

To This You Were Called: **Growth in Christ-like Character**

(The Power of a Beautiful Life, Part 4)

1 Peter 3:8-12

In Essentials: Unity, In Non-Essentials: Liberty, In All Things: Charity
Rupertus Meldenius, 1627

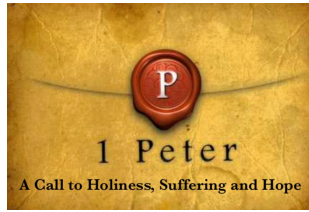
*“What happened to the love and the values of humanity?
What happened to love, fairness and equality?
Instead of spreading love we're spreading animosity, and
Lack of understanding is leading us away from unity”*
The Blacked Eyed Peas (2003, in response to 9/11/01)

- I. **The UNITY of Believers:** Of One Mind (Single-minded People), *Harmony*
—> **Thinking #BWLV**
A. NOT: *We think the same on Every single minute thing*
B. BUT: On the Same Page of Essentials, “Oneness of Unity:” **Psalm 24:1**
Ephesians 4:4-5
- II. **The SYMPATHY of Believers:** Sincere Caring, shared Feelings with one another
—> **Caring/Feeling #INDIVIDUAL**
Philippians 1:3-8
- III. **The LOVE of Believers:** As Brothers?! *Philadelphia*
—> **Loving #FELLOWSHIP**
Galatians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:14
- IV. **The COMPASSION of Believers:** *Deeply of the Gut/Heart*, Real, Genuine *Tenderheartedness*
—> **Serving #SERVICE**
Ephesians 4:32
Suffering Bereavement, Illness, Hardship of a Calling/Season of Life
- V. **The HUMILITY of Believers:** Others First, Self last
—> **Posture**
1Peter 5:5-6

To all of the above, we have been CALLED to *Bless* and *Be Blessed*, as the people of God.
Genesis 12:1-3

CONC: Philippians 2:5-8

He Humbled Himself, as a Servant, through Obedience, to Death, for Us?



1 Peter 3:8-12

8 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.
9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

10 For,

*“Whoever would love life
and see good days
must keep their tongue from evil
and their lips from deceitful speech.*

11 *They must turn from evil and do good;
they must seek peace and pursue it.*

12 *For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous
and his ears are attentive to their prayer,
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

Psalms 24:1

The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Ephesians 4:4-5

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Philippians 1:3-8

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, **since I have you in my heart** and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, **all of you share in God’s grace with me**. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:14

Above all things put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1 Peter 5:5-6

5 You who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

*“God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble.”*

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Philippians 2:5-8

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!