**AMBASSADOR’S & ARGUMENTS**

***Representing Christ To The World***

The word “ambassador” has synonyms like diplomat, envoy, representative and emissary. The definition is “an official representative of an organization or movement.”

We are called to be Christ’s ambassador’s to represent our King to the world. Paul asked for prayers that he may speak boldly as Christ’s “*ambassador in chains*” (Eph. 6:20). Speaking for his fellow apostles and prophets he said, *“Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God” (2 Cor. 5:20).*

Which leads us to these questions:
“Am I a good ambassador of Christ to this sinful world?”
“Do I accurately represent my King to a fallen people who need a Savior?”
“Would Jesus consider me a fitting representative for His cause and kingdom?”

When Joe Biden was recently elected President there was a stampede among many politicians to be appointed ambassador to some great nation (Britain, France, China, Japan, Russia, Germany). Smaller, unknown countries were not eagerly sought (Barbados, Liechtenstein, Haiti, etc), for there is no glory in such positions.

But when we come to Christ we are each appointed by the King as an Ambassador to the most important nation on earth. We are not sent to a specific country but we are sent to a people, a lost people who need to hear our King’s message of salvation.

By volunteering to serve Jesus as His representative, whether to the rich or poor, to the educated or illiterate, to the moral or immoral, to the religious or irreligious --- we must speak up for our King so that His message will be heard loud and clear. We must represent Him honorably by “*speaking the truth in love*.” (Eph. 4:15).

Now, what are you going to say to these lost souls as Christ’s ambassador? Politicians would use tact and tactics to paint a rosy picture in order to befriend them to America. But as Christ’s representatives we resolve not to be PC (Politically Correct), but BC (Biblically Correct). Consider this, the people we talk to are actually at war with us. Please note:

*“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ”* (2 Cor. 10:3-5)

Paul is saying that while we walk in the flesh, we don’t use fleshly tactics to win arguments against the world. Yes, we’re human, but using human schemes like lying, deceit and slander to gain the upper hand is beneath us. Our weapons for winning arguments are never carnal. We leave the fleshly tactics and weaponry to the military, the politicians, the shady lawyers, the shifty business men, the CIA and other spy agencies. Let the world use their sophistry and underhanded tactics to convince the world to come over to their side. God has a better way to win souls.

This imagery of pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments, and bringing thoughts into captivity, are scenes of warfare. But what Paul is trying to tell us is that God’s ways of winning souls to His side are polar opposite of Satan’s ways. Take Joshua’s defeat of Jericho as an example. What commanding General would ever quietly march around a fortified city for a week and then blow trumpets to pull down strongholds and take captive the enemy? God’s way was unlike any other ever used to take a city. The same holds true for the defeat of Satan’s strongholds today.

Let the Prince of Darkness use carnal tactics to sway the billions by inviting them to “Come unto me and I will give you the pleasures of sin for a season” (Heb 11:25).

But Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will persuade men with a different kind of argument. He will say, “*Come unto Me… and I will give rest to your souls… for My* ***yoke*** *is easy and my* ***burden*** *is light*” (Matt. 11:28-30). His yoke and burden was a daily ***cross*** that led to a heavenly crown (Lk. 9:23).

He appealed to men to “*endure temptation*” and “*suffer tribulation*” in order to receive a crown of life (Jam. 1:12; Rev. 2:10). Is that an argument that will win souls? While it may fly in the face of common sense and sound reasoning, it was the very approach that turned the world upside down in the first century. Today it will also be mighty in God for pulling down Satan’s strongholds.

Think about it. Paul and the other inspired apostles of that day appealed to Gentiles to be converted by believing in a Jew who had been executed as a common criminal upon the hated Roman cross. How could that ever convince a skeptical world? It would be like us trying to convince our generation to surrender their life to a man who had been executed as a criminal in an electric chair. Few would believe us. Yet that despised cross was the very argument God used in His spiritual arsenal to cast down every high thing that exalted itself against the knowledge of God.

That old rugged cross brought to the longing heart of sinful men in Paul’s day “*every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ*.” It was true then, it’s still true today, the story of the cross remains the best argument for the Ambassador of Christ to win souls to Him. No sophistry. No gimmickry. No schmoozing. Just a message of love from a heart of love (Eph. 4:15).

It worked then. It will work today. Accept with honor your appointment to Christ’s administration to be His ambassador to your family, your friends, your neighbors, and to the nice cashier lady at the check-out counter.

Your King’s standing order: “Go tell the world.” – Rick