

*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.*

*Philippians 3:20-21*

## Look Forward

**Do you trust me?** Yes, I trust you. **I hear you saying that now. It's easy to say that when you are sitting in that chair. How about when the world seems out of control? Do you trust me then?** Yes, I trust you then. **Let's get a little more specific and personal. When your world seems out of control and things aren't going your way, do you trust me then?** I'm getting a little uncomfortable with this line of questioning. **I thought you might.** Why is that? **I've seen you when things don't go as you hoped or planned.** What do I look like to you? **You look worried and frantic. It's obvious that you are very uncomfortable.** That's true. **Where is your trust in these worried and frantic moments of yours?** I'm not sure. **What do you mean you're not sure?** Well, in these moments trust is probably the last thing on my mind. **Why is that?** My focus turns to getting out of the difficulty that I'm in. All my efforts become engaged to eliminate the problem I'm facing. So the question in my mind is not, "who do I trust, but what can I do"? **Doesn't it seem obvious to you where you are placing your trust then?** I guess it does. **Where is it? I want to hear you say it.** Alright, when I am in great difficulty and facing problems I often put my trust in myself. **Good, I'm glad to hear you say that.** How could you possibly be glad to hear that? **I'm glad that you are not hiding this and that you are willing to confess it to me.** I see.

**Actually, you don't see.** What do you mean? **You are looking at life incorrectly.** How so? **You are thinking and living as if what you see is all there is.** I don't understand. **What if you had a different focus?** Like what? **What would change if you really began to believe that you are just a visitor here and that your real home and life is elsewhere?** Like in heaven with you? **Yes, you got it.** If I had that perspective I would be less worried and frantic, that's for sure. **Why is that?** I would know that my problems are very temporary. They would really begin to lose their grip on me. In fact, all my problems and difficulties in life might just help to remind me that this life is temporary and that one day I will live forever in heaven with you. **What will happen then?** I will have a glorious new body and everything will be under your control. **That's a lot to look forward to, isn't it?** Yes, it is. **Let that grab your attention and be your focus as you live your life for me through whatever difficulties you face.** With your help, I will.

*Lord, my eyes are on you and not on the troubles I face in this life. Thank you for reminding me that this life is temporary and that I am just passing through. As I await your return, help me to live my life fully for your glory. Amen*

**Identity**                      *Our Citizenship Is In Heaven*

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

NIV                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *We Are Citizens Of Heaven*

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

NLT                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Citizenship Is In Heaven*

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

NRSV                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Citizens Of The State Which Is In Heaven*

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, 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.

AMP                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Citizenship Is In Heaven*

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

NASB                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Citizenship Is In Heaven*

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

ESV                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Citizenship Is In Heaven*

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

NKJV                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Citizens Of High Heaven*

But there's far more to life for us. We're citizens of high heaven! We're waiting the arrival of the Savior, the Master, Jesus Christ, who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like his own. He'll make us beautiful and whole with the same powerful skill by which he is putting everything as it should be, under and around him.

MSG                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Homeland Is In Heaven*

But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is; and we are looking forward to his return from there. When he comes back, he will take these dying bodies of ours and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same mighty power that he will use to conquer all else everywhere.

TLB                                      Philippians 3:20-21

**Identity**                      *Our Homeland Is In Heaven*

But our homeland is in heaven, and we are waiting for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven. By his power to rule all things, he will change our simple bodies and make them like his own glorious body.

NCV                                      Philippians 3:20-21

# Our Citizenship Is In Heaven

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Identity** – Philippians 3:20-21

**In Context:** *Read Philippians 3*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. Philippians 3:20-21

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

But | our citizenship | is in | heaven. | And | we eagerly await | a Savior | from there, | the Lord | Jesus Christ, | who, | by | the power | that enables him | to bring everything | under his control, | will transform | our lowly | bodies | so that | they | will be | like his | glorious body. Philippians 3:20-21

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, my eyes are on you and not on the troubles I face in this life. Thank you for reminding me that this life is temporary and that I am just passing through. As I await your return, help me to live my life fully for your glory. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What problems and difficulties are you currently facing in life?

Who do you trust when you are going through problems and difficulties?

**Why is it a mistake to trust in yourself when you go through problems and difficulties?**

**How can problems and difficulties remind us of the temporary nature of life and point us to Christ?**

**How can eagerly awaiting your eternal life in heaven with your Savior give you hope and strength today?**

When will problems and difficulties cease and everything be brought under the Lord's power and control?

What is it about heaven and eternal life that you are looking forward to the most?

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Live each day of your life with your eyes on the Lord and your future home in heaven with Him.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that your real home is in heaven where one day you will live forever with the Lord.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how your focus on eternal life with Christ gives you hope to live today.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

