



Your passport please...

With so much going on in the world today it is easy to get embroiled in it. And while I find “interesting” what is happening on the global scene, the news from countries other than my own hold less interest for me. It makes perfect sense to be most interested in what is happening in my country as it is more likely to have a direct effect on me (at least short term). Do you agree? But what does the Bible say about this?

Let’s ponder a few verses together, shall we?

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1

Their mind is set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. Philippians 3:19b-20a

No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding office. 2 Timothy 2:4

To be a citizen of a country means that we legally belong to that country, have the rights and protection of citizenship and the responsibility to serve and protect it.

Look at Philippians 3:18-20 a bit more carefully ... ¹⁸ *For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

In the first part of these verses Paul describes non-believers saying, “**many live as enemies of the cross of Christ**” followed by “**Their mind is on earthly things.**” He contrasts this with, **But our citizenship is in heaven.**” Does this mean that if our minds (thoughts, time and effort) are more on “earthly things” than on “heavenly things” that we are at least implying we are still “citizens of the earth”?

Am I saying that we, as believers, as citizen/passport holders of heaven, should simply ignore what is going on around us here on the earth? **Absolutely not!** Jesus warns us: “*I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, **be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.***” Matthew 10:16 To be shrewd as snakes we have to be aware of our environment. But that is not the same as being embroiled in it, especially to the near exclusion of focus on the Kingdom and the King.

What I am asking is to consider how much time and effort we spend researching, talking, texting, thinking about things happening on this planet rather than in **our own home country – the country of our King, Jesus.**

How much time do we spend in prayer, study and thought about:

- Who exactly is our King?
- What does He expect of us now?
- What is happening right now in the heavenly kingdom?

- What pleases our King and Commander in Chief?
- What furthers the cause of His Kingdom?
- How might I help my fellow heavenly citizens (the Church)?
- How do I invest in my new homeland – the Kingdom?

Don't just start praying willy-nilly about what's happening here on earth. Consider reading ["To Pray or Not to Pray"](#) found on this BoB (Believer's only Blog) page.

Please, think about it.

Even better, pray, ask Him the answers to these questions. I'm fairly certain that He is interested in showing you the way to fully invest in your true homeland.

Maranatha my friends!