

Rhema Worship Center  
Ephesians Bible Study  
Chapter 6 verses 20 thru 23

**Verse 20**

**For which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.**

Paul, as we have already learned, is writing this letter from prison. He is in prison not for murder, theft, or insurrection, but because he dared preach the gospel of Christ. He asks that the Ephesians pray for him that he might “speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

**I am an ambassador in chains:** Of course, the ancient Greek word for **chains** meant a prisoner’s shackles. But it could also be used for the gold adornment worn around the neck and wrists of the wealthy and powerful. On special occasions, ambassadors wore such chains to show the riches, power, and dignity of the government they represented. Paul considers his prisoner’s chains to actually be the glorious adornment of an **ambassador** of Jesus Christ.

Ambassadors must always be diplomatic, using tact, wisdom, and discretion to navigate a foreign country. As **Christ's ambassadors**, we must remember that we are not told to go around offending people left and right, even when we disagree with the way they're living their lives.

Good ambassadors have certain characteristics...

- A firm foundation is critical for an ambassador.
- Ambassadors must always be conscious of the fact that they are a minority in their host country (as God's people are in the world) and be able to relate to many different types of people.
- A good ambassador is entirely grounded in ethical and moral judgment because they are constantly facing situations that do not have black-and-white answers.
- Patient. An ambassador won’t quarrel, but will listen in order to understand, then with gentleness will seek to respectfully engage those who disagree.

- Reasonable. An ambassador has informed convictions (not just feelings), gives reasons, asks questions, aggressively seeks answers, and will not be stumped by the same challenge twice.
- Humble. An ambassador is provisional in his claims, knowing that his understanding of truth is fallible. He will not press a point beyond what his evidence allows.

***Question...can you be an ambassador for Christ if you are timid and shy with a soft voice?***

***Question...are we considered ambassadors if we are sharing the gospel in our own country?***

## **Verse 21**

**But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you.**

This verse reminds us once again of Paul's great concern for others. He believed that these brethren would be deeply concerned about him being in prison, therefore, he sent word by Tychicus. What a great recommendation Paul gave this man! He is described as a beloved brother who was faithful in the Lord. Every faithful preacher of the gospel should desire this kind of description. Tychicus is mentioned in other places and was of great value to Paul and his work as a "faithful minister," "fellow servant," and messenger. Paul wanted Tychicus to comfort the Ephesians (and everyone else who read the letter) about Paul's condition during his imprisonment in Rome.

***Question...should all Christians support those who are on the mission field?***

***Question...how would you select someone to support?***

## **Verse 22**

**Whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, that you may know our affairs, and that he may comfort your hearts.**

Surely, he was able to bring great comfort to the Ephesians, because he was faithful to Paul and the Lord.

***Question...how can we be supportive to those of the mission field who may be weary or want to give up because of the difficulty?***

### **Verse 23**

**Peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (24) Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen. Paul closes this wonderful letter with four of his favorite words: peace, love, faith, and grace.**

Paul concluded the letter as he began it, with reference to **grace** and **peace**, these two essential cornerstones for the Christian life. Our love for the Lord should be undying. Paul ended by pronouncing a blessing, which was his way of helping the Ephesians to walk in every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

Paul did not fail in his mission, and neither must we. Like Paul, ultimately, victory is ours. With the full armor of God, we know that we are “thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Timothy 3:17) and that we are “more than conquerors through Him who loved us” (Romans 8:37). As such, we are confident that “neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38--39). In other words, we know we have no excuse for failing to win the battles of life. By faith, we know we can do everything the Lord has determined that we should do (cf. Philippians 4:13). By faith,

we know that “those who are with us are more than those who are with [our enemy]” (II Kings 6:16).

***Question...what has the study of this book shown you as it related to your walk with Christ?***

## **End Bible Study on Ephesians**