

“Children Of God Without Fault”

Phil. 2:15

Introduction:

- A. Children of God are expected to live right in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation.
 - 1. Must not be reclusive - not hermits.
 - a. “In the midst” - “among whom”
 - b. Example of Jesus. (Mt. 9:11,12)
 - 2. Must not share in sins of generation. (cf. 1 Tim. 5:22; “Blameless”, “harmless”, “without fault”).
- B. Children of God can make three simple *resolutions* that will help them be “without fault”:

Discussion:

I. They Can Resolve to *Conduct Themselves Worthy of the Gospel of Christ*. (Phil. 1:27).

- A. By being united in the gospel.
 - 1. Standing fast in one spirit (cf. Phil. 2:2)
 - 2. Striving *together* - not *against* each other (cf. Phil. 4:1-4)
 - 3. Striving together *for the faith of the gospel*. (cf. 2:16; Jude 3; Rom. 10:17).
 - a. Not united just for the sake of unity (cf. Acts 7:57; 18:12).
 - b. Not united with the world. (2 Cor. 6:14,17; Lk. 12:51-53).
- B. By being courageous in the face of opposition. (Phil. 1:28-30)
- C. By rejoicing in the Lord always. (Phil. 4:4)
 - 1. Through moderation/gentleness - *epi* (intensively) *iekos* (reasonable). (Phil. 4:5).
 - 2. Through prayer. (Phil. 4:6, 7).
 - 3. Through proper meditation. (Phil. 4:8).
 - 4. Through following apostolic teaching and example (Phil. 4:9).

II. They Can Resolve to *Avoid Selfish Ambition and Conceit*. (Phil. 2:3).

- A. By following the perfect example of Jesus. (Phil. 2:5-11)
- B. By esteeming others better than ourselves. (2:3,4 cf. Rom. 9:3).
 - 1. Saves marriages, churches, and sinners. (cf. 1 Cor. 9:19-22).
 - 2. Preserves brethren. (cf. 1 Cor. 8:13).
 - 3. Preserves peace. (Rom. 14:19-21).

III. They Can Resolve to *Always Obey*. (Phil. 2:12)

- A. Must “work out your own salvation” knowing that it is really God working in us (v. 13).
 - 1. We must each do his own thing - no one can obey or do our work for us.
 - 2. Yet, we are not doing our work, but the Lord working in us - are truly “His hands.”
- B. Must do all of this without complaining. (2:14).

Conclusion:

- A. What an influence we might have on this crooked generation if we always:
 - 1. Conducted ourselves worthy of the gospel.
 - 2. Did nothing from selfish or egotistical motives.
 - 3. Always obeyed Him without complaining.
- B. Are you a *child of God* without fault in the midst of crooked and perverse generation?