

Phil 4:21-22

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household.

When you here the word “*saint*” what do you think of?

Maybe some super holy man or woman who has died and a statue has been built for him or her?

Maybe you think of those teachers of God’s word who have died and their images are portrayed on a stained glass windows in a church?

Maybe you think of Jesus’ mother Mary, who is often referred to as Saint Mary?

Nevertheless, the truth is, it really doesn’t matter what you think a saint is, unless you can back it up with God’s word. And if you check out God’s word, you’ll find out that they are not what you think they are.

To often we allow the world to tell us what God’s word says instead of checking it out for ourselves. Once again the example of a saint as the world tells us is a dead person who was super holy. However, did you notice in today’s devotional verse and what the bible says about saints? Read it again.

† ***Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household.***

So how can a dead person greet you? The truth is, as believers we are all saints. Here is the definition of what a saint is and some scripture to back it up.

Saint: *One separated from the world and consecrated to God; one holy by profession and by covenant; a believer in Christ*

† **Psalms 16:3** *As for the saints who are on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight."*

† **Romans 1:7** *To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints.*

† **Phil 1:1** *Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons.*

So then, where do we get the dead guys being saints from? They probably got it from:

† **Matt 27:52** *and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;*

Which is fine, but you can't depend on one verse in the entire bible to defend that belief, because if you read more of the bible (as we just did) we see that saints are simply believers in Jesus, whether dead (But the bible calls them asleep) or alive.

So next time you here about a saint, just remember that you as a believer are a saint too. In addition, there is no mention in the bible of saints being carved into statues or put on stained glass windows, or even put on the dashboards of chariots. So, do not worry that you have not been made into a statue or that your picture isn't hanging in a church, because what makes you a saint is your belief in Jesus Christ.

Finally, do not pray to any saint or worship any saint, whether it is a human walking the earth, a statue or picture.

† **Rev 22:9** *Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."*