

## Philippians 3:17-21, “Just Passing Through” Feb 13, 2022

*“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...”* Philippians 3:20

### Introduction:

1. Philippi was far away from Rome geographically, but its culture was fully Roman
2. The Philippian Christians had chosen a new identity and citizenship
3. This new identity would cause them a lot of problems

### The second conflict the call of Christ brings is the conflict without.

1. Christianity’s care for the poor was countercultural.
2. Christianity practiced sexual morality in a culture that celebrated immorality.
3. Christians worshiped only one God

These impious Galileans (*Christians*) not only feed their own, but ours also; welcoming them with their agape, they attract them, as children are attracted with cakes... Whilst the pagan priests neglect the poor, the hated Galileans devote themselves to works of charity, and by a display of false compassion have established and given effect to their

pernicious errors. Such practice is common among them, and causes contempt for our gods (*Emperor Julian: Epistle to Pagan High Priests*)

“You Galileans (Christians) have conquered.” AD 363, *Dying words of Emperor Julian*.

### I. We should not be surprised when the values of the Kingdom of heaven clash with the values of popular culture.

### II. We respond to the clash of cultures by becoming more loving.

*“These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”* Acts 16:20-21.

### III. We remember that ultimately we live with the hope of 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.* Philippians 3:20-21