



Society: Living Out Our Citizenship

PASTOR MIKE YODER • VARIOUS PASSAGES



Know who you are in Christ



*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!*

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with His blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

*I have given them Your word and the world has hated them,
for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.*

John 17:14

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

John 17:15

They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.

John 17:16

Pray to our good Father



I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people —

for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

1 Timothy 2:3

who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,

who gave Himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle — I am telling the truth, I am not lying — and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

**Listen to your
neighbors and enemies**



“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

Matthew 5:43

*But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who
persecute you,*

Matthew 5:44

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry,

James 1:19

because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

The Sermon on the Mount was delivered not in Mayberry but in Roman-occupied territory. A collaborator with a literally pagan, sexually libertine empire was seated on the throne of David.

Crosses lined the roads for those who would dissent.
And Jesus was speaking to those He knew would be
arrested or tortured or killed. It's hard to get more hostile
than crucifixion.

Russell Moore

**Vote your conscience
before Jesus**



Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Him in His words.

*They sent their disciples to Him along with the Herodians.
“Teacher,” they said, “we know that You are a man of integrity
and that You teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.*

You aren't swayed by others, because You pay no attention to who they are.

Matthew 22:16

Tell us then, what is Your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?”

But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap Me?”

Show Me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought Him a denarius,

*and He asked them, “Whose image is this?
And whose inscription?”*

“Caesar’s,” they replied. Then He said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

Matthew 22:21

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left Him and went away.

Trust in the sovereignty of God



Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended.

For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

*Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities,
not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter
of conscience.*

This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing.

Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven

*and said: “Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;
wisdom and power are His.*

He changes times and seasons; He deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.

He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him.

I thank and praise You, God of my ancestors: You have given me wisdom and power, You have made known to me what we asked of You, You have made known to us the dream of the king.”

Daniel 2:23

We could win the culture war and still lose what really matters. Which is another way of saying, the Church and its beatific message of Christ crucified and risen for sinners is ultimately more important than the culture.

Kevin DeYoung

**Live in the transformation
of the Spirit**



Christians who push their excessive political party priorities in a disparaging manner do damage to their reputation as a believer and to the Gospel.

Scott Gibson

Be very careful, then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise,

Ephesians 5:15

making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5:16

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Ephesians 5:17

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.
Instead, be filled with the Spirit,*

Ephesians 5:18

Witness to the hope of the Gospel



If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Romans 10:10

How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

*And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?
As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who
bring good news!”*

But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?”

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

We cannot avoid the cultural conflict to which we are called. Truths about creation are in the crosshairs. Surrender and appeasement are not the way of Christian faithfulness.

Kevin DeYoung

But neither is being a culture warrior if that means giving up on the centrality of Christ crucified or giving up on our own integrity. Fight the good fight and be sure to keep the faith.

Kevin DeYoung

Rejoice that Jesus is Lord



Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. Jesus is that third-party candidate who refuses to run for the offices we've created for Him. He is that eternal incumbent who chooses to be enthroned by willingly being dethroned...

...to the tomb of death and hell only to start a revolution with people after the primaries are finished. His kingdom is not our kingdom. And if the establishment isn't worried, then we aren't following Him.

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name,

*that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven
and on earth and under the earth,*

Philippians 2:10

and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

The Lordship of Christ shapes
how believers view and live
in our temporal society.

