**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Crucifixion of King Self |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Philippians 2:1-11 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2439 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. There is a cruel dictator who wants to rule over our lives and keep us in bondage.
      1. This dictator is our worst enemy.
      2. If we want to know who this dictator is, then we can go look in the mirror.
         1. It is King Self.
   2. King Self’s throne is the human heart.
      1. He comes from a dynasty that began with Adam and continues on down to this present age.
   3. Self wants to rule in our hearts.
      1. When Self is on the throne, then Christ is on the cross.
      2. When Christ is on the throne, then Self is on the cross.
         1. There needs to be a crucifixion of King Self.
   4. We are all self-centered by nature.
   5. Our problem in life is not weakness but the strength of King Self, who is ruling over us if we have not yet put King Self to death.
   6. What we need is a complete change of thinking.
      1. Philippians 2:1-11
      2. In order to deal with King Self, we need a new mind.
         1. We have to have the mind of the Lord Jesus.
   7. The message today will show us three main things about the mind of Christ.
      1. If we will heed what the Bible says and renew our minds in Christ Jesus, then it will be life changing.
2. THE mind of christ is a selfless mind (philippians 2:4-7)
   1. The purpose of life is not about us; it is about God.
      1. God wants to use us to be a blessing.
   2. A purpose-centered life is not a self-centered life.
      1. Many people are self-centered, and they value self-centeredness.
      2. It is good to have a good self-image, but what many churches teach today is not about self-image but about self-centeredness.
         1. Theology has migrated to “me-ology.”
      3. Having a good self-image and being self-centered are two different things.
         1. It has been stated that there is nothing so empty as a self-centered life, and there’s nothing so full as a life centered in the Lord Jesus Christ.
   3. Madison Avenue and marketing agencies know the power of self-centeredness.
      1. Advertisements tell us that “we deserve a break today,” and that we owe it to ourselves.
      2. Bookstores are filled with books on success, self-esteem, realizing our potential, being the best, and being fulfilled.
      3. Social engineers know the power of self-centeredness.
         1. This is the reason we have the problem of abortion.
            1. They speak of a woman’s right to choose.

But they never complete that sentence.

The choice is not whether to have a baby; the baby is already here.

The choice is whether or not to let the baby live.

* + - * 1. Most abortions today are because King and Queen Self are on the throne.
      1. This is the reason for the divorce epidemic in America today.
         1. Men and women say that they owe it to themselves to be happy.

In reality, they owe it to themselves to keep their marriage vows, and they owe something to their children.

* + 1. Even the church is trying to make God in man’s image.
  1. The purpose of a purpose-driven life is not to find our freedom but to find our Master.
     1. When we find our Master and submit to Him, we will then find our freedom.
     2. John 8:36
  2. The apostle Paul wrote the book of Philippians to the church at Philippi.
     1. There were some divisions in this church.
     2. Paul was encouraging these people to be likeminded.
  3. Philippians 2:2-3
     1. Another word for “vainglory” is pride.
     2. Pride causes strife, and strife causes division.
     3. Paul wanted a unified church.
  4. Philippians 2:3-4
     1. The answer to division caused by pride and King Self can be found in this passage.
  5. King Self is a sinful pre-disposition to sin, selfishness and pride.
     1. This is not about a good self-image.
  6. Humility is not thinking badly of yourself.
     1. As Christians, we are the righteousness of God in Christ.
     2. God made us and loves us; we are somebody in the Lord Jesus.
     3. The Lord Jesus was clothed in humility.
        1. John 13:3-5
        2. We are to be like the Lord Jesus.
        3. The Lord Jesus knew who He was; He had a good self-image.
        4. Knowing that He came from God, was going to God and that all things were in His hands, He washed the disciples’ feet.
           1. It is impossible to look down on someone while you’re washing their feet.
     4. Humility is not thinking lowly of yourself.
        1. It is knowing who you are and, yet, thinking of other people.
        2. It is a selfless life.
        3. The key word is “others.”
           1. Philippians 2:4
           2. Life is about God, and through God, it is about other people.
  7. There are several “one another” commands in the Bible:
     1. We are to love one another.
        1. John 13:34
        2. This is not a suggestion but a command.
        3. This is the last command Jesus gave before His arrest, trial and crucifixion.
        4. John 13:35
           1. This is the mark of a Christian.

It is not optional, but neither is it automatic; otherwise, He would not have given the command.

We must choose to love one another.

* + 1. We are to receive one another.
       1. Romans 15:7
       2. We’re to receive others who come to church.
       3. The church at Philippi consisted of very different people.
          1. The apostle Paul was an intellectual and brilliant man.
          2. The jailer and his household had been converted, and they were part of the church at Philippi.
          3. There was also a demon-possessed girl who had been saved.
          4. A traveling saleslady named Lydia was there.
          5. It was a very diverse group, and yet they all had the same mind.
       4. People who do not understand all of the faith and who are weak in their theology are not to be excluded but are to be included all the more.
          1. Romans 14:1
          2. Babies in Christ need the fellowship.
          3. We receive them because Christ has received them.

There is plenty of room in the family of God.

* + - * 1. This does not mean, however, that we are to receive heretics or willful sinners.

2 John 1:10

* + 1. We are to greet one another.
       1. 1 Corinthians 16:20
          1. Greeting one another with a holy kiss was a custom in Bible times.

Our custom today is to shake hands.

Romans 13:7

* + - 1. We will find some way to demonstrate our love and our welcome.
         1. It should be personal.
         2. It is to be impartial.

A great church is a church where everybody is somebody and where Jesus Christ is Lord.

* + - * 1. It is to be thoughtful.

Loving churches grow, and growing churches love.

* + - * 1. It should be friendly.

The key factor that makes a church grow is friendliness.

* + - * 1. It is more important to influence people than it is to impress people.
      1. We need to practice non-judgmental love.
         1. This doesn’t mean that we accept or approve the wrong things that others do.

The Lord Jesus did not accept or approve of the things the woman at the well did, but He loved her and ministered to her and cared for her.

John 4:1-30

This is a needy world, and the church’s ministry is to others.

* + 1. We are to care for one another.
       1. 1 Corinthians 12:25
       2. There is no room in the church for arrogance, envy, rivalry, self-sufficiency or disunity.
       3. God put us here to serve, not to be served.
    2. We are to endure one another.
       1. Ephesians 4:2
       2. A perfect church is not a church where everyone is a mature, Spirit-filled believer.
          1. This would be a failing church.
          2. A perfect church also has baby Christians.

A perfect family has parents and grandparents and babies.

We are to reproduce and keep our church family going so that there might be a godly seed.

* + 1. We are to forgive one another.
       1. Ephesians 4:32
       2. Those of us who have been forgiven have no right not forgive one another.
          1. God has quickly, willingly, gladly and gracefully forgiven us.
          2. We’re to forgive one another quickly, genuinely and completely.
  1. What are the marks of a selfish life?
     1. King Self has self-will.
        1. Isaiah 14:13-14
           1. Five times in this passage, Lucifer says, “I will.”
        2. The Lord Jesus said, “Not My will, but Thy will.”
           1. Luke 22:42
        3. There are two ways of living:
           1. The mind of Self

“I will.”

* + - * 1. The mind of Christ

“Thy will.”

* + - 1. John 5:30
         1. If you want to be like the Lord Jesus, then you must commit to God.
    1. King Self is self-seeking.
       1. He lives for his own pleasure, pride and glory.
       2. John 8:50
    2. King Self is self-assertive.
       1. King Self’s three favorite words are I, me and my.
          1. He will turn every conversation to himself.
       2. King Self is wrapped up in himself.
    3. King Self is self-indulgent.
       1. He is motivated by selfish desire and not by principle.
       2. There’s no room for denial in King Self.
          1. If you want to find out if a man is a true leader, then give him privileges instead of responsibilities.

A man who will not grow and who is self-centered will use those privileges for himself.

A man who is a true leader will use his privileges to develop other people.

Many of us have privilege in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What do we do with these privileges?

Do we take these privileges and become self-indulgent?

* + 1. King Self is full of self-pity.
       1. He is always licking his wounds, complaining, moaning and groaning.
       2. He is constantly feeling sorry for himself and exaggerating his sorrows.
    2. King Self is self-conscious.
       1. He is easily wounded.
       2. He enjoys pouting.
          1. But true love is not easily provoked.

1 Corinthians 13:5

* + 1. King Self is self-deprecating.
       1. Self-deprecation (claiming we are not very good and putting ourselves down) is not humility but is one of the worst forms of pride.
    2. King Self is full of self-exaltation.
       1. These are not people who put themselves down but who put themselves up.
       2. They claim to be self-made, and then they worship their creator.
    3. King Self is full of self-justification.
       1. King Self is never wrong.
       2. He thinks he can give a good reason for every neglect and every failure.
       3. King Self wants to exact his rights and avenge the wrongs against him.
          1. He will not apologize.
    4. King Self is full of self-confidence.
       1. Self-confidence can be one of the worst things around.
          1. It was self-confidence that failed Simon Peter.

Luke 22:33

* + - 1. The apostle Paul had Christ-confidence.
         1. Philippians 4:13

1. the mind of christ is a serving mind (Philippians 2:7)
   1. If we want to be like Jesus and have the mind of Christ, then we must serve.
      1. God made us to serve.
      2. Jesus came as a servant.
   2. 1 Corinthians 9:19
      1. The apostle Paul, a free-born Roman citizen, made himself a servant to the Greeks and the barbarians, to the wise and the foolish.
         1. All were precious to him.
2. the mind of christ is a sacrificial mind (Philippians 2:8)
   1. The Lord Jesus laid down His life for us.
   2. Someone once said that the ministry that costs nothing, accomplishes nothing.
   3. God has a ministry for each of us.
   4. The first sacrifice that needs to be made is a crucifixion.
      1. The one who is to be crucified is not Jesus.
         1. He has already been crucified.
         2. He was crucified to die for that old man that we are by nature.
      2. There is to be the crucifixion of King Self.
         1. We do not want to die to ourselves.
         2. Self will even make Christ King if Self can make himself prime minister.
            1. Romans 7:18
         3. To deny Self is not about denying ourselves things.
            1. Simon Peter denied himself things before he denied Simon Peter.

He gave up his fishing nets before he gave up himself.

* + 1. It is impossible for us to crucify ourselves.
       1. The Good News is that we’ve already been crucified when Jesus died for us.
          1. What we need to do now is to receive it, to recognize it and to act on it.

Romans 6:11

1. CONCLUSION
   1. We must deal with King Self.
      1. We must learn that it is not about us; it is about God, and therefore, about others.
   2. King Self is a cruel master.
      1. Don’t let him rule.
      2. He was crucified with Christ.
   3. Your life of purpose begins by knowing Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.
      1. It’s not a matter of church membership.
      2. It’s not a matter of baptism.
      3. It’s not a matter of living a good life.
         1. All of these are important, but they are not a substitute for knowing Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.
   4. It’s not about deciding to just do better.
      1. Are you saved?
   5. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   6. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16