



THE CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE

SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015



# NEW RUBBER BOOTS

## *A Study in Spiritual Fortification*



And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, **We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.** And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

**Acts 19:1-6**

## The Story of the Rubber Boots

- Arriving in Southern California
- New Location - Old Shoes
- Unpacking is for the birds, when you are that close to the beach and to Disneyland
- Ahh, yes! The familiar leather Shoes with holes. Perfect for such an occasion!
- It rains . . . it pours
- I'm in the Magic Kingdom, but something is not feeling very magical
- Leslie, I think we are going to need to head on home. My feet are wet and frozen!
- Why in the world aren't you wearing your rubber boots?
- What rubber boots? I've **not so much as heard whether there be any rubber boots!**
- They are in your suitcase! Remember the one you never unpacked?

## Looking in the Suitcase

In whom you also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that you believed, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

**Ephesians 1:13-14**

## The Way of God more Perfectly

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spoke and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

**Acts 18:24-26**

## Along with the Believers in Ephesus, many of us still might say . . .

- We have not so much as heard whether there be any rubber boots in the suitcase
- We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost available to the life of the believer
- We have not so much as heard whether there be victory over sin in the Christian walk
- We have not so much as heard whether there be power to actually live out the triumphant Christian life
- We have not so much as heard whether there be authority in the Name of Jesus to drive out Devils
- We have not so much as heard whether there be power in the shed blood of Jesus to resist Satan and cancel out the effect of his evil working
- We have not so much as heard whether there be such a thing as a fortified Christian life

If you have never heard, then how could you know?

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

**Romans 10:13-14**

## So, Let's Do Some Preaching!

### Introducing the Concept of “Power”

#### Dynamis - Doo-na-muss

the power of strength, an army's power, the strength of force and ability

#### Exousia - Ex-oo-see-ah

a legal power, legal territory, a jurisdiction of control, a rightful claim, a legally backed position of authority, lawful claim or allowance - a liberty to do as one pleases - a chief monarchical position of authority to dictate and decide.

Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, What a word this is! For with authority (**Exousia**) and power (**Dynamis**) He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.

**Luke 4:36**

### The Principle of Exousia

The House and the Trash Bin

### Satan had the Power of Death

. . . him that had the power (Exousia) of death, that is, the devil . . .

**Hebrews 2:14**

## Jesus has the Power of Life

both the jurisdictional-power of life and the strength-power of life

For as the Father raises up the dead, and quickens them; **even so the Son quickens whom He will** . . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that hears my word, and believes on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

**John 5:21, 24**

Therefore does my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself. **I have power (Exousia) to lay it down, and I have power (Exousia) to take it again.** This commandment have I received of my Father.

**John 10:17-18**

## Death Holds a Lawful Claim

After all . . . *It is Written!*

. . . the soul that sins, it shall die . . . the soul that sins, it shall die.

**Ezekiel 18:4, 20**

For the wages of sin is death . . .

**Romans 6:23**

For all have sinned . . .

**Romans 3:23**

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned.**

**Romans 5:12**

# Understanding the Legal (Exousia) Power of the Devil

And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, showed unto Him (Jesus) all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto Him, All this **power (Exousia)** will I give thee, and the glory of them: **for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.** If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.

**Luke 4:5-8**

To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and **from the power (Exousia) of Satan** unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

**Acts 26:18**

**He that commits sin is of the devil;** for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

**1 John 3:8**

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy **him that had the power (Exousia) of death, that is, the devil . . .**

**Hebrews 2:14**

You are of **your father the devil**, and the desires of your father you want to do.

**John 8:44**

## The Great Redemption

The Amazing Work of Life

Jesus . . . might taste death for everyone . . . that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil . . .

**Hebrews 2:9,14**

. . . Our Savior Jesus Christ . . . has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**2 Timothy 1:10**

## The Nullification of the Power of Sin

**The Legal Argument of Satan:** The Wages of Sin is Death. If they sin, they die. They sinned, I get them. I have the power of death. The jurisdiction of death is my domain. So, they are mine. They are under my jurisdiction - and are thusly my slaves (legal property of me as their lawful Master).

**The Legal Response of God:** The Wages of Righteousness is Life and Grace. If they believe, they live. They believed, so I get them. I have the power of life and grace. The jurisdiction of Life is my domain. So, they are mine. They are under my jurisdiction of Grace - and are thusly my children (legal property of me as their lawful Master).

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

**Romans 8:2**

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned . . . For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.

**Romans 5:12,15-16**

So, you may be in the Kingdom of the Dear Son, but which shoes are you wearing?



# Fortification

FORTIFICA'TION, noun [See Fortify.]

The art or science of fortifying places to defend them against an enemy, by means of moats, ramparts, parapets and other bulwarks; the works erected to defend a place against attack; Additional strength.

## If We Are In Christ, Why Should We Concern Ourselves with the Devil?

After all, Isn't He Defeated?

This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, putting away lying, let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, **nor give place to the devil.**

**Ephesians 4:17-27**

To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; **Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

**2 Corinthians 2:10-11**

## Two Realities That We Mustn't Be Ignorant Of . . .

1. Satan can get an advantage on the saints, but, if we function in a way that is not ignorant of the Devil's schemes, and we obey the Word of God, Satan will be blocked out.
2. We can give place to the Devil. We can lend him territory, open a door to him, allow him to squat in our life and dampen, hinder, and mar the reflection of Christ in our life.

## The Principle of Old and New Shoes

- We can still wear old shoes in the New Kingdom.
- We can still return to our old shoes while in the New Kingdom.
- And our old shoes will still produce the same soaked and sloppy mess they always have.

## Fortification in Ludy History Past

- The Miscarriage
- Leslie's Health
- Hudson's Hospital visits
- The Fear - The Anxiety
- Frustration

## The Sacred List

## The 52 Days of "No!"

## The Test of Faith

- Test of Faith (James 1:3)
- Trial of Faith (1 Peter 1:7)

# Fortification in Ludy Present

## The Signs of Open Doors

Just as an open window on a winter day is exposed by the presence of a chill throughout the house, a snow drift on the kitchen table, and the clear sound of rushing wind in and through the living room . . .

So, an open window in my life is evidenced by a dulling in my passions for the lost, a weakening of my resolve to fight for Truth, a lessening in my love of time spent in the Word of God, and a softening of my resolve to pray and pray and pray until God does it.

## So, What Does One Do if They Find a Window Open in the Dead of Winter?

*They slam it shut!*

## Word to the Wise

If you are still wearing old shoes, put them off, and put on the new rain-and-puddle-proofed rubber boots.

If you are still wearing old behavior, put it off, and put on the Person of Jesus Christ, and enjoy the power of the Holy Spirit to enable you to actually LIVE the LIFE of Christ.

**Put you on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.

**Romans 13:14**

# Four Steps Towards Getting the Right Shoes on Your Spiritual Feet

## 1. Understanding the “Don’t Draw Near!”

Then He (Jehovah God) said, Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

**Exodus 3:5**

## 2. Comprehending the “Washing”

Peter said to Him, You shall never wash my feet! Jesus answered him, If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.

**John 13:8**

## 3. Obeying the “Shodding”

. . . **shod your feet** with the preparation of the gospel of peace . . .

**Ephesians 6:13;15**

## 4. Heeding the “Come Boldly!”

**Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Hebrews 4:16**

## Jesus, The Strong Tower

For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a **strong tower** from the enemy.

**Psalm 61:3**

The name of the LORD is a **strong tower**: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

**Proverbs 18:10**