More From Philippians

Lesson 1
Our Citizenship Is In Heaven
Phil. 3:20-21

What We Have Preached From Philippians

1. An Introduction To Philippians
2. Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer For The Philippians Phil. 1:3-11
3. Paul's Attitude Toward His Imprisonment or Dealing With Disappointments Phil. 1:12-26
4. Have The Attitude of Christ Within You Phil 1:27-2:18

What We Have Preached From Philippians

5. Paul Empties Himself To Gain Christ Phil. Chapter 3
6. The Peace of God Phil. 4:1-9
7. The Contented Disciple Phil. 4:10-23

Introduction

- Although we covered much material previously in Philippians, there were some things we did not emphasize as we would like and others that we had to omit completely
- For these lessons, we go back and study some of these left out topics
- Philippi had been made a Roman city in Macedonia enjoying special privileges as Roman citizens

Introduction

- Roman currency, language, clothing and customs were prevalent
- Compelling attitude, live as the Romans do, no matter how sinful that may be
- Many people will give up their faith and morality to become a citizen of their desired country
- In contrast to this attitude, Paul reminds them, our citizenship, way of behaving, is in heaven

Introduction

- What are the implications of our heavenly citizenship and how should our behavior be affected in this world?

Our Citizenship Is In Heaven

Php 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

Php 3:21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Our Citizenship Is In Heaven

Joh 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

Joh 17:14 "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Our Citizenship Is In Heaven

- We look forward to a glorious resurrection and transformation of the body to conform to Jesus' glory
- But now, in order for this to be in the future, we must conduct ourselves as citizens of heaven, subject to the rule of Jesus revealed in the gospel
- To some degree, we can follow the laws and customs of men but never to the point of disobeying Christ

Be Submissive To Earthly Governments

Rom 13:1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Rom 13:2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

Be Submissive To Earthly Governments

Rom 13:3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

Rom 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

Be Submissive To Earthly Governments

Rom 13:5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

Rom 13:6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.

Rom 13:7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Submit But Never To The Point of Disobeying Christ

Act 5:27 When they had brought them, they stood them before the Council. The high priest questioned them,

Act 5:28 saying, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

Submit But Never To The Point of Disobeying Christ

Act 5:29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

Act 5:30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.

Submit But Never To The Point of Disobeying Christ

Act 5:31 "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Act 5:32 "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

Php 1:27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Php 1:28 in no way alarmed by your opponents--which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

Php 1:29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

Php 1:30 experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

- Word “conduct” means behave as citizen of a city
- From this word, we get “politics”
- No matter what the world does, act as a Christian according to the gospel even if you are persecuted
- In the end, God will vindicate His people with eternal glory and punish the unbelieving with eternal wrath

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

Col 3:22 Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

Col 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

Col 3:24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

Col 3:25 For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

1Pe 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

1Pe 2:10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel

1Pe 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

1Pe 2:12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Live In A Manner Worthy of The Gospel Working Together In Unity

Joh 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

Joh 17:21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

Privilege To Believe In and Suffer For Christ

1Jn 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

Privilege To Believe In and Suffer For Christ

1Jn 3:3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Privilege To Believe In and Suffer For Christ

Act 5:40 They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them.

Act 5:41 So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

Privilege To Believe In and Suffer For Christ

Act 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Privilege To Believe In and Suffer For Christ

2Th 1:5 *This is* a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering.

2Th 1:6 For after all it is *only* just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

2Th 1:7 and *to give* relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

Our Citizenship Is In Heaven

1. Our citizenship is in heaven
2. Be submissive to earthly governments
3. Submit but never to the point of disobeying Christ
4. Live in A manner worthy of the gospel
5. Privilege to believe in and suffer for Christ