



An Ambassador for Christ *by Gene Easley*

“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” (2 Corinthians 5:20).

If you owned a business for which you sent out representatives whose main responsibility was to represent you and your business wherever they went, what kind of people would you choose for your representatives? Would you choose people with a very grumpy nature to represent you? Would you want people who were always angry and maybe constantly criticizing others? Would you want people whose entire lives centered around themselves, while they were supposed to be representing you and your interests?

Or would you prefer having someone who was joyful, who loved people, who was considerate of others? Would you want a person who was faithful to obligations, a person who held you in high esteem and presented you and your company that way to others?

From the attributes above, most people would have no difficulty in choosing their representatives. The Scripture says we are ambassadors for Christ. We are sent out on His behalf, to present His message and to represent Him to this world.

Many companies have an employee’s manual that informs employees what the company expects in regards to conduct and productivity. Each employee is expected to carefully read and understand the manual. In a life lived for Christ, we are given a manual also—the Bible. We are to fulfill our responsibility of reading and understanding it. It isn’t an option. It is a total necessity. The more we know about Christ, the better we know Him personally, and the more dedicated to Him we are, the better representatives we will be on His behalf.

There are some people who take their job more seriously than others. Some think that if they just show up for work that is all that is important, while others feel a sense of responsibility to their work. They must do a good job. We are called to do more than just show up for work. God needs people who are sold out to His cause!

Paul said, “...as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead...” In other words, we are standing in for Christ. We are being His voice to call the world to be reconciled to God. When people hear us preaching the Gospel, they need to hear Christ speaking to their hearts.

Christ isn’t here in person as He was when He traveled with His disciples, going from city to city, preaching, teaching and healing. Now, He has returned to the heavenlies, and He has sent us to represent Him. We stand here in His place. This is why we so strongly emphasize the need for being full of the Holy Spirit. If we are to operate like Jesus, we need the same power He had working for us.

Paul said that God was beseeching, imploring, begging those who hear us preach to be reconciled to Him. God is wooing the lost soul through us. He uses our voices and our lives to cry out to a dying, sinful world. For the lost to believe that God is sincere, they need to see that we are sincere. We are His ambassadors.

An ambassador must understand his or her mission. God has “...given to us the ministry of reconciliation” (2 Corinthians 5:18). Verse 19 says that He has given us the Word or message to come back to God. We take this message to the ends of the earth, not on man’s behalf but on Christ’s behalf. May God help us to do what we are called to do! May He help us not be diverted to opposing missions! The world is in desperate need to hear the Gospel. We need more good ambassadors to represent Christ.