

THE AMBASSADOR IN CHAINS
EPH. 6:19-24

Introduction:

- A. Paul has concluded his plea for the Ephesians to equip themselves for battle.
 - 1. v11.
 - 2. v13.

- B. Paul now emphasizes the necessity of prayer.
 - 1. Prayer for themselves. v18a.
 - 2. Prayer for all saints. v18b.
 - 3. prayer for him. v19, "and for me."

- C. Paul was in prison at Rome.
 - 1. This letter advocated no pity for himself.
 - 2. Paul does not yield his emotions to the moment.
 - 3. He views himself as an ambassador.

I. PAUL WAS AN AMBASSADOR IN CHAINS. V20

- A. "for which I am an ambassador in chains."
 - 1. ambassador = presbeuo - to be the elder or eldest, to be an ambassador, to travel as an ambassador.
 - 2. chains = alusis - a bond, a chain.
 - 3. Look for the preacher in chains!

- B. Why was Paul in chains?
 - 1. Because he preached the gospel.
 - 2. A crime that has seen millions in jail.

II. PAUL'S PRAYER REQUEST. V19,20

- A. Paul asked them to pray for utterance.
 - 1. "that utterance may be given unto me."
 - a. utterance = logos - the word spoken, and connected with the thought expressed.
 - b. given = paradidomi - to hand over to another.

B. Paul asked them to pray for boldness.

1. v19, "that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel."
1. boldly = parrhesiazomai - to speak freely, openly, with fearless candour. Exercise one's rights to speak on issues.
3. v20, "that therein I may speak boldly as I ought to speak."
 - a. ought = die - it is right and proper.
4. The apostles are not apologetic.
5. Boldness a sign of conviction.

III. PAUL WANTED THE CHURCH TO KNOW HIS AFFAIRS.

A. v21.

1. affairs = pragmateia - a handling any matter, an affair, business.
2. It is the churches business!

B. v22.

1. comfort = parakaleo - to call near, called to one's side to give aid.
2. Know =

IV. PAUL'S BENEDICTION. V23,24

A. "peace, love with faith."

1. From God!

B. "grace to them that love our Lord Jesus Christ."

1. sincerity = incapacity of decay.