

Lights In The World

Phil. 2:15

Introduction:

- A. As Christians, we must live in the world, in the midst of its people.
 - 1. Not in physical isolation (1 Cor. 5:10; Mt. 9:11,12).
 - 2. But, lights in the midst of darkness (Txt, cf. Mt. 5:13,14)
- B. As Christians, we can shine as lights in five **ways** taught in Philippians.

Discussion:

I. With an *United Stand*. (1:27-28).

- A. United with one another. (2:1,2; 4:2,3; cf. “fellow” workers)
 - 1. Paul commanded it. (1 Cor. 1:10).
 - 2. Maturity demands it. (1 Cor.3:1-4).
- B. United for truth. (1:27)
 - 1. This unity Jesus prayed for. (John 17:20-23).
 - 2. This is not “ecumenical” type unity.
- C. United against adversaries. (1:28)
 - 1. Striving together against all kinds of sin. (Heb. 12:4).
 - 2. Striving together against enemies of truth.(3:17-19).

II. With an *Unselfish Attitude*. (Phil. 2:3,4).

- A. Such promotes harmony. (strife [KJV], faction [ASV], selfish ambition [NKJV])
- B. Such follows a perfect pattern. (2:5-11).

III. With an *Unreserved Obedience*. (Phil. 2:12)

- A. Constant obedience — “always”. (v. 12)
- B. Reverent obedience — “fear and trembling”. (v. 12,13).
- C. Willing obedience — “without murmurings and disputing”. (v. 14)

IV. With an *Unblemished Character*. (Phil. 2:15).

- A. Morally upright. (cf. Eph. 5:1-12).
- B. Spiritually sound—”holding forth the word of life” (v. 16).

V. With an *Unruffled Disposition*. (4:4,5).

- A. Moderation (gentleness) known to all men. (4:5, “*epi*” intense “*eikos*” reasonable).
- B. Contentment in whatever state. (4:11).
- C. Calm and collected. (4:6-9).

Conclusion:

- A. Can we not see that such things are the best advertisements for Christianity.
- B. How brightly does your light in midst of world?
- C. What kind of impression for Christianity are you leaving on the world?