

## Citizenship

- Citizenship in the Kingdom of God
- Duties and Responsibilities of Service within the Kingdom of God
- Giving and Supporting of the Kingdom of God.

Citizenship has its privileges. Being a citizen of a city, state, or country entitles the inhabitants of that locale to certain rights and privileges not afforded to other inhabitants of the same locale that does not own citizenship.

Both may be inhabitants of the same city, state, or country, required to obey the same laws and statutes; but, yet, not entitled to equal rights in the sight of the governing authority.

However, with citizenship comes responsibility. An example of this truth is as follows: An inhabitant of a country, who\* is not a citizen of that country, if they were to refuse to pay tribute, or taxes, while an inhabitant of that country, could be deported from that country for failure to do so. They might not be required to pay the delinquent tax because they are being deported. They would have no right to appeal the governing authority's decision to deport them regardless of how long they may have been an inhabitant of that country. But they would not have to pay the taxes.

On the other hand, the citizen of that country could commit the same offense against the government, but could not be deported from the country. That is a right and privilege of citizenship. However, the governing authority would require that citizen to pay the taxes, or satisfy the government in some other manner. Citizenship, you see, also, carries with it responsibility.

Every citizen of the Kingdom of God has been given certain rights, privileges, talents, gifts, and abilities by the Sovereign King and ruler. What the citizen of the Kingdom of God does with them is extremely important [Luke 19:14]. More important than if the Sovereign King or ruler of the Kingdom of God, decided to give the same rights and privileges to a non citizen.

Citizens of the Kingdom of God are given the HOLY SPIRIT to guide and lead them in all of their affairs [Romans 8:14-17]. Citizens of the Kingdom of God are also given glorious liberty [Romans 8:21]. As it is written in 2 Corinthians 3:17 "Now the LORD is that SPIRIT, and where the SPIRIT of the LORD is, there is liberty.

But citizens of the Kingdom of God have a responsibility to allow God's Spirit lead in decisions of when and how to exert the liberty given unto them; choosing to use it in love, to serve one another [Galatians 5:13].

Citizens of the Kingdom of God have freely received; and they are expected in giving, to freely give [Mathew 10:8].

Romans 12:1-22 is a wonderful characterization as to how citizens of the Kingdom of God should conduct themselves; and blessed are they that hear that word, and that desire to live so accordingly.

In humility citizens should serve the Lord [Acts 20:19]. When citizens of the Kingdom of God do whatever it is they do in service for the Kingdom of God, it should be done with the attitude they are doing it unto Jesus Christ [Colossians 3:23-24].

When citizens of the Kingdom of God give in support of ministry, it should not be grudgingly, nor of necessity; because God, the ultimate giver, loves to see his citizens cheerfully or hilariously giving [2 Corinthians 9:7].

Citizens of the Kingdom of God, it has been declared: Citizens you have received a Kingdom that can not be moved, therefore serve God acceptably with reverence [Hebrews 12:28]. Let it not be said of the citizens of the Kingdom of God, "they don't support their Government"; or, "they don't support their King"; or "with their best, they don't support it". Mathew 6:21; 19-21 emphatically tells citizens of the Kingdom of God where to "sock away" or store up their treasure - in Heaven, where the King is; and

why? It can't be stolen; and will not rot or rust. It also cautions all citizens of the Kingdom of God: "that where your treasure is, your heart will be there also".

\*[changed from that to who]