



Berean Christian Fellowship

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Ambassadors in the World

“For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10 NASB).

As Ambassadors for Christ, we live far away from the Kingdom of Heaven, dwelling as aliens and strangers in the kingdoms of the world. The mission of our posting is to promote reconciliation to God and His Kingdom, for God has *“committed to us the Word of reconciliation”* (2 Corinthians 5:19b), which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Word of God.

But it is not easy to maintain the integrity of our mission while we go about our daily activities in this “foreign” land. As we eat in it, sleep in it, and shelter in its houses, the world’s demands and diversions both trouble and thrill us, undermining our focus on our mission.

Like an English ambassador intoxicated by exotic India or a French ambassador watching Germany gear up for war, we too can let the *“worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the Word, and it becomes unfruitful”* (Mark 4:19). This is why we are instructed to *“not fear their intimidation and do not be troubled”* (1 Peter 3:14b), but also commanded not to *“love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world”* (1 John 2:15-16). Anything that we love or fear in the world draws us into sympathy or respect for the *“ruler of this world”* (John 12:21b) and our loyalty will be divided. But *“no one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the*

one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other” (Matthew 6:24a).

This is why Paul teaches us to *“set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth”* (Colossians 3:2) — *“do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is”* (Romans 12:2a), so *“be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is”* (Ephesians 5:15-16).

Ambassadors bear great responsibility, having full authority to represent their King’s will in a foreign land. Hold fast, therefore, to His Word, which He committed to you, and *“see to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ”* (Colossians 2:8), for *“I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ”* (2 Corinthians 11:3). For this reason, apply yourself in your service, for you will give an account of it to your King: *“we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad”* (2 Corinthians 5:10).

*“Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; **He was faithful to Him who appointed Him**”* (Hebrews 3:1-2a), so you too, *“whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. **It is the Lord Christ whom you serve**”* (Colossians 3:23-24). Even so, Amen.

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