

Question: Who were the people of Caesar's household mentioned by the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:22?

Answer: Let us refer to the Scripture...

Philippians 4:21-22 (ESV):

"Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you.

All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household."

The "Caesar" referred to here is the Emperor of Rome, the ruler of the most powerful empire of that time. The phrase "those of Caesar's household" does not refer to his biological children or direct family, but rather to the many people who worked in the imperial palace and administration.

During that era, Caesar's household included a wide range of people both poor and rich, men and women who served in various roles such as slaves, freedmen, soldiers, officials, administrators, and other palace workers. Among these, some had come to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and had received salvation. Though Paul does not mention them by name, he includes their greetings in his letter to the Philippians, indicating their spiritual kinship with the wider body of Christ.

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This reveals a powerful truth: the Gospel of Jesus Christ had penetrated even the palaces of earthly kings reaching the highest levels of society and authority.

And this was not an isolated case.

We also read in the Gospel of Luke about Joanna, a woman of influence, who was the wife of Chuza, the steward (manager) of Herod's household. She was a devoted follower of Jesus and supported His ministry financially, along with other women.

Luke 8:2-3 (ESV):

“...and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.”

Joanna's example, like those of the believers in Caesar's household,

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shows that God is at work in every sphere of society, even among rulers and the elite. The Gospel knows no social boundaries.

Therefore, as believers today, we must never be ashamed of the Gospel nor assume that certain people are unreachable or undeserving of it. Whether rich or poor, educated or uneducated, high-ranking or lowly, all need the salvation offered through Christ.

As the Apostle Paul declares:

Romans 1:16 (ESV):

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Let us continue to preach Christ boldly, knowing that God can save people in every place even in palaces.

Maranatha (Our Lord is coming).

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