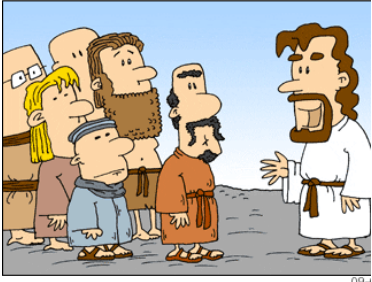


Welcome to America...

I. The Old Citizenship (Phil 3:1-11)

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THE WINNER OF "THE DISCIPLE" WILL GET TO GIVE UP ALL EARTHLY POSSESSIONS AND FOLLOW ME THROUGH ALL LEVELS OF HARDSHIPS

II. The New Citizenship (Phil 3:7-11, Eph 2:12-13)

Ephesians 2:12-13 ¹²remember that at [one] time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ



▶ A new citizenship an entirely new passport.

A citizenship with dramatically different values of service & sacrifice. A passport which gives us access to the ultimate destination, heaven.



III. Living the New Citizenship (Phil 3:12-4:1 Eph 2:14-21)

Ephesians 2:14-18 Jesus himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to [...] reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Impossible in God's kingdom:

▶ No 2nd class citizens of heaven

Ephesians 2:19-20 ¹⁹Consequently, **you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,** ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

▶ No dual citizenship (see Phil 3:18-20)

▶▶ Surrender your old passport today, and embrace your heavenly citizenship in Jesus

*I am a child of God
 God is my Father
 heaven is my home
 every day
 is one day nearer
 My Saviour is
 my brother
 every Christian is
 my brother too.*

These words from the closing chapter of J.I. Packer's famous book, 'Knowing God', urge all Christians to know their identity and thus to claim their destiny.

GOD'S 'RED CARPET' WELCOME...Jesus

now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near **through the blood of Christ...**Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but **fellow citizens with God's people** and members of God's household. (**Eph 2:13, 19**)