

Sermon Notes

I. Introduction

- **Passage:** Acts 22:22-29 and Philippians 3:12-21
- **Key Theme:** Our citizenship is in heaven, secured through Christ.

II. Key Themes and Discussions

A. Paul's Roman Citizenship (Acts 22)

- **Paul's Defense:** Paul invokes his Roman citizenship to avoid unlawful scourging (Acts 22:25-29).
- **Privilege and Protection:** Roman citizenship provided Paul with legal protection, a parallel to the spiritual protection believers have through Christ.

B. Heavenly Citizenship (Philippians 3)

- **Eternal Perspective:** In Philippians 3:20-21, Paul teaches that our true citizenship is in heaven. Earthly nations and their privileges are temporary, but God's kingdom is eternal.
- **Sealed by the Holy Spirit:** Believers are marked by the Holy Spirit, a guarantee of their inheritance in Christ (Ephesians 1:13-14).

C. Living as Citizens of Heaven

- **Representing Christ:** Pastor Wes encourages believers to live out their heavenly citizenship by embodying Christ's character in their conversations, relationships, and actions.
- **Hope of Transformation:** As citizens of heaven, we await the transformation of our lowly bodies into glorious bodies like Christ's (Philippians 3:21).

III. Conclusion

- **Reflection:** Pastor Wes reminds the congregation that, while we live in earthly nations, our ultimate allegiance is to God's kingdom.
- **Encouragement:** Live with the confidence and security that come from being a citizen of heaven, representing Christ in everything you do.

Scriptural References

- Acts 22:22-29
- Philippians 3:12-21
- Ephesians 1:13-14
- 2 Corinthians 1:22