

Date: 10/30/16 SF2972 RBC

Title: The Dual Citizenship of Christians

Text: Philippians 3:20

### **Three Ways to Obtain Roman Citizenship**

1. Born in a designated Roman province.
2. Purchase it with money.
3. Serve in the army for 25 years.

### **Some of The Benefits**

1. Protection under the Law
2. Property ownership
3. Couldn't be tortured or whipped
4. Couldn't face the death penalty unless they committed treason
5. Could appeal to Caesar
6. Exemptions for some taxes and obligations
7. Legal transactions
8. Could sue or be sued

### **Duties of Christian Citizens**

1. Ambassadors of Jesus  
**2 Corinthians 5:20** - We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.
2. Obey the government unless it opposes God's laws  
**Romans 13:1-2** - Everyone must submit himself 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, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.  
**Acts 4:19-20** - But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."
3. Pray for all leaders  
**1 Timothy 2:1-3** - I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

### **Because We Live in A Republic We Have More Responsibility**

1. Vote
2. Hold political office
3. Obey and defend the Constitution
4. Support those who uphold the righteous decrees of God