**CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES**

**2 Cor. 10:5**

INTRODUCTION: “Attitude” defined: “Feeling, mood, frame of mind. etc.”. Our attitude determines how we view life, how we interpret everything that happens to us. Whether the day is beautiful or not is often a matter of attitude. A proper attitude is essential to success of any endeavor. “I won’t be able to” or “I can’t” means you won’t.

Our text addresses the Christian’s attitude; “Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ”. (In other words, have the “Mind of Christ”) Phil. 2:5.

In this lesson we will notice some Christian attitudes.

**I) WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD?**

**A) One of reverence and obedience. Eccl. 12:13; Eph. 5:21.**

1. The Bible speaks of godly fear and reverence. This is different from cowardice and being cowardly.

 a. Godly reverence means we are determined to please God and how Him up. Joseph showed this reverence in **Genesis 39.9**

b. Moses showed this reverence at the burning bush**, Exodus 3.**

2. Lack of reverence leads away from God. **Rom. 3:12-18.**

a. People use God’s name in vain, despise the Bible.

**II) WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD ONE'S SELF?**

**A) Not arrogance and pride; expecting others to serve us. See Rom. 15:3.**

1. Not looking out for number one and everyone has to cave in to me.

2. Arrogance and pride causes one to think of themselves first and God second.

**B) Exercise self-control. Prov. 16:32; 25:28; 1 Cor. 9:27.**

1. There are things a Christian won’t do that may be tempting.

2. Perhaps dancing, drinking alcohol, etc.

3. Chinese proverb: "Who governs himself is fit to govern the world".

**III. WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHERS?**

**A) Humility toward all men. Phil. 2:3,4.**

1. The master of the house was a servant to his guest.

2. Humility builds others up without demeaning yourself.

**B) Help toward the needy. Gal. 6:9,10; MT. 25:34-40.**

1. Most of the benevolence in the New Testament is individual in nature. Where the individual helps others

2. Many Christians have sacrificed in order to help others. The Macedonians did so in Acts.

**C) Forgiveness toward enemies. MT. 6:12, 14; Rom. 12:17- 21.**

1. Forgiveness is not easy but it is commanded and possible.

2. Forgiveness makes us more Christ like.

**D) Interest toward the unsaved. MT. 4:19; 28:18-20.**

1. The lost will remain lost if we don’t try to teach them.

**IV) WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CHURCH?**

**A) Put it first in life and plans. MT. 6:33.**

1. First is an easy number to understand, it means above everything else.

**B) Note Paul’s attitude toward lost. 1 Cor. 9:19-22.**

1. Paul was willing to do all he could to save the lost, even to the point of sacrificing.

2. How important is the lost to us? What are we willing to do to help them?

**C) Serve to the best and limit of our ability. MK. 14:3- 9.**

1. Know we all have limitations in ability, time, money, etc

2. But why is it that the church often receives the hand me downs?

**D) Our attitude toward the brethren?**

1. “Members one of another”. Rom. 12:4,5.

2. Linked to one another whether we like it or not.

**E) Love and restoration toward wayward. Gal. 6:1.**

1. Are we concerned about them?

2. Do we love them?

**V) WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD SIN?**

**A) Not one of indifference. We must not "wink" at it.**

**B) Recognize the tragedy of it. Rom. 6:23.**

1. Abhor it. Rom. 12:9; Prov. 8:13.

2. “Abstain from all appearance of evil”. 1 Thess. 5:22. (Dancing, drinking, immodest dress, etc.)

**VI) WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIGIOUS ERROR?**

**A) Not one of indifference and compromise. 2 John 9-11.**

1. Paul’s spirit at Athens was stirred up, Acts 17.16.

2. Paul even went so far as to confront Peter in **Galatians 2**

**B) But that expressed by David. Psa. 119:104, 128.**

**CONCLUSION: Attitudes are important “As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he”. Prov. 23:7.**