Citizens of Heaven, Subject on Earth:
An Introduction to Biblical Civics
Hebrews 11:13-16

I. What is civics?

A. Civics defined – The study of civics usually involves a review of various characteristics of government.

B. A citizen defined – A citizen can loosely be defined as a person who lives and works in a certain nation or state.

II. What is Biblical civics?

A. What it is not.

B. What it is.

1. A study of the Biblical foundation, origin, and purpose of government.
2. A study of the Christian's relationship with human government.
3. A study of the Christian's relationship with other citizens.
4. A study of the Christian's responsibilities in government, politics, and culture.

III. Why study Biblical civics?

A. God created the first government.

B. God has given commands regarding governments.

C. God established forms of government.

D. God has given Christians instructions regarding their relationship with government.

1. Christians are commanded to pay taxes – Romans 13:6
2. Christians are to submit to the ordinances of man – 1 Peter 2:13-14
3. Christians are to pray for government leaders – 1 Timothy 2:1-2
4. The Bible condemns those who speak evil of dignities – Jude 8

E. God has had Christians involved in government.

IV. How do we live as citizens of Heaven, subject on earth?

A. Our allegiance is first to the Lord.

B. Our citizenship is in heaven.

1. Christians are strangers and pilgrims on this earth – Hebrews 11:13, 1 Peter 2:11
2. A Christian's politics are in heaven – Philippians 3:20
3. Christians share their citizenship with other believers – Ephesians 2:19
4. This citizenship is active right now – Colossians 1:13

C. Christians are subject on earth.

1. We have responsibilities to the governments God has placed us under – Romans 13:1
2. We can have an impact in the nations in which we reside – Proverbs 14:34

D. Christians have been, are, and will continue to be mistreated by governments until Christ sets up His kingdom.

V. What is involved in the study of Biblical civics?