

America: A Choice to Make

We have dual citizenship.

Citizens of the United States — Temporary Assignment

Citizens of the Kingdom of God — Eternal Alignment

I. An Open Door

1 Corinthians 16:8-9 (NIV®)

⁸ But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because **a great door for effective work has opened to me**, and there are many who oppose me.

Revelation 3:8 (NIV®)

I know your deeds. See, **I have placed before you an open door** that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

A. Rich Young Ruler

Mark 10:17-22 (NIV®)

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good--except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." ²¹ **Jesus looked at him and loved him.** "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. **Then come, follow me.**" ²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

B. Brash Young Fisherman

Matthew 4:18-20 (NIV®)

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

C. Bold Young Woman

Esther 4:15-16 (NIV®)

¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

II. Job, Lessons in Following God

A. A Personal Encounter with Truth & Righteousness

Job 42:1-6 (NIV®)

¹ Then Job replied to the LORD: ² "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. ³ You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not



understand, things too wonderful for me to know. ⁴ "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' ⁵ **My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.**

⁶ Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

B. Abundance & Need

Job 42:12 (NIV®)

The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys.

Philippians 4:19 (NIV®)

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

C. NT Comments re: Job

James 5:10-11 (NIV®)

¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. **You have heard of Job's perseverance** and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Matthew 5:11-12 (NIV®)

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Hebrews 11:37-38 (NIV®)

³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated-- ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Presentation of the Christian Life

2 Peter 1:5-8 (NIV®)

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness (excellence); and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.

⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is Relentless in Pursuing His Purposes

Luke 22:31-33 (NIV®)

³¹ "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." ³³ But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV®)

¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ **I press on toward the goal to win the prize** for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.



A Proclamation of Faith

God has uniquely blessed us --- the best is yet to come.
The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.
He is the sovereign creator of all things.
Nothing is too difficult for Him, His love sustains us.
Jesus, His only son, is our savior, Lord & King.
We live in a season of shaking. God is shaking the earth.
He is restoring the Jewish people and purifying His Church.
If we look at the things which can be shaken we will be filled with terror.
If we look at the eternal Kingdom of our Lord, we will be filled with anticipation.
Our determination as we gather today is to declare before one another & Almighty God
WE WILL NOT STOP.

We are not satisfied.
We are not distracted.
We are not weary in doing good.
We are not discouraged.
We have our eyes on the cross and our hearts set on the prize.
We believe the One who has promised is Faithful.
We believe the Holy Spirit is our Helper.
We believe that what we ask in Jesus' name our Father provides.
We believe that the King of Kings is returning to the earth in all of His glory ---
and we intend to be about His business until that moment in time.
WE WILL NOT STOP.