

## **Worthy Citizens**

John Blackmon Meansville Baptist Church May 24, 2020

**NT Reference:** Acts 5:41 23:1;1 Cor. 9:24 -25; 2 Tim. 2:5, 4:7; Eph. 2:19, 4:4 -6; Phil. 3:20; 1 Pet. 5:9

**Philippians 1:** <sup>27</sup> Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup> and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup> engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- → In this text, the Apostle Paul instructs the Philippians on how to be faithful citizens of Heaven as they face this world in a unified manner bringing glory to Christ while enduring suffering.
- → We too must recognize the necessity in being unified in the Gospel as citizens of heaven knowing that he will reveal himself to us and through us in every

	Be worthy	(vs.	27a)
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- → The more we long for our eternal home, the less "at home" we should feel in this world.
  - Of the Gospel
  - Be consistent

"We are all missionaries. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ or we repel them from Christ." – Eric Liddell

John Wesley, "God buries his workmen, but never his work."

"We have lost a great voice, but the message goes on." – Ravi Zacharias

- > **By Standing** \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 27b) e
  - One spirit
  - One mind
- $\triangleright$  By Striving Side by Side (vs. 27b 28)
  - For the <u>faith</u> of the Gospel
  - And not
- > By demonstrating a clear \_\_\_\_\_ and salvation from God. (vs. 28b 30)
  - By Suffering for his sake (vs. 29)

"Circumstances may appear to wreck our lives and God's plans, but God is not helpless among the ruins. God's love is till working. He comes in and takes the calamity and uses it victoriously, working out his wonderful plan of love.' – Eric Liddell

• By \_\_\_\_\_ for his sake. (vs. 30)

"In the dust of defeat as well as the laurels of victory there is a glory to be found if one has done his best." – Eric Liddell

"When you speak of me, give the glory to my master, Jesus Christ." –
Eric Liddell

By still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to order and provide; In every change He faithful will remain Be still, my soul, thy best, thy heavenly Friend Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

<u>MBC Sermons</u> can be accessed online on our website: **meansvillbaptistchurch.com** or can be found on Itunes. CDs are also available in the office upon request