



And Also With You

MID-JULY 2015

Grace Anglican Church 817 Estella Drive Fairhope, Alabama 36532
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JULY

SUNDAYS

10:00 am

Worship
(nursery provided)

MONDAYS

10:45am-Prayer

Intercessors in
church

Information: 706-897-
6381

6:30pm-Graham
Cooke Group

Information: 455-5940

WEDNESDAYS

10:30 am-

Women's Bible
Study Information:

990-2973

THURSDAYS

6:pm-Upper Room
Movement-Time of
Prayer w/ The Union

Information:
929-1606

FRIDAYS

8:15am-Men's
Group-Information
422-3169

CHALICE BEARERS

July 5

Bob and Jane
Grafe

July 12

Jan Bogue
Becky Johnson

July 19

Maggie Rockett
Susan Jones

July 26

Janic Terry
Kitty Barksdale

Diplomatic Immunity



2 Corinthians 5:20 tells us that we are ambassadors for Christ. This means that our ruler speaks through us to other rulers. It means that we live in a foreign land away from our permanent home. It means that we have diplomatic immunity and cannot be touched by the government where we are posted.

In Ephesians 6, Paul describes the power structures that are operational in the regions where we are posted, instructing us as to how to arm ourselves with diplomatic immunity by wearing special armor.

Paul tells readers that the enemy has a systematic approach for our downfall and the downfall of the government we represent (Eph 6:11). The Greek word used for *scheme* is *methodeia* from whence comes the English word *method*. The enemy is *methodical* in his assault on planet earth.

Paul lists the various levels of evil that war against believers. Below is the list from Ephesians 6:12 KJV along with their Greek definitions or etymologies. We wrestle against:

- **Principalities**-*the origin; the beginning; the first person in a group; the leader.*
- **Powers**-*the power of choice; free will; the liberty to do as one pleases {without God}; the power of him who must be obeyed; a leader among created*

beings more powerful than man;

- **Rulers**-*Lord of this world; prince of this age; etymology: the arrangement of stars; the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments, riches, advantages, pleasures, which although hollow seduce us from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ; to hold in check;*

- **Spiritual Forces of Wickedness**-*etymology: full of annoyances, difficulties, and hardships; causing pain and trouble. These are what we war against.*

Before losing heart, however, Paul shows us how to obtain diplomatic immunity by donning special armor from God.

- **Truth**-*this is the spiritual belt needed for survival in a hostile environment.* A belt circumnavigates the body. Paul is not talking about not telling fibs. It is far more significant than this. Evil uses lies to oppress and assault. Every thought that is not from God has its root in a lie. A good lie is nine tenths true. It is only the remaining

tenth that makes it false. This is why truth is needed to circumnavigate our being at all times. Truth frees us from the oppression that comes with each lie.

One other interesting twist to this verse: the belt of truth is meant to gird one's loins. The Greek word for *loins* is the regenerative part of a person. Truth is meant for those who come after us. It is not by accident that truth wraps around a person's loins. It is our responsibility to make sure that truth is passed on undiluted to generations to come.



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- **Righteousness**-this is the armor that covers the heart. Proverbs 4:23 says to guard the



heart for it is the wellspring of life. Righteousness is meant to cover the heart. The Greek etymology for *righteousness* means, "he who is as he ought to be". When a person is righteous (because of Jesus's shed blood) he finds his true self. He discovers who he is meant to be before the fall occurred.

- **Feet bound in preparation of the Gospel**-the Greek for shoes comes from when servants went before a king to prepare the road that he would journey upon. The servants (*the shoes*) filled in the pot-holes and leveled the bumps so that the king's coming would be smooth and without incident. Paul tells us that this is our role and the role of the shoes we are to wear. Part of the divine plan is that we precede Him via conversations and interactions with others so that it makes His coming into their lives smooth and without incidence.

- **Faith**-this is the shield we use. The Greek origin for *shield* is *door* (*shields were shaped like large doors*). Faith is the doorway to everything that has to do with



the kingdom of God. When there is no trust in God then there is no protection from the fiery darts of the enemy. Trust is the door that when assaulted, extinguishes the fires of hell, absorbing the pain that would otherwise kill us.

- **Salvation**-this is our head gear. I find it interesting that the part that covers the thought life is *salvation*. This means that every thought, problem, crisis, or dilemma that comes our way has its salvation in Jesus. Every problem that we struggle with, trying to figure out the solution without success has its solution in Jesus. Jesus, as *Savior*, is an expert in *saving* people. He saves us eternally and saves us from every problem that presents itself, every day of our lives. Jesus is not titled *Savior* for nothing.

- **The Word of God**-is the *sword of the Spirit*. Believers are meant to use God's word both de-

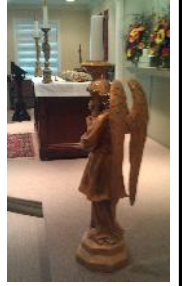


fensively and offensively in battle. In Greek there are two words for *word*. Jesus is called the *logos* of God in John 1. The word *logo* comes from *logos*. God's written word is His *logos* to us.

There is a second word in Greek for *word* which is *rhema*. A *rhema* is a *now* word. *Rhema* is where the Holy Spirit takes the *logos* (Scripture) and applies it directly to a problem, crisis or situation. A *rhema* word is when a verse of Scripture (*logos* word) you have read a hundred times comes to life for the first time in a new and different way, speaking directly to a situation.

When we ask God for a word for someone we are actually asking for a *rhema* for that person. *Rhema* will never contradict the *logos*. *Rhema* compliments the *logos* and empowers it. The *rhema* word is the sword of the Spirit that

Thursday
Nights At The
Graceful Union



6:pm each
Thursday night

Purpose: Gather for listening prayer and intercession for our neighborhood, the nation, and the world.



we are charged to take hold of in order to be victorious in this foreign culture in which we live.

Diplomatic immunity means that we cannot be touched by the government where we are posted. Being an ambassador means that we live away from our homeland for a time, speaking to that culture the words of our homeland, the words of our king, because we are ambassadors for Christ.

2nd Quarter Financials

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Income: | \$45,024 |
| Expenses: | \$48,549 |
| Net: | \$ -3,525 |

Prayer Requests For

Betty Schussler
CJ Kriner
Pete Midgarden