

## Our Citizenship in God's Kingdom

As a Christian, you are a citizen in the Kingdom of God, and you have citizenship rights!! I was born physically in the town of Hobart, Oklahoma. I was born spiritually in the city of Lawton, Oklahoma. My Hobart birth gave me citizenship in America; my spiritual birth gives me citizenship in God's Kingdom. I'm so glad I was born in America - the land of opportunity - but I know my citizenship is short because of my natural life being short. My citizenship in Heaven is forever!! Praise the Lord!! Most Americans do not experience the full blessings of America, because they don't know how to receive them. When they physically die, it's over for them. Most Christians are not receiving their full rights of being citizens of Heaven while they are on the earth, because they are not putting a demand on their citizenship rights. Let's look at the Apostle Paul making a demand on his citizenship rights of Roman.

**Acts 22:24-29 AMPC** The commandant ordered that Paul be brought into the barracks, and that he be examined by scourging in order that [the commandant] might learn why the people cried out thus against him. [25] But when they had stretched him out with the thongs (leather straps), Paul asked the centurion who was standing by, Is it legal for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned [without a trial]? [26] When the centurion heard that, he went to the commandant and said to him, What are you about to do? This man is a Roman citizen! [27] So the commandant came and said to [Paul], Tell me, are you a Roman citizen? And he said, Yes [indeed]! [28] The commandant replied, I purchased this citizenship [as a capital investment] for a big price. Paul said, But I was born [Roman]! [29] Instantly those who were about to examine and flog him withdrew from him; and the commandant also was frightened, for he realized that [Paul] was a Roman citizen and he had put him in chains.

Rome honored Paul's citizenship. God honors our Heavenly citizenship. If Paul hadn't spoken out, they would have beaten him; but he declared his rights as a Roman citizen. Now let's look at some of the Scriptures that speak of our heavenly citizenship.

**Ephesians 2:12-14,19-22 NCV** Remember that in the past you were without Christ. You were not citizens of Israel, and you had no part in the agreements with the promise that God made to His people. You had no hope, and you did not know God. [13] But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away from God are brought near through the blood of Christ's death. [14] Christ Himself is our peace. He made both Jewish people and those who are not Jews one people. They were separated as if there were a wall between them, but Christ broke down that wall of hate by giving His own body...[19] Now you who are not Jewish are not foreigners or strangers any longer, but are citizens together with God's holy people. You belong to God's family. [20] You are like a building that was built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Christ Jesus Himself is the most important stone in that building, [21] and that whole building is joined together in Christ. He makes it grow and become a holy temple in the Lord. [22] And in Christ you, too, are being built together with the Jews into a place where God lives through the Spirit. **2:19 AMPC** Therefore you are no longer outsiders (exiles, migrants, and aliens, excluded from the rights of citizens), but you now share citizenship with the saints (God's own people, consecrated and set apart for Himself); and you belong to God's [own] household.

**Philippians 3:20-21** AMPC But we are citizens of the state (commonwealth, homeland) which is in Heaven, and from it also we earnestly and patiently await [the coming of] the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [as] Savior, [21] Who will transform and fashion anew the body of our humiliation to conform to and be like the body of His glory and majesty, by exerting that power which enables Him even to subject everything to Himself.

We must stand up for our citizenship rights in Christ. The devil will take advantage of us if we don't. Remember we are in God's Kingdom now; we are not just American citizens. We are Citizens of God's Heavenly Kingdom.

Love you,  
Pastor Paul

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

#### This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Monday 2 Thessalonians chapter 2  
Tuesday 2 Thessalonians chapter 3  
Wednesday 1 Timothy chapter 1  
Thursday 1 Timothy chapter 2  
Friday 1 Timothy chapter 3  
Saturday 1 Timothy chapter 4  
Sunday 1 Timothy chapter 5

#### \*Upcoming Events

1. **Women's Dance Aerobics:** 10-11am Mon - Fri.
2. **Mobile Prayer:** Wednesdays 2-3:30pm in our Lee side parking lot; Fridays 2-3:30pm Sam's Warehouse
3. **Noonday Bible Study:** In Sanctuary; live on KJRF 91.1fm; live stream on TCC app. 12:15 Mon-Fri
4. **Baptisms:** Sundays at end of Services
5. **Sunday School:** Adult and 6 months to 5th grade 9:45am
6. **Children's Church:** Sundays 10:45am
7. **Youth Services:** Wednesdays 7pm. Please wear masks
8. **Women's Fellowship:** This Saturday 9am in the Fellowship Hall

\*\*TO RECEIVE Special Announcements, opt in to The Christian Center text list by texting the letters

LTCC to the phone number [59769](tel:59769). You will receive a confirmation message shortly thereafter.

\*\*Use this link for The Christian Center app - - <http://bgw1.itexttoday.com/apps/2323/8833/indexm.html>

\*\* Here is a list of the many gatherings we have for you to get together and fellowship with your brothers and sisters. Please take advantage of them, and you will bless yourself and others also.

**Sundays** \* Prayer: 9am Lee Blvd entrance \* Fellowship in Café 9:15-9:45 am. \*

Services 10:45 am

**Adult, Youth, and Children classes 9:45-10:30 am**

Faith Class: -----Michael Whitley  
Foundation 1 Class: ---Pastor Paul  
Foundation 2 Class: ---Mike Wiggins  
Healing Class: -----Lester/Monica Witherspoon  
Marriage Class:-----Danny/Demetrius Williams  
Prayer Class: -----Joe Cunningham  
Children's Sunday School: 6 months - 5th grade  
Youth Services: -----Lucas/Cyndi Moore  
Young Singles/College & Career —Eliav/Kim Nash

**Daily** \* Early Morning Prayer in Sanctuary: Monday-Friday 6:15-7:15am  
\* Noonday Bible Study: Mon-Fri 12:15 in Sanctuary or 91.1fm or live stream on  
TCC app

\* Women's Dance Aerobics: Mon-Fri 10-11am in the Gym

**Weekly** \* Sunday Services: 9:45 am classes; 10:45am Main Service  
\* Wednesday night: Adult and Youth Services 7pm (Youth meet in Youth area)  
\* Mobile Prayer: Wed 2-3:30pm Lee Blvd parking lot; Fri 2-3:30pm Sam's

Warehouse

**Monthly** \* Men's Meeting: 9am 1st Saturday of each month at Golden Corral  
\* Crosses at the Corner: 11am-1pm 1st and 3rd Saturdays corner of Sheridan and

Cache Rd.

\* Women's Meeting: 9am 2nd Saturday of each month  
\* Horse Ministry: 12-3pm 3rd Saturday of each month