13:14) to the glory of God the Father. (Rom 8:15)*

**Note:** *vv. 6-11 seem to be an early Christian hymn adapted by Paul (Col 3:16)*

*The Deity of Christ - the form of God, equality with God (John 1:1-13; Col 1:15; 2:9,10)*

*The Humanity of Christ – made himself nothing, the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men, And being found in human form, he humbled himself*

*(Mt 20:28; Mk 9:4; John 1:14; 13:3,4; Rom 8:3; Gal 4:4; 2 Cor 13:4)*

*the humiliation of Christ: (Dt. 21:22,23; 2 Cor 8:9)*

*he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

*the exaltation of Christ: (Mt 28:18; Acts 2:33; Eph 1:21; Heb 1:4; )*

*God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name*

*the descent of Christ into hell to proclaim his victory to those “under the earth”*

*(Eph 4:8-10; 1 Pet 3:18-20)*

### The glory of Christ on the Last Day:

**(Mt 25:31; Is 45:23; Rom 14:9-11; Eph 1:10;**

**Rev 4:2-11; 5:1-14; 7:9-17)**

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### Jesus Christ is Lord – a creed and profession of faith

**(Mt 1:21; Jn 13:13; Rom 10:9; 14:9; 1 Cor 12:3)**

### Therefore we live like Christ:

any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus

**(Rom 12:10,16; Gal 5:13,26; Eph 4:2; 5:21; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Pet 5:5)**

## LIFE APPLICATION:

What is the important of the confession we make with our tongues, about the truth and reality of the Triune God, when we confess the Apostles, Nicene or Athanasian Creeds each Lord's Day Sunday?

## Luther's Works: Volume 23, Pages 76–77

“St. John continually emphasizes and stresses the sublime fact that **Christ is true God and true man in one Person**, and that this Person is also our Savior, our Salvation, Life, and Righteousness. This we also confess in **the Creed** when we say: “**I believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit.**” And by reason of this we are called Christians, for that is our title. **Christ is true man.** Many heretics have attacked this doctrine. But **He is also true God**; this has also been denied and assailed by many heretics. And I fear that many more will arise to rave and rage against this doctrine.

Thus you must learn from this and other verses that **Jesus Christ is true man.** For you can hear Him; you can see with your eyes that He is speaking here like a human being. Furthermore, you must learn that He is also **the true Son of God**, that **He is such a Person** as imparts eternal life, saves from hell, devil, and death, and gives life and salvation to him who believes in Him and cleaves to Him. He will preserve such a one and also enable him to observe the Ten Commandments. His two statements, “I shall not lose him” and “I will raise him up at the Last Day,” are a glorious argument with which He gives proof of **His true divinity.**

These are not the works of any creature. For to create or to re-create or to give life can be done by none but the Creator, as we confess in **the Second Article of the Creed.** We also confess that we owe our life to God the Father, and that no one can rob us of it or touch a hair on our head without His permission, just as the devil was powerless to do Job any harm without God's consent (Job 1:12).

We should remember this passage and similar passages to strengthen our faith **in the true divinity and humanity of Christ.** This passage ascribes to Him the power to raise from the dead; in fact, we find this asserted twice. Here the assurance is also found that Christ will lose no one, also that He is the Bread of life. These are not works of an angel or of any creature, but only of the Divine Majesty.”