

Philippians - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 3, Citizenship (3:20)

OCTOBER 28

For our [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:20

As Christians we belong to heaven. Heaven is our permanent, eternal, mortgage-free home. We don't belong to this earth at all, as far as eternity goes. The Lord leaves us here to be lights shining for Him, but we don't belong here. Everything we do should reflect the fact that we are citizens of heaven. Does that challenge the way I do things? It should.

CareLines: Volume 3, Confidence (3:3)

OCTOBER 27

For we . . . have no confidence in the flesh.

Philippians 3:3

The Apostle Paul said these words, and he meant them. He had no confidence in the flesh. He recognized that the old nature is corrupt and cannot please God. He had plenty of confidence in the Lord working through him, as he said in chapter 4, verse 13, "I can do all things THROUGH CHRIST." Let us never forget that through Christ I can do anything - if He is with me in it. In my own strength, I am useless. A Christian, in close communion and walking with the Lord, should be the most confident person in the world.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service (2:22)

DECEMBER 21

As a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

Philippians 2:22

Timothy had been a great help to the Apostle Paul, serving with him in his gospel outreach. A work for the Lord can be done in conjunction with others, helping them in their service for Christ. We all need to be especially concerned that we are doing what the Lord wants us to do, and, above all, that we are doing it from a willing heart.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service (2:30)

SEPTEMBER 7

For the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life.

Philippians 2:30

Here we have true, unselfish service for the Lord. This man, Epaphroditus, almost died while serving the Lord. He had no regard for his own life but fully gave himself to the Lord's service. It seems that he was filling a need for the Apostle Paul that the assembly at Philippi should have filled, and in so doing he became very sick. Are we willing to be that dedicated?

CareLines: Volume 3, Witness (2:15)

APRIL 11

That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.

Phil. 2:15

There is something enjoyable about looking into the dark sky and seeing the stars shining. Have you ever thought how that God must be pleased as He looks down into this dark world and sees His own shining for Him? We may be prone to count on Christian leaders to do the shining, but the real beauty of the night sky is the multitude of the stars. God intends that each one of us should give off our little light.

CareLines: Volume 2, Sincerity (1:10)

PHI 1:10

That ye may be sincere . . . till the day of Christ.

Phil. 1:10

This word sincere comes from two Latin words, sine cera, which mean "without wax". This used to be stamped on the bottom of pottery during the Roman Empire when the piece was certified as having no flaws. A dishonest potter would take a piece which was flawed and fill in the cracks with wax. But when it was held up to the sunlight the flaws would appear. This is a great lesson to learn because we are like vessels. Are we hypocrites? Are we "faking it"? Or are we sine cera? Sincere!

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