
Kingdom Living Citizenship!

Matthew 17:22-27

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²² As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, ²³ and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.” And they were greatly distressed. ²⁴ When they came to Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma tax went up to Peter and said, “Does your teacher not pay the tax?”

²⁵ He said, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tax? From their sons or from others?” ²⁶ And when he said, “From others,” Jesus said to him, “Then the sons are free. ²⁷ However, not to give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself.”

Our Citizenship?

Ephesians 2:18-19

¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, [a] but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

Our Citizenship?

Philippians 3:17-21

¹⁷ Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.

¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.

Our Citizenship?

¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ 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.

Our Citizenship?

1 John 2:15

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him

Temple Tax or Two Drachma Tax

- Every male 20 years old and above
- Not mandatory (Exodus 30:11-16)
- Equal to ½ Shekel or two days wages
- Paid before Passover, collected several months ahead
- Titus destroys temple in 70 AD

Vespasian requires all Jews to pay this tax for the Temple for Jupiter

New Testament Giving Guidelines

1 Cor. 16:2 – “On the first of every week...” - **Regularly**

1 Cor. 16:2 – “Each of you...” – **Personally**

1 Cor. 16:2 – “put something aside and store it up...” – **Planned**

2 Cor. 8:3 – “according to their means...” – **Proportionate**

1 Cor. 16:2 – “so that there will be no collecting when I come...” – **Plentiful**

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.

1 Peter 2:9-14

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. ¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

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