



**RCC Phoenix – 3.21.21 – Philippians (Week 6)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of Heaven

**Philippians 1:27 NLT**

“Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. Then whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.”

Bible Definition of “Citizen”: *politeuma*

- The administration or constitution of a *commonwealth*
- Form of government and the laws by which it is administered.

Definition of Commonwealth:

- A group of people organized under a single government

Our government is a Theocracy. We are under the most righteous and holy \_\_\_\_\_ in Heaven.

We may hold citizenship of a nation here on earth but as believers in Christ we hold a \_\_\_\_\_ citizenship.

Believers in Christ are \_\_\_\_\_ of Heaven and \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth.

**2 Corinthians 5:20-21 NLT**

“So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.”

Christ Ambassadors live as citizens of Heaven who \_\_\_\_\_ Heaven to the world.

**Colossians 3:1-2 NLT**

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of Heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of Heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Just because something is \_\_\_\_\_, doesn’t mean it’s \_\_\_\_\_.

The clear goal of the new American Culture is to make \_\_\_\_\_ public and \_\_\_\_\_ private.

Historically, the church is better when it stands \_\_\_\_\_ the culture.

How do we conduct ourselves in a way that is counted “worthy” of that Good News?

- We speak the \_\_\_\_\_ ... *in love*.
- We correct misconceptions about the \_\_\_\_\_ ... *in love*.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ others as we would want to be treated... *in love*.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ ... *in love*.
- We tell the story of our \_\_\_\_\_ ... *in love*.

*Reflection Question:*

Have we accepted anything from our culture that Scripture says we should reject?

2. Don't Be \_\_\_\_\_

### **Philippians 1:28-30 NLT**

“Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God Himself. For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for Him. We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the middle of it.”

There are 2 types of enemies:

A. \_\_\_\_\_ Enemies

*Holmon Bible Dictionary:*

“Pilate's first priority was \_\_\_\_\_, not the execution of justice. Pilate held the supreme, administrative life-or-death power over the subjects of a province. In the eyes of Pilate's superiors, the trial of Jesus was not irresponsible. If an innocent Galilean peasant was the focal point of a civil disturbance, the quelling of that disturbance, and not the justice for the person involved, was the utmost concern for Roman officials fearful of revolts in occupied provinces.”

The people of the Roman empire had regularly seen their government officials punish, imprison and murder people for going against the cultural beliefs. This was a form of \_\_\_\_\_.

People intimidate others for 2 reasons: to maintain \_\_\_\_\_ or from fear of losing \_\_\_\_\_.

We need to \_\_\_\_\_ for the negative reactions of our culture when we defend and speak up for the Gospel.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ Enemies

### **Ephesians 6:10-12 NLT**

“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.”

Some ways we can know that our spiritual Enemy is resisting us:

- Undermining God’s Word
- Did God really say
- Intimidating Thoughts
- Mocking Thoughts
- Irrational Fear (including Death)
- Ideas of Self-Sufficiency

### **Genesis 3:1-5 NLT**

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?” “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’ “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

We are not at the \_\_\_\_\_ of our spiritual enemy.

A. Identify the \_\_\_\_\_ of the thought.

### **2 Timothy 2:7 NKJV**

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

### **2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NLT**

We are human, but we don’t wage war as humans do. We use God’s mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.”

B. \_\_\_\_\_ to fight our spiritual enemy

- Humility & Resistance – *James 4:7*
- Prayer, Truth, Faith, Salvation, Prayer – *Ephesians 6:13-18*

### **James 4:7 NLT**

“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

### **Ephesians 6:13-18 NLT**

“Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

### *Reflection Questions:*

Have we been intimidated into silence about the Gospel in any way?

Have we fought back against our spiritual enemy or do we remain passive?