

SERIES: Walking In The Spirit

SUBJECT: Being Enabled To Speak As We Ought

READING: Eph 6:19-24 *And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, (20) For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. (21) But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things: (22) Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts. (23) Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (24) Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen. To the Ephesians written from Rome, by Tychicus.*

Introduction:

a. Sharing in The Opportunity of Others; (6:19)

"And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel." This is an example of how to employ supplication as a means of smiting the enemy. **Paul has asked the Ephesians to intercede with God on his behalf; Eph 6:18** *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*

1. We can offer supplication for fellow believers be they near or far away.
 - a. Paul was under arrest in Rome and his readers were scattered throughout Asia Minor, whether we are praying for one another in our fellowship or one of our missionaries in Africa there is no hindrances because of distance.

b. Prayer *annihilates distance and so their prayer for Him is not hindered because they are praying in Asia Minor.*

i. The God to whom we pray is near to us at all times; just as He knows our circumstances here in Sebastian,

ii. And so does He know what Missionary Richey Rich is being confronted with in Japan.

2. Fear of what might happen or not happen is the human side of what we face in our battle with the World. The flesh and the devil!

a. Just as prayer *annihilates distance it also annihilates dread (Fear.)*

i. Paul was chained to a guard, charged with treason, and expecting to be arraigned before Nero.

1. Yet the prayers of God's people could help him overcome his fears and cautiousness and enable him to speak boldly.

2. A bold but truthful response need not cause us to fear how it was accepted.

ii. This morning in my sermon I made a comment about the length of Malia Obama's skirt; I was told later by sister Cooley that a young woman in the services had what she thought was what I was describing in length!

1. **Would I have said things differently if I knew that beforehand?** I truly do not know!
 2. I may have shared it differently to prevent what I said seem like a personal attack!
 3. But it should not have changed what God put in my heart concerning the influence of our culture on Godly values! Which was true!
- b. We got a prayer request from our daughter Cindy regarding the possibility of Samantha Dutra having a miscarriage.
- i. **Our prayer was to some degree based on the fear she might lose the baby she was carrying!**
 - ii. When we pray our humanness allows fear to enter in but our fear does not hinder our prayer nor does it dictate God's response.
 - iii. Prayer *annihilates* fear!
3. **Prayer *annihilates* difficulty.**
- a. There are inherent difficulties in communicating the "mystery" of the gospel.
 - b. Paul wanted to proclaim this mystery, and man's dullness of hearing and his inability to comprehend had to be overcome.

- c. That, Paul knew, was the work of the Holy Spirit, but before the Spirit of God could do His work, the human messenger needed divine illumination and his tongue to be loosed to express a mystery not easily understood!
 - d. Paul also needed hearers whose ears and hearts had been made receptive. These needs could be met through prayer.
4. Paul asked his brothers in Christ to share in his opportunities by means of prayer.
 - a. Their prayers could strengthen his spirit
 - b. Disadvantage his unseen enemy.
 - c. Minimize his power!
 - d. Remove the satanic blindness from unsaved hearers minds, hearts, wills, and consciences!
5. Prayer for God's servants are instruments at work secretly and securely in the background!

b. Sharing in a Brother's Opposition ([6:20](#))

" Eph 6:20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

1. Paul was Christ's **ambassador** but he was also a prisoner of the Roman government!
2. But by God's grace Paul had access to more influential people that if he were there simply as a missionary!
3. As Christ's ambassador Paul had already magnificently represented the throne of Heaven in province after province and city after city throughout the empire.

- a. In Athens, Antioch, Paphos, Philippi, Corinth, and Crete, God had used Paul to shake Satan's kingdom to its very foundations.
 - b. Now Satan had him in chains, but Paul's witness was not diminished! It was multiplied!
4. Through prayer for our missionaries here in services in Sebastian we can help them in their service where ever they may be around this world.

This last point moved me to ask if one of you could select a different missionary each Sunday evening and as a part of our opening service pray for that missionary by name every week!

Ask God if He could use you to put this part of my message in affect each week!

Paul closes His Epistle With Encouragement ([Eph. 6:21-24](#))

1. **This is not a lonely battle we are fighting!** Although there are times when I am in bed at night and Satan is attacking that I feel alone! Not without the Lord of course but without human encouragement!
 - a. God created Eve because it was not good for Adam to be alone!
 - b. When Paul was on the proverbial sinking ship he was not alone; Act 27:22-24 **And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship. (23) For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, (24) Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.**

2. There are other believers who stand with us in the fight, and we ought to be careful to encourage one another. Paul encouraged the Ephesians;
 - a. What an encouragement it is to be a part of the family of God!
 - b. Nowhere in the New Testament do we find an isolated believer. Christians are like sheep; they flock together.
 - c. The church is an army and the soldiers need to stand together and fight together.

The Church and the body of Christ at large are identified by Paul with wonderful and descriptive words;

Eph 6:21-24 But that ye also may know my affairs, *and* how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things: (22) Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and *that* he might **COMFORT** your hearts. (23) **PEACE** be to the brethren, and **LOVE** with **FAITH**, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (24) **GRACE** be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.