

# SEQUOIA NOTES

## Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

### Our True Citizenship

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor  
February 13, 2022



## How do we respond to the Freedom Convoy & Trucker protest on Parliament Hill?

### • Our true citizenship is in heaven with Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:17-21 (NLT) Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. <sup>18</sup> For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and *they think only about this life here on earth*. <sup>20</sup> But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Saviour. <sup>21</sup> 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.

John 15:19 (NLT) “The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you.”

Revelation 21:1-7 (NLT) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” <sup>5</sup> And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> And he also said, “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

### • Focusing on our true citizenship helps us live wisely here on earth.

If our citizenship is in Heaven, then how do we live wisely here on earth?

### • Jesus teaches...Bless don't curse.

Matthew 5:21-24 (NLT) “You have heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup> But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.”

### • Jesus teaches...Love your enemies.

Matthew 5:43-45a (NLT) “You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbour’ and hate your enemy. <sup>44</sup> But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! <sup>45</sup> In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven.”

### • Jesus teaches...Forgive as you have been forgiven.

Matthew 6:14 (NLT) “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.”

### • Jesus teaches...Treat others as you want to be treated.

“Matthew 7:12 (NLT) “Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.”

### • Jesus teaches...Protect the unity of the Church.

John 15:16-17

John 17:20-23 (NIV) “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

### • To the degree that we are committed to protect unity in the Church we will fulfill God's mission here on earth.

Hebrews 13:11-16 (NLT) Under the old system, the high priest brought the blood of animals into the Holy Place as a sacrifice for sin, and the bodies of the animals were burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup> So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood. <sup>13</sup> So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore. <sup>14</sup> For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come. <sup>15</sup> Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. <sup>16</sup> And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

**Big Idea: Focus on your True Citizenship as you live for Christ in this world.**



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
**Family of Servants on Mission.**  
To get plugged in email:  
[impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org](mailto:impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org)

**Our True Citizenship**  
**#6 of 12 - February 13, 2022**

- 1) Last week we looked at Money Matters from Proverbs. How did your action step go? What has God been impressing on your heart as it relates to handling wealth?
- 2) Read Philippians 3:17-21, John 15:19, and Revelation 21:1-7. What is the **Context** for these passages? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 3) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? Is anything repeated? What questions come up about the passages? What is the major theme in these passages?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us and what does this tell us about our true citizenship as Christians
- 5) Review the scriptures from the teachings of Jesus in Matthew and John. How does this inform how we live as citizens of Heaven?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through his message? (Take some time for Listening Prayer). How do these verses call on you to change the way you live? What steps will you take to focus on your True Citizenship? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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