Doctrinal Studies

AMBASSADORSHIP

II Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 6:20

- I. Definition:
 - A. An ambassador is a high-ranking minister of state or member of royalty sent to another nation to represent his sovereign.
 - B. "A diplomatic agent of the highest rank, sent by one sovereign or state to another resident representative or on temporary special service". American College Dictionary
- II. All Church Age Christians are ambassadors of Christ (II Cor. 5:20).
- III. When we accepted Jesus Christ, we became a member of royalty. We qualify as a member of God's family to represent the Lord Jesus Christ.
- IV. The Christian is sent by Christ to represent Him in His personal absence on the earth.
- V. This depicts the fact that every Christian is in full-time Christian service.
- VI. An ambassador does not appoint himself; God makes that appointment. He does not support himself.
- VII. An ambassador does not write his own material of information that he is to carry. We are not authors of the Word of God. God did that! We don't write the news, we deliver it!
- VIII. An ambassador does not belong to the country to which he is sent. This world is not our home. We have a heavenly citizenship! Phil.1:27 "Only let your conversation be as it becomes the gospel of Christ". The word conversation is spelled polites, which means "manner of life" of a citizen. Polis is the root word, and means "city". We are citizens of God's kingdom. We are to have a manner of life befitting our heavenly citizenship.
- IX. Ambassadors will receive antagonism in this life from evil satanic sources, but as ambassadors of the Lord, they know that peace and stability come totally from the Lord, and thus they move right on in happiness.

AMBASSADORSHIP (Continued)

- X. Ambassadorship also relates to effectiveness in witnessing (II Cor.5:20 "Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God was beseeching [entreating, calling alongside] through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be ye reconciled to God"). We are responsible for witness as an ambassador. We are to entreat those who are lost to be reconciled to God. Eph.6:20 "For the sake of which Gospel I am an ambassador on a chain, in order that in this responsibility I may boldly (with confidence) speak and communicate the gospel."
- XI. Proverbs 13:16, 17 reveal that not all ambassadors are effective. "Every wise man deals with the Word; but a backslidden person (fool) lays open (communicates) folly or foolishness." There are two kinds of witnessing:
 - A. Witnessing for the Lord
 - B. And being foolish "A wicked messenger falls into mischief (adversity); but a faithful ambassador brings healing (health reconciliation)."
- XII. Isaiah 33:6, 7 Weeping ambassadors: "And wisdom and knowledge (that's Christ controlling history) shall be the stability of your times, a wealth of salvation, the fear of the Lord is his treasure." To be controlled by Christ is the great treasure "Behold, their brave men cry in the streets, the ambassador of peace weep bitterly". Man's efforts to bring peace will result in the ambassadors weeping bitterly. Ambassadors of peace have failed (saved people involved in the social gospel, the social action movement, et cetera).
- XIII. A faithful ambassador, a successful ambassador, is one who:
 - A. Takes up his cross daily.
 - B. Has an altar of God's Word in his soul.
 - C. Puts on the whole armor from God.
 - D. Is mature, and is a grace abounding believer.
- XIV. The purpose of the ambassador is to speak boldly, to speak with confidence (Eph. 6:20b "That I may speak boldly" (παρρησιάσωαμι aorist middle subjunctive, 1st person singular of παρρησιάζομαι).
- XV. 2 Cor. 6:1-10 Paul had no desire to be a complainer; and he did not want to discredit God's Work, even though he suffered greatly.