

Two Citizenships
Phil. 3:17-4:1

Getting Started

- ❖ Share with your group the story of someone who has been a great influence on your Christian life.

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. Our Present State (v.17-20a)
2. Our Future Hope (v.20-4:1)

TT: As Believers where we are GOING, not where we are FROM, determines our identity and conduct.

Digging Deeper (Read the sermon text again and discuss the following questions.)

- Go back and read verses 15-17 as these verses relate to one another. What was Paul's plea to the Philippians and why is it important?
- In verse 17, how did Paul want Believers to imitate him? (Hint: remember he creates a word here that literally means "co-mimic me". What does that word mean?)
- In verses 18-19, how did Paul describe those who walk as enemies of the cross of Christ?
 - Jerry pointed out he didn't believe Paul was referring to Judaizers here. Why?
 - At the same time, many believe Paul is referring to Judaizers in these verses. How could verses 18-19 be understood to fit who the Judaizers were?
- Where do we have our citizenship? (v. 20) How does that truth impact our everyday lives? How about our worldview? **Read Col. 3 to gain a fuller understanding of what this does and doesn't look.**

Apply It!

- ❖ Who is your mentor? Do you need humbly to ask an older Christian to serve you in this way? Or is there someone who you could, in turn, seek to mentor?
- ❖ How does considering your future life in Christ's kingdom after he returns encourage you to live as a citizen of that kingdom today?

Think About It!

The spiritually minded believer does not live for the things of this world; he anticipates the blessings of the world to come. This does not mean that he ignores or neglects his daily obligations; but it does mean that what he does today is governed by what Christ will do in the future. Paul mentions particularly that the believer will receive a glorified body, like the body of Christ. Today we live in a "body of humiliation" (which is the meaning of the word translated "vile" in Phil. 3:21); but when we see Christ, we will receive a body of glory. It will happen in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye! (1 Cor. 15:42-53) At that moment, all the things of this world will be worthless to us—just as they ought to be, relatively, today! If we are living in the future tense, then we will be exercising the spiritual mind and living for the things that really matter. (Warren Wiersbe)