



## Citizen: Longing for Home (Mark 12:13-27)

A citizen is a person who legally belongs to a country and has the rights and protection of that country. Citizens adopt the culture and practices of the nation or kingdom to which they belong. Every person is born into the kingdom of this world, in which Satan rules (2Cor4:4) and must be born again to see and enter the Kingdom of Heaven (John3:3,5). You are born again by grace through faith in Christ Jesus (John1:12).

Phil3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**How do we live as residents on earth but citizens in heaven? The more heavenly minded you are the more earthly good you will be!**

## As Residents on Earth... (vv13-17)

- We are to Honor the authority of Government but at the same time hold Authority Accountable. vv15-17
- We should NOT disobey civil government except when they want us to disobey God's Word. Romans 13:1-7; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17
- We are to "love our neighbor" by praying for our government and voting for politicians and laws that promote the flourishing of our society (Biblical Values). 1Timothy2:1-2; Acts 26; Titus 3:1-2; Col. 4:5-6; 1 Pet2:17, 3:15
- Our aim must be more than a better society but to completely transform it by faithfully and contagiously using all our power, success, comfort and recognition for the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel. Rom1:16; 2Cor10:3-4; Eph6:10-18). You can't get spiritual results from political means.

## As Citizens in Heaven... (vv18-27)

- We know that heaven is real because Jesus said it was and Scripture teaches it and God's power can do it. vv26-27; Ex3:6; 2Cor5:8, Phil1:21; Luke1:37
- We know that in heaven we will be transformed beyond our wildest dreams Physically, Relationally and Vocationally. V25; Physically Phil3:20-21, 1Cor15:35-49; Relationally Ps16:11, Ps84, Rev21:1-8; Vocationally Gen2:15-16; Matt25:14-30; Rev5:13-14
- We will be sorrowful yet always rejoicing in our hope for heaven as we live our lives for the one who gave His life for us. v27; 2Cor6:10: Rom12:1-2

### Growing Notes

- 1) Read the introduction to this sermon. What is a citizen? Why do citizens typically adopt the culture and practices of their country? What does it look like for Christians to be residents on earth and citizens in heaven?
- 2) Read Mark 12:13-27. What are the two big ideas (topics) that the author is addressing? What were these religious leaders of Jesus' day trying to do (vv13, 18)? How is Jesus' response beautiful, balanced, and brilliant (v17 and they marveled at Him)?
- 3) As residents on earth (vv13-17) ... What should our relationship be to the government (v17)? Is there ever a time when we should disobey our civil government (1Peter2:13-17)? How are we to "love our neighbor" (1Tim2:1-2)? We should not preoccupy ourselves with making our society, that is under God's judgment, outwardly virtuous – but, instead, concentrate our efforts on faithfully and contagiously doing what (Rom1:16)?
- 4) As citizens of heaven (vv18-27) ... How do we know that heaven is real (vv16-17)? What does it mean that in heaven we will be transformed beyond our wildest dreams? We will be sorrowful yet always rejoicing in our hope for heaven living our lives for the one who gave His life for us (2Cor6:10). Explain. Why do you think that the more heavenly minded you are the more earthly good you will be? Do you long for heaven? Pray that God will stir your heart for heaven.

