

REFLECTION

Lesson 12 Reflecting Citizenship

Philippians 3:17-21

WHAT KIND OF EXAMPLES ARE WE FOLLOWING?

- A. What are GOOD human **examples**?
1. Paul is NOT claiming to have reached **perfection**.
 2. Paul is questing to continue to **mature** and **grow**.
 3. Someone is always **watching**.
- B. What are NOT good human **examples**?
1. People who are "**enemies**" of the gospel.
 2. People who pursue **earthly** appetites.

WHAT SHOULD OUR PERSPECTIVE BE?

"It has to do with one's behavior as a citizen of a nation. Paul is encouraging us to have the spiritual mind, and he did this by pointing out the characteristics of the Christian whose citizenship is in Heaven."

Warren Wiersbe

- A. We belong either **here** or **there**.

" ' Don't be'...so heavenly minded that you are no earthly good!"

D. L. Moody

- B. I should **reflect** my citizenship.
1. Our **focus** and **perspective** in life here
 2. Our eager anticipation of the **future**
 - a. How do we become **citizens**?
 - b. As citizens, our **perspective** changes.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AS A RESULT OF OUR CITIZENSHIP?

“There is tremendous energy in the present power of a future hope.”

Warren Wiersbe

- A. Everything will be placed under His **control**.
- B. We will be **transformed**.
 - 1. We are in “**traveling** clothes.”
 - 2. We will be **like** Him.
 - 3. We will be energized by **hope**.

“Paul is saying, then, that in place of an earthly body that is always characterized by physical decay, indignity and weakness, the resurrected believer will have a heavenly body that is incapable of deterioration, beautiful in form and appearance, and with limitless energy and perfect health. Once he experiences a resurrection transformation, man will know perennial rejuvenation, since he will have a perfect vehicle for God’s deathless Spirit, a body that is invariably responsive to his transformed personality.”

Murray Harris