**Kingdom Identity Series Part 1: Do You Know Your Citizenship?**

The topic of citizenship is a hot topic here in the US and has been for a while now. There has been a lot of talk about who belongs here, what is the proper pathway to citizenship, and what does it truly mean to be a citizen of our country. However, for those who are followers of Jesus Christ, the real question is do you really know where your citizenship is? The truth is that if you are a follower of Jesus Christ, then you have dual-citizenship. You are a citizen of the country you were born in. So as a natural man you are a citizen of the United States by birth, but when you gave your life to Christ, you were born again, into the Kingdom of God. So therefore you have Dual-Citizenship (In Heaven & on Earth).

My goal tonight is to remind you of **your role, your responsibilities, and your rights as a citizen of the Kingdom of God.**

**Did you know that you are a Government Official?**

**You are an official Ambassador of the Kingdom of Heaven…**

**Our Role: Ambassador**

*2 Corinthians 5:19-20 NLT*

*For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. [20] So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"*

**What is an ambassador & What are their duties?**

An ambassador is a respected official acting as a representative of a nation. Sent to a foreign land, the ambassador’s role is to reflect the official position of the sovereign body that gave him authority.

Ambassadors for the United States (for example) mainly work to support U.S. interests in foreign countries and promote foreign policy strategies through international organizations. Many ambassadors spend years in the foreign service corps, gaining diplomatic experience. Others who receive appointments have valuable experience in business, education, arts and culture or political science fields.

**Image The Potential Impact of Having Ambassadors of The Kingdom of God Spread Out in Every Area of Life...i.e. In your neighborhood, family, workplace.**

*Matthew 5:13-16 NLT*

*"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. [14] "You are the light of the world-like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. [15] No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. [16] In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

*John 17:18 NLT*

*Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.*

Understanding that we are Ambassadors of the Kingdom, the following question may come to mind….

**Since we are God's Ambassadors, Does this mean that Christians are supposed to takeover the world and rule everything?**

*Matthew 24:3-14 NLT*

*Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives. His disciples came to him privately and said, "Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?" [4] Jesus told them, "Don't let anyone mislead you, [5] for many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah.' They will deceive many. [6] And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately. [7] Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. [8] But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.*

*[9] "Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers. [10] And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. [11] And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. [12] Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold. [13] But the one who endures to the end will be saved. [14] And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.*

**No...**The scripture is clear that the Kingdom of God is Not of this world, the systems of this world are going to increasingly yield themselves to the power of the Kingdom of Darkness as it becomes closer to the time of the end. However, our focus as Ambassadors of the Kingdom of God is to plead for the individual souls of mankind through the proclamation of the Gospel of the Kingdom. The systems of this world will not completely fall under the dominion of Jesus until He returns to earth again, however we as His representatives have been given the power and authority to plead or fight to win over the individual souls of men and as we proclaim the **Gospel of the Kingdom we hasten Our Lord’s Return.**

**Our Responsibility: As Ambassadors of the Kingdom of God is to Enforce Kingdom Policy**

*Mark 16:15-20 NLT*

*And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. [16] Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. [17] These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. [18] They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed." [19] When the Lord Jesus had finished talking with them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. [20] And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord worked through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs.*

*Matthew 28:18-20 NLT*

*Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. [19] Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. [20] Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

**A Benefit of Being an Ambassador of God’s Kingdom is…**

*Colossians 1:12-14 AMPC*

*Giving thanks to the Father, Who has qualified and made us fit to share the portion which is the inheritance of the saints (God's holy people) in the Light. [13] [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, [14] In Whom we have our redemption through His blood, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins.*

**As Kingdom Ambassadors we are no longer under the jurisdiction of the natural world system.**

**We have Diplomatic Immunity**

Diplomatic Immunity is defined as the privilege of exemption from certain laws and taxes granted to diplomats by the country in which they are working. Another benefit of diplomatic immunity is that it gives diplomats the ability to speak freely and address dissenting factions in the country and make negotiations with leaders as well as with people who may be considered political dissidents in the country.

The way you can get diplomatic immunity is to serve as an official diplomat for the country of which you are a citizen. This is generally done by working for your country’s foreign service or office of foreign affairs, in an embassy or consulate overseas, and being recognized as a diplomat by the country where you are sent to work.

With Diplomatic Immunity we are not subject to the limitations and corruption of this world…

*Deuteronomy 28:2-8 NLT*

*You will experience all these blessings if you obey the LORD your God: [3] Your towns and your fields will be blessed. [4] Your children and your crops will be blessed. The offspring of your herds and flocks will be blessed. [5] Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed. [6] Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed. [7] "The LORD will conquer your enemies when they attack you. They will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven! [8] "The LORD will guarantee a blessing on everything you do and will fill your storehouses with grain. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.*

**Conclusion: As we embrace our roles and responsibilities as Ambassadors of the Kingdom of God and remember the benefits, we can experience New levels of joy and satisfaction because we fulfilling are fulfilling our God given purpose.**