

## *Kingdom Ambassadors*

Jesus didn't come to establish a religion He came to establish a kingdom or a heavenly government on the earth. So when you look at the bible, you began to see how it is wrote with a kingdom mindset and with kingdom language.

2 Cor 5:20

- So, here in this verse we are seeing kingdom language from Paul as He calls us ambassadors.
- Ambassador: Someone sent into a foreign government to represent their home government.
  - Remember Col 1:13 When I was born again, I was translated or moved into the kingdom of Jesus.
  - My first birth made me a citizen of the United States and a slave to the kingdom of satan.
  - But my second birth made me a citizen of the kingdom of Jesus and freed me from the bondage of satan.
- So right now, my citizenship is in heaven, and I am a visitor here on earth. But I'm here Paul says as an ambassador. I'm here to represent my government in this foreign demonic government.
  - So really when I got saved, I got sent.
  - As an ambassador, my main goal is to cause people to be reconciled back to God.
    - Let's get this straight. You are not trying to reconcile God back to the people. You are trying to reconcile the people back to God. God has already reconciled Himself to man through Jesus Christ. Everything He had against man He took care of it at the cross.
    - But man still has issues with God.
      - Some think He is a killer and taker of their loved ones, and they are angry at Him for this.
      - Or some think that He is angry with them because of how bad they are.
      - But your job as an ambassador is to cause them to know none of that is true. That He loves them unconditionally and wants nothing but the best for them which is seen in the fact that He gave His best for them which is Jesus.

John 17:15-16

- Jesus praying for the disciples and all the ones He was leaving behind as He went back into the heavens. You could also include the whole church in this prayer.

- V16 They are not of the world.
  - The word world is translated from the Greek word kosmos which means government.
  - So when Jesus says we are not of this world, He is saying we are not of this Government and the government of this world is a demonic government.
  - Our new birth has made us of the Government of the kingdom of God.
- V15 I'm not praying for you take them out of the world or out of this demonic Government.
  - It's not God's purpose for us to get saved and leave. It's His purpose for us to get saved and stay.
  - Why? So, we can be ambassadors and represent our government and influence somebody into the kingdom of God.
  - But if we are going to stay then He is going to have to keep us from the evil in the world or the evil in the demonic government.
  - We are not here to conform to our environment but change our environment.
  - So, we have to be protected from the pressure to conform and give in to the evil of this world.
  - Some of you are not good ambassadors because you have allowed yourself to be overtaken by the evil around you.
    - You are as depressed as the world, sick as the world, angry as the world, talk like the world and so on. To look at your life from a casual stance and not know anything about you would not make me think that you are a Christian and not of this world.

#### John 17:17

- How do I get kept from the evil of the world? I'm sanctified or set apart by the word of God.
  - The only thing that is going to keep me from the pressure of conforming to the evil of this world so that I can represent my government and folks can look at my life and see the kingdom is I got have the word of God on my mind.
  - God has given you his word to sanctify you and keep you from the evil of this world but it's up to you to get in it and get it in you.
- Romans 12:2

#### Acts 16:23-24

- Here is Paul and Silas, ambassadors of the kingdom of God, they are whipped and thrown in this dungeon and put in chains because they cast the devil out of a fortune teller.
  - Would this be an environment that would pressure you to be depressed, scared, discouraged?

- I could see them saying, “Man all I’ve done is the work of the Lord and here I am in a dungeon and I’m probably going to die.”
- Listen if you think that doing the will of God is not going to bring trouble into your life you need to grow up. It’s going to bring you into environments where the pressure to give into the evil of that environment is going to be strong.

#### Acts 16:25

- Are they being good ambassadors? Yes
- Does it sound like they belong there? No
- Are the kingdom and the king being represented here? Yes
- So, does it sound like they are being kept from the evil? Yes.
- Why are they not influenced by their environment and overtaken by the evil of depression, fear, discouragement, anger and so on?
  - Paul was singing praises.
  - The Greek word translated to sang praise is the word hymneo or pronounced humneo which means to sing hymns to the Lord.
  - The hymns they sang were commonly the paschal hymns or what the Jews called the great hallel.
  - If this was the case, they were singing and psalms 113-116 and psalms 118. This means that in this prison the word was on their mind and their mouth.
- Read Acts 16:26-31
  - This was the result of keeping the word on their mind. They were ambassadors and reconciled the jailor and his family back to God.
- It’s interesting to look at some of the verses they were declaring and had on their mind from the psalms.
  - Psa 113:7 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, [and] lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; Psa 113:8 That he may set [him] with princes, [even] with the princes of his people.
  - Psa 114:7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob.
  - Psa 116:6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. Psa 116:7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee. Psa 116:8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, [and] my feet from falling. Psa 116:9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
  - Psa 116:16 O LORD, truly I [am] thy servant; I [am] thy servant, [and] the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.
  - Psa 118:5 I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, [and set me] in a large place. Psa 118:6 The LORD [is] on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? Psa 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

## Acts 16:32-40

- Notice that the magistrates or the higher ups tried to tell Paul and Silas to leave and depart. But Paul said that they beat us uncondemned as Roman citizens. In other words, their civil rights were violated. When the magistrates heard that, they feared and came and talked to Paul and Silas.
- Here is my point. I'm thinking that Paul and Silas already knew that their civil rights were being violated but they never said anything. I believe they allowed God to lead them into this horrific situation just so they could represent the Kingdom among these criminals and the jailor.
- Being a good ambassador is allowing God to lead you into rough situations so you can reveal the power of God that keeps you and strengthens you and brings you through.
- A good ambassador doesn't avoid hard times but knows how to rejoice in them. Keeping their mind on the promises of God.