

L1: The Ambassador for Christ - 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Introduction:

- The purpose of this series is for you to engage in evangelism and be a bold ambassador for Christ and to be faithful in this until your final breath.
 - There are numerous matters, issues, elements of examining the doctrine of being an ambassador for Christ.
 - The important distinction of not only being an ambassador of Christ, but for Christ.
 - The audience of our ambassadorship.
 - The message of the ambassador.
 - The outlook of our ambassadorship.
 - The reluctance of ambassadorship.
 - The manner of being an ambassador.
 - What the ambassador should expect to encounter.
 - Ambassadorship training.
1. The Ambassador for Christ - Intro
 - i. Define ambassador
 - ii. For Christ
 - iii. The privilege
 - iv. The foundation of the building of the church
 2. The Ambassador for Christ - Work
 - i. The Message
 - 1) The components of the gospel
 - ii. The Work
 - 1) Obstacles
 - a) Expected objections and arguments
 - 2) Evidence, proving
 - 3) Questions
 - iii. The Manner
 3. The Ambassador for Christ - Results
 - i. Triumph
 - ii. Suffering
 - iii. Eternal Life
 4. The Ambassador for Christ - Misc
 - i. Heavenly
 - ii. Armor/Fight
 - iii. Questions and Answers

Preview:

- General scope of the ambassador of Christ

- What is an ambassador?
- The privilege of being an ambassador "for Christ"

Sermon:

(2 Corinthians 5:18)

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

- **"And all things are of God"**
 - What are the all things?
 - **:11 - "knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;"**
 - **:14 - "the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:**
 - **:15 - "and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."**
 - **:16 - "Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more."**
 - He resurrected and therefore we see all things through the resurrection
 - Not a matter of "appearance", but of the "heart"
 - **:17 - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:..."**
- **"who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ"**
 - God has reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ
 - Two parts to God having reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ

(2 Corinthians 5:19)

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

- :19 - "that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them;"**
 - **Romans 5:10; Romans 11:15**
 - :20 - "and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."**
- There is a distinction to the work/provision of reconciliation and the word of reconciliation
 - **"given us" (:18)**
 - 2 Corinthians 6:1
 - **"hath committed" (:20)**

(2 Corinthians 5:20)

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

- **"Now then"** - conclusion based upon God's work of reconciling the world and one's personal reconciliation
 - Paul has been "given" and "committed" the word and ministry of reconciliation
- **"we are ambassadors for Christ"**
 - Ambassadors are those that have been "given...the ministry of reconciliation"
 - Those reconciled to God by Jesus Christ have been "given...the ministry of reconciliation"
 - Ambassadors are those that have been "committed the word of reconciliation"
 - The ministry of reconciliation of ministered by "the word" thus there is:
 - "beseeching"
 - "praying"
 - "alleging"
 - "disputing"
 - "preaching"
 - "teaching"
 - "persuading"
 - **"ambassadors" - a minister (given the ministry) of the highest rank employed by one prince or state, at the court of another, to manage the public concerns of his own prince or state, and representing the power and dignity of his sovereign**
 - A messenger
 - Workers together with Him - 2 Cor. 6:1
 - Ministers of God - 2 Cor. 6:4

 - From one kingdom in another kingdom on behalf of the King
 - Colossians 1:13
 - Ephesians 5:8
 - **"for Christ"**
 - Not simply an ambassador of Christ, but "for Christ"
 - In the place of but with equivalent authority
- **"as though God did beseech you by us:"**
 - **"as though"** - God is working by us; God is beseeching by us
 - We are the instrument, the vessel in which He beseeches
 - (1) Thus we are to know what we are to say, (2) how to say it, and (3) conduct ourselves as God does
 - **"God did beseech you by us:"**
 - **1 Thessalonians 2:13** - "For this cause also thank we God without ceasing,

because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."

- **"we pray you in Christ's stead,"**
 - **"in Christ's stead"** - in the place of Christ
 - Place or room which another had or might have, noting substitution, replacing or filling the place of another; to help; to support; to assist
 - "helpers of your joy"
 - **"be ye reconciled to God."**

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- **Summary of the message -**
 - **"For He (God) hath made Him (Christ) to be sin for us,"**
 - **"Who knew no sin;"**
 - **"that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."**
 - Redemption unto Justification
 - "might be made" - explanation of God's work, the privilege of being made the righteousness of God in Him, and the honor of proclaiming that message.
 - "faith" - 2 Cor. 14, 15
 - Provision and operation
 - God in Christ
 - Preaching Christ
 - Faith unto righteousness, justification, reconciliation

Conclusion: