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The Joy and Duties of an Ambassador of the King of Kings

There are many analogies that Paul used to describe Christians. One of the metaphors used to describe the Christian calling is that of an ambassador (2 Cor 5:20). The idea is that an honourable person is sent to another country as its official political representative. He has certain privileges, like diplomatic immunity and his premises cannot be searched by the local police. He reports to the Foreign Minister directly, sometimes even the Prime Minister on some important matters. Whatever he said is representative of the country's view and he is directly under heavy scrutiny. He is to be careful with what he says or does because the honour of his nation is at stake. He is to promote good relations and protects the interest of his country. Paul calls himself an ambassador in bonds in 2 Corinthians 5:20. That actually is a contradiction in terms.

Ambassadors should never be bound up. It is against international diplomatic practice. Yet Paul was a true ambassador of the colony of heaven in that he was a heavenly spokesman for God, and he was imprisoned in Rome. He stood before three groups of people:

1. The Sanhedrin—Jewish religious leaders
2. Felix and Festus—Roman governors
3. King Agrippa—local governor.

And he testified before them of the Lord. He professed a good profession before many Jews and Gentiles, including the Roman authorities. He was an epitome of a good ambassador for Christ without the fear and favour of man.

Consider the Christian calling as an ambassador of Christ and his duties and privileges. What are the characteristics of an ambassador and what are his duties?



Ambassador's Duties

The author met one of the Singapore's illustrious Ambassadors, LG (ret'd) Winston Choo, a distinguished former three star general, and former Chief of Defence Force who became a diplomat to Israel recently at a Military Christian Fellowship dinner function (where I was the speaker) and he is a Christian who loves the Lord. We were together in the same VIP table, and we had an interesting chat and I learnt much from him in his delicate diplomatic duties. Consider the example of an Ambassador of Singapore to other countries: his duties include promoting Singapore, to build a good image of Singapore as an exemplary nation and to be a good partner in South East Asia; to establish commercial and political links with key decision-makers, to enhance trade relations so that we can get investments; to build up strong military relations so as to empower our SAF with the latest technology and to have a strong ally in case of regional conflict. His or her privileges include immunity from prosecution for he or she cannot be brought before foreign Courts; tax exemptions; he or she has access to VIP facilities in airports, etc., and enjoys the protection by the local government.

Testimony and Qualifications

An ambassador must be a notable citizen of the nation he/she represents. It is normally required that ambassadors be tested and responsible and proven business or civil servants first before they can represent the country. We are ambassadors of Christ in that first we are born again and redeemed by the blood of Christ. By virtue of our position now, we are all God's representatives or envoys in this unbelieving and hostile world. Whatever we say or do will have a bearing on how the people will see our God and Christians. **We are living testimonies for Christ in the unbelieving world as we share or preach the Word and the gospel to reconcile sinful man to a righteous and holy God.**



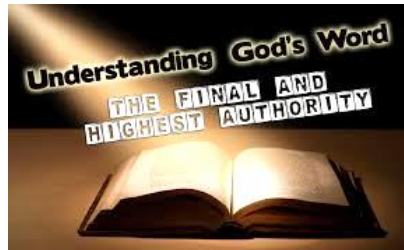
The Ambassador represents his country's view on all matters regarding the State. What the ambassador says is not a private position but a public and official stand of a sovereign state like Singapore. Beware of what you say about God, Christ, salvation and His Word to the unbelieving world.

It is not uncommon that the ambassador's views will be sought on bilateral matters between nations and what he/she says will become the official position of the State he represents. Ambassadors are sometimes called up by the Foreign Affairs department of other countries and asked to answer or be given a protest letter on why their country is taking a particular stand. **We have to be prepared to give an answer of our hope when asked upon with meekness and fear (1Pet 3:15) as we face pressure and stress from the world and not be conformed to them nor give in to them (Rom 12:1—2).**

Provisions and Empowerment

The ambassador has all his or her needs provided as he or she is empowered by the nation he represents. If you visit different embassies, you can see the difference in the countries they represent. The embassies here are normally guarded and is centrally located with good security system and covers a large ground. The ambassador is normally provided with a diplomat's car (often bullet proof), a house and children's education taken care of, and others. He has diplomatic immunity and is protected from physical harm. God provides for our every need, and He defends us against the wiles of the evil one when we serve Him. We are all under heavenly guidance as Job said in Job 1:10, "*Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every' side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.*"

An ambassador keeps in touch with his country's foreign affairs humanity. After all, he is representing the country, and he needs to get instructions on the official political stand of the leaders and not give his own personal views. God's official statement is found in the 66 books of the canonical Bible. We do not preach or teach based on our own emotional or subjective opinions. if we do not know God's Word and His will, we are in danger of failing in our duties as an ambassador. **So, in order to be good representatives, we need to pray and seek the Lord's will daily in the study and understanding of His Word and in fervent intercession. An ambassador of Christ is accountable to God all the time and at the bema one day.**



Ambassadors are normally called home before the war is declared with a particular nation. Sometimes, the ambassador and the embassy staff are recalled home first for his safety or as a political protest In the midst of failing international relations.

Conclusion

Before the Lord's second return, He will recall us back to Him first before the middle or the end of the Great Tribulation, before that He destroys the whole world with fire (2 Peter 3:8-15). Believers will be saved eternally while the reprobate will be judged with fire and brimstone. These are our duties and privileges as God's ambassadors on earth. **We are here for a spiritual purpose in God's time and let us fulfil it and to be good living testimonies and witnesses for the Lord. Let us be prudent and discreet ambassadors to bring honour and glory to the name of Christ, and to share Christ to the saving of souls and to the extension of His Kingdom on earth till He comes.** Amen.

Jack Sin

SOVEREIGNHOPE

bible presbyterian church

What can I or my family do if I contract an infectious disease?
What are the medical options and consideration that I should be aware of?
Come and find out from an Expert at this Seminar!

MAY DAY SEMINAR
WED 1 MAY 2024, 9.45AM – 12NN

**Health & Healing for
Those with
Infectious Disease**



Speaker:
Dr Shawn Vasoo
Infectious Disease Expert



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Venue: Sovereign Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church
160 Paya Lebar Road
Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022

Enquiries & Registration: Dn Tan Yue Kay [hp:9745 0311]
Deadline: 22 April 2024.

A Thanksgiving Testimony

- Caleb Du Jinxing -



Since 15 Jan 2024, the company I am working at had reduced from two cleaning staff to just one. This retained cleaning lady was promised by the company director to get the highest salary of any previous cleaning staff and so she stayed.

More than three months later, this retained cleaning staff not only did not receive the maximum salary as promised, but instead received a salary of 300 yuan less. She was very dissatisfied. The company leader explained that the restrooms are now managed by the property cleaning team and if the retained staff is unhappy, she could leave.

The director had arranged for me and the cleaning lady to work in the warehouse. The cleaning lady took this opportunity to lose her temper. Later, the leader held a meeting with us and the cleaning manager to explain and asked the cleaning staff to follow the requirements.

On the Sat morning (2024.3.23), I opened the door at around 5am but accidentally pressed the wrong switch that locked the door instead. Hence, the cleaning staff could not enter the company through facial recognition. She called me on WeChat which did not wake me up. She knocked on the door but that did not wake me up either. She used that as an excuse to call the director (I only found out about the director's call on Mon).

The Beatitudes - KJV

Matthew 5:3-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn:
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek:
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger &
thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted
for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Later when I found that the door was locked and I did not wake up when the cleaning staff contacted me, I took the initiative to contact the cleaning staff and took on the work she was supposed to do. Personally, I was thinking that I ought to be more careful in future.

When the director and leader came on Monday, the director said, "Brother, give the door key to Sister Li (the cleaning lady). You do not need to open the door for her around 5am every day. Let her open it by herself. It is hard enough for you to wait for the bosses to get off work every night." My company bosses have irregular work hours and most of them work overtime, and sometimes leave the company in the middle of the night. It was then that I found out that the cleaning staff called the director early on Sat morning to report on me, but instead she disturbed the director's rest. Instead of getting me reproached, the cleaning staff reduced my workload. It was all of God's grace that I received understanding and

support from the leadership. Gen 50:20 says, "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass..."

Thank God that since then, I do not have to wake up at 5am every day. Thank God for His grace. I can only obey God in everything and listen to the leadership's arrangements. I have God's love and the leadership's understanding and support.

In the past, if the company had food, the cleaning staff was the first to get it. Ever since the company appointed me as a security officer, the company boss and leaders at all levels have given me priority in the food that the company has.

The cleaning staff only see the world and care for their own feelings, do not obey the leadership, and hence obtain less.

May God to grant me the wisdom, obedience, and compassion. I do try my best to give the cleaning lady as much food as she can eat (she is a vegetarian).

May God continue to watch and keep me in His ways. All glory be to the Lord.

Caleb Du Jinxing

SHBPC Sun Evening Zoom Chinese Ministry (Currently working in Beijing)

27 Mar 2024

感恩见证

2024 一月十五号以来，公司由原来的两个保洁员变成一个保洁员。当时留这一个保洁员时，公司总监答应给留下的保洁员，给以前保洁员的最高工资留下她，她就留下了，结果三个多月过去了，留下的保洁员不但没有拿到最高工资，反而更少了三百元工资，她意见极大。（目前公司领导说，现在公司的洗手间不属于公司管理了，由物业保洁员管理，所以留下一个保洁员，工资就这些，干就干，不干另外找干的保洁员）总监安排我和保洁员去仓库干活，保洁员利用这机会发脾气，后来领导给我们和保洁员行政经理开会解释。并要求保洁员按要求执行就行。

结果上礼拜六早晨（2024.3.23）我五点左右开门，按错开关，把门锁死了，导致保洁员刷不了面部识别进公司，她微信通话打我微信也没叫醒我，她敲门也没叫醒我，她借故打总监电话（打总监电话我礼拜一才知道。）

后来我发现门锁死了，保洁联系我也没醒，我主动联系保洁和承担了她应该作的活。我个人认为我下次注意就行了。

礼拜一总监领导来了，总监找我，说，大哥把门钥匙给李姐（保洁员）一把，您没必要每天五点左右给她开门，让她自己开，您每天晚上等老板们下班就够辛苦的了。（因为公司老板们下班时间不定时，多数加班，有时下半夜离开公司，）后来我才知道保洁员礼拜六早打电话给总监，打扰总监休息。（原来把我举报了哈哈感谢神，感谢敌人，更要爱敌人）保洁员反而没把我告上壮，反而为我减少了工作。神的恩典啊。反而得到领导理解支持。

创世纪 50:20“从前你们的意思是要害我，但神的意思原是要保全许多人的性命，成就今日的光景。”

我如今相对来说轻松多了这样以来，就不用每天五点起来了，感谢神的恩典，我只有一切顺服神，一切听领导安排，必得到神的爱，和领导的理解和支持。

以前公司有我们能吃的食物或者水果的都是保洁员第一位得到，

自公司留下我自己在安保岗位后，公司老板和各级领导能吃的能用的都是把我放第一位

保洁员她们只把眼光看到属世界上，她们只顾及自己感受，不顺服领导，反而得到更少。我也尽量把保洁员能吃得食物分给她吃，（因为她不吃任何肉食）

求神恩赐我聪明智慧和顺服，怜悯心，也求神保守我一切，一切荣耀归主

迦勒•杜金星

北京

2024年3月27日



Memory Verse

1 Tim 4:7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "**Discipline for Godliness [1Tim 4:1-8]**", commencing a new quarterly series on "**Christian Disciplines in the Lord**".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach "**Discipline of Joyful Giving to the Lord [Mal 3:7-10, 2Cor 9:6-15]**".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service continue as follows:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith (Pastor)
 - Studies in 2 Chronicles (Dr Kwong Leen)
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Kingdoms, Covenants and Canon of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. **[Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178]**.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551].
7. Pray for our brethren:
 - Travel: Dn Yue Kay (9-16 Apr), Peter (26/4-15/5)
 - Kin Hoong's follow-up with the doctor on her medical condition.
 - Anthony's recovery from radiotherapy and lung cancer.
8. **Annual May Day Seminar** is held on **Wed 1 May 2024, 9.45am – 12 noon** on "**Health and Healing for Those with Infectious Disease**" by **Dr Shawn Vasoo**. Those interested can inform Dn Yue Kay at 9745 0311 by 22 April 2024.
9. **Annual Church Camp** will be held on **June 11-14, 2024**, at **Lotus Desaru Beach Resort** on the theme "**Biblical Pathway for Church Growth & Health**". Rev David Khobal, Principal of Myanmar Theological Seminary, will be our Camp Speaker. Contact Dn Yue Kay (hp:97450311) or Dn Paul (hp:97314733) for more details and registration by 30 April 2024.
10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.