

Citizens of Heaven

Philippians 3:17-4:1

1. Become _____ (v. 17-19)
 - a. Of _____ examples
 - i. Watch men like _____
 - ii. Watch those who walk by this _____
 - All in for Christ
 - _____ for Christ's enemies
 - b. Not of _____ of the cross
 - i. Their end is _____
 - ii. Their god is their _____
 - iii. Their _____ is their glory
 - iv. Their thinking is _____ things
2. Remember your _____ (v. 20-21)
 - a. Our _____ exists in heaven
 - i. Where we expect our _____
 - ii. Where we acknowledge the _____
 - b. Our _____ exists in heaven
 - i. When Christ will _____ our body
 - ii. When Christ will _____ all things
3. _____ in the Lord (v. 4:1)
 - a. Already standing with Paul
 - i. Described as beloved _____
 - ii. Called Paul's joy and _____
 - b. Called to _____ to stand

"For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling." 2 Corinthians 5:1-2

Follow-Up Questions

1. Think of some Biblical examples of people to follow.
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1. Paul repeatedly in his epistles tells his readers to imitate him. In his case, this is not self-worship. Instead, there is an important qualifier in 11:1. What is it?
 - b. Read either Acts 13:22 or 1 Samuel 13:14. Obviously David wasn't perfect. But what things about this "man after God's own heart" should we be ready to emulate?
 - c. Think of some folks today that would serve as good examples. How do they exhibit Christ-like qualities?
2. It is likely that Paul's reference to "enemies of the cross of Christ" is not to those outside the church but to false teachers. (All unbelievers are Christ's enemies.)
 - a. Read Jeremiah 23:1-2. Why does God call these leaders to account? Look at 23:5. What is the promise despite these false shepherds?
 - b. Read Ezekiel 34:1-6. What does it mean that these false shepherds feed themselves rather than the sheep? Does this fit with Paul's warnings in Philippians 3? Read Ezekiel 34:25-31 and refer to John 10. What shepherd are you following?
3. How does remembering where citizenship helps us with our day-to-day life?
 - a. Read 1 Peter 1:3-5 and 1:13-16. Is there a connection between the hope of heaven and holy living?
 - b. Read Ephesians 6:10-14a. Paul tells us to "stand" four different times in this short passage (including "withstand"). The battle is so difficult that we cannot even stand on our own. How can we persevere?
 - c. Do you long for Christ's return & your glorification?