

## Week 6- Citizen of Heaven

When you surrender your life to Christ, everything changes. You are no longer the same person. Your old life dies, and your new life begins. You are reborn and recreated. As a new person, you look forward to the new life with Jesus. Your desire is no longer revolved around things in this world, but your desire is to be in the presence of Christ. There is a new joy that is produced from belonging to Christ. You are given a new heart and new desires.

Romans 13: 11-14 reads, “Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore, let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.”

If you live in America, you are a citizen of America. If you live in North Carolina, you are a citizen of North Carolina. This is your home. When you surrender your life to Christ, you give up the home in this world and you receive a new home with Christ. Your citizenship is no longer found in this world, but it is focused in the new world with Christ.

You should begin to look like a citizen of the New World with Christ. Your life should change. Sin should no longer have a hold of you. The darkness you lived in as a citizen of this world should cease. Your new identity is found in Jesus Christ. He should begin to take over your life. You should think, sound, talk, and act like Christ. You should form into the image of Jesus Christ. As a citizen of Christ, you have a peace and joy that never existed as a citizen of this world. You can rest in the presence of Jesus.

The clock is ticking. Time is running out. Do you want to live in the dark and be a citizen of this dying world or do you want to live in the light and live as a citizen of Christ?

### **Questions to Consider:**

- 1. What does it mean to be a citizen?**
- 2. As a believer in Christ, where does your citizenship belong?**
- 3. If you are a citizen of Christ, what should your life look like now?**
- 4. Are you living as a citizen of this world or a citizen of Christ?**