LIKEMINDED TO CHRIST

If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, **2** Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. Phil 2:1-2 (KJV)

If there was a device to measure the consolation, comfort of love, fellowship and mercies found in Christ we surely would find that the world itself could not hold all that Christ has for us. I suppose the meter that would measure consolation would have to be based on timing. Think back on the times when you have discovered the consolation of the Lord. As I think on this I must say that he was always on time when he came to console my hurting soul. I have often thought he didn’t console me soon enough, but looking back I see he was right on time. So the meter is pegged out on timing. We would look for the genuineness of this consolation. It must be pure. Consolation is comfort, solace, needed when we are hurting, broken hearted, or disappointed. It suggests Christ drawing us unto himself. His consolation for us is pure. This measuring device must also take into account the degree of consolation he brings. He has for us all we need and more at the moment we find ourselves in need of his solace.

 What comfort of love we receive of Jesus. What peace that comes with realizing the love of Jesus. I have been a Christian for fifty years. I am still discovering new depths of Jesus love. A man told me of his mother passing away at home. He was devastated. One of the EMT’s was a Christian, who he knew, and the EMT came in and prayed with him. The man told me that he felt the love Jesus begin to help him. Later, about three years, this man was at a nursing home with his church singing for the residents. An elderly lady in a wheelchair tugged at his pants and called the man by name. As she spoke to him he realized she was blind. She introduced herself and he recognized her from years before. She said “your mother sure died well didn’t she?” He was not sure what she meant. She said “I have been wheelchair bound for years and I am blind and can barely feed myself. Yes, your mother, she died well.” This man realized by his mother passing in her sleep and escaping the pain, heartache and disappointment of the aging process, she had been very blessed. The burden he had carried since her death was lifted. The comfort of love Jesus shared through a crippled and blind woman in the nursing home. I would say that is off the charts!

 Yet the verses say if there be any of these then let us display them in our lives toward others. Well it is for certain that these things are in Christ, they are in abundance so consolation of Christ should be evident in the life of his followers. His comfort of love will be found in those whose lives are like unto Christ. Compassion and mercy are found in those who have hidden their lives in Christ. So may we bring joy to Christ by being like Him.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram

David Holland’s testimony of his mother’s passing.