



Put on the Whole Armour

This was the theme of the CFT conference and the first meeting (on Friday night, 5 September 2008) Rev F.H. Stegen set the tone for the conference with a clear message. The following article is a summary of that sermon; should you want the whole sermon you can order the CD from us.

(contact details are on the front of this newsletter)



Ephesians 6:10-20

Paul says in these days we need the whole armour to be able to stand.

The belt of truth:

The truth is the Word of God, the power of God. We have to put on that piece of armour so that we can live what we preach. If somebody reads me, they must see the truth in me and that there is no lie in me.

The truth about my life must be that I am a humble person, a servant of all, I don't seek my own but I seek the best for my fellow man. To become a true servant of all, I must be girded with the love of God the Father, with compassion. That is putting on the armour of truth.

The breastplate of righteousness:

Putting on the breastplate of righteousness means that I am morally right, that I am a reputable man and everybody knows that what I say, I do.

My thought-life is clean and pure I am fully shielded by that which is of God, no matter what comes my way. If I wear this breastplate, the darts of the evil one won't be able to reach my heart.

The readiness for the Gospel of peace on your feet:

Paul says if you want the full armour of God, then you have to put on your feet the preparation for the Gospel of peace. In other words there is a tremendous power we have if we go out and tell the people who Jesus Christ is, and that Jesus is alive today, also in my life. My life will be a sermon to everybody, and whoever reads me, will read Christ in me.

The shield of faith:

Faith is complete trust or confidence, without logical proof and to accept the Word of God as it is written because God says so.

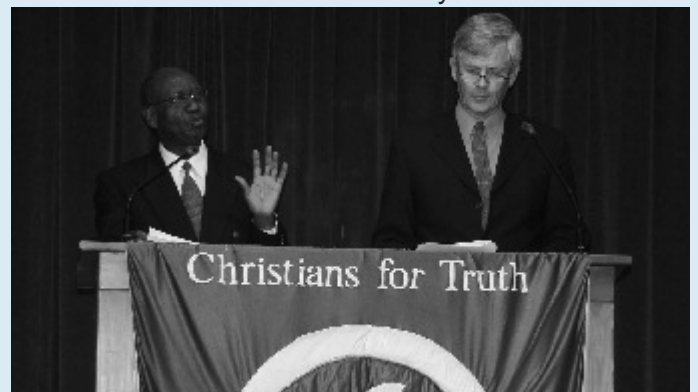
This means nothing less than that we take the Word of God and apply it to ourselves: "Lord, if Your Word says that, I take it for myself and I believe it. Whether I feel it or not, whether I see it or not, but because Your Word says it, I take hold of it. If You say something, I take it and apply it to myself and live accordingly. I needn't have any proof."

The helmet of salvation:

I take that salvation which Christ attained for me on Calvary and I put it on my head as my helmet, and I go out to face the evil one because I believe with all my heart that the Lord Jesus has saved me from my sins.

The sword of the Spirit:

"And (take the) the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God": I go out with that Word and meet the enemy because I am fully armoured with the Word of God. Then I needn't fear anything because I know that I have put on the whole armour of God and I can go into the future and meet the enemy.



My dear friends

President's Address during the CFT AGM - 5-7 September 2008

PART 1

Once again, I would like to thank God for the privilege and honour of being part of the leadership of CFT. Working towards such a noble goal as CFT's is a treasure that cannot be expressed in financial terms.

Our Mission

To uphold and promote Christian norms and values as stated by the Word of God.

Our Vision

A nation inspired to live according to the highest Christian norms and values.



I would like to thank the leadership and members of CFT for the acceptance and support you have given me in all these years. May God bless you.

Put on the whole armour

My message to you today is based on two pictures of a Zulu army. Let me make it clear that I am using these illustrations not in the literal but in the spiritual sense.

Those of you who take interest in the praises of Zulu kings will be familiar with this statement,

“Ilanga lisehlule madoda, sesingamavikithi.”

This is a candid admission by Zulu soldiers that they have been conquered by the sun and they are no longer fit to fight.

Take note of the fact these soldiers were not conquered by the enemy; it was the heat of the sun that made them unfit for battle. Friends, that is the gist of my message to you.

In the first place, our biggest enemy is not our

opponent but the factors and influences that rob us of our fighting spirit.

Let me mention to you what I have identified as the worst culprit in this regard apathy.

Apathy. Apathy. How pathetic.

It is shocking to see how widespread the spirit of apathy is. Many people would seem not to care anymore about social and moral issues that affect their lives. All that excites them is getting food on the table and pursuing what they think will make them happy.

Ask community leaders how difficult it is to get people to attend meetings. There is a realistic joke amongst my people; unless you slaughter an ox people will not bother to come to your meeting.

Now, there is nothing wrong with slaughtering an ox to provide a meal for your audience but if the ox becomes the reason for attending a meeting something somewhere is missing.

Nowadays people want to be entertained. When government officials make arrangements for public meetings they must budget for popular singing groups to draw crowds. It is hoped that in-between the jiving sessions people will get the message.



It is disturbing to see how churchgoers nowadays want to be entertained too. God's Word then becomes a non-essential appendix to the service. Friends, something somewhere is tragically wrong when God's Word ceases to be the main attraction for God's people. Apathy to God's Word is spiritually fatal.

(To be continued in next newsletter. Full speech is on the CFT website)

1. Human trafficking has become the third largest international criminal activity after arms smuggling and drug trafficking. According to the US State Department, 800 000 people are trafficked across national borders every year. This excludes trafficking within countries. 80 percent of these victims are women and girls and as many as 50 percent are children. The majority of victims are trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation. That is why there is such a strong link between prostitution and trafficking.

2. Prostitution can be defined as the exchange of sexual acts for reward and is a criminal offence in South Africa. In 2002 a group of prostitutes and a pimp challenged the laws on prostitution in the Constitutional Court. Doctors for Life made a submission to the Constitutional Court on behalf of the State and the Court upheld the laws criminalizing prostitution. Recently the Durban municipality said that they want to create so called red light areas to centralize the legal sex industry such as strip clubs and escort agencies for 2010. Doctors for Life is opposed to the legal sex industry and regards it as a front for prostitution and trafficking. The municipality also said that they want to legalize prostitution in these areas even though prostitution is a criminal act. They did acknowledge that it would require an act of parliament.

3. There are four main ways that governments deal with prostitution.

3.1. Criminalization is where both the prostitute and the buyer are guilty of a crime. It sends out a clear message to the public that prostitution is unacceptable and should be the position held by Christians. However, as prostitutes are usually the victims of negative circumstances, we should be compassionate and help them to exit the lifestyle and live a fulfilled life.

3.2. Partial Criminalization is where the buyer of the services of a prostitute is guilty of a crime but the prostitute is not. Even though this lowers the instances of prostitution it is an unhealthy situation because the prostitute can just keep on re-offending.

3.3. Decriminalization removes all laws on prostitution. It sends out a message to the public that prostitution is a normal and acceptable way of earning a living. It also creates a situation where pimps and traffickers can operate freely. It is a bad situation.

3.4. Legalization basically means that the state regulates prostitution and becomes the pimp, hiring out its most vulnerable citizens for profit. It is absolutely unacceptable.

4. If prostitution is legalized or decriminalized it will require an act of parliament and will open the door for pimps and traffickers to ply their evil trade. South Africa has an unemployment rate of 37%. Prostitution and pimping is glamorized in popular culture and music videos. The temptation of earning dollars and euros will corrupt the moral fiber of the youth. Thousands of youth

will be lured to the cities with promises of employment, only to end up trafficked into prostitution. We suggest that a slogan be developed as a national tool opposing trafficking and prostitution. Something like, "Protect Our Youth Against 2010".

5. If you hear or see anything in the media that sounds as if the discussion on prostitution has moved to provincial or national parliament level, contact Christians For Truth and Doctors for Life. The Constitution stipulates that before parliament can strike down or pass any laws, that there has to be public participation. When one considers the procedures that need to be followed to strike down or pass new laws, it will be difficult to do before 2010. But it is possible that it could be pushed through at the last minute. So we must be ready for action.

The Herald
News Article

Bay cop cracks human trafficking syndicate.

A Port Elizabeth police officer's persistence in searching for a missing 15-year-old girl has cracked open a national human- trafficking syndicate with deep roots in Central Port Elizabeth.

The breakthrough came after police constable Marcelle van der Watt's search for missing Port Elizabeth girl Janice "Vissie" Kakora led him to Bloemfontein.

Janice disappeared from St George's Strand near Motherwell in December last year.

On August 12, police raided the Maitland Hotel in Bloemfontein and found three abducted girls in a desperate state.

Two of the girls, who are 18 and 19 years old, were abducted in Port Elizabeth, while the third, aged 14, is from Barkly West.

The operations also led to the arrest of 10 people and the confiscation of drugs worth R4000 and stolen property worth R8000. Police further obtained the names of five Port Elizabeth-based Nigerians allegedly involved in the syndicate.

Two of the men who were arrested were running an illegal abortion clinic. Six illegal immigrants and two women involved in drug charges in Pretoria were also among those arrested.

From what police have gathered from the three girls, in some cases, the victims were taken by force.

"They drag the girls to their car, shove cocaine up their noses and drown out the screams by covering their mouths," Beetge said.

After this they are raped continuously for up to two weeks. "By doing this they break the girls and condition them for prostitution."

In Port Elizabeth, this allegedly happens in various properties in the central business district in the city. They are then taken to Bloemfontein and from there they are "distributed" across the country or wherever there is a shortage of "fresh faces".

(The Herald, 5 September 2008)



Devotional Thought

An Open Secret



"And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Gost, that he would not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ." (Luke 2: 26)

Christ's Birth and His Salvation . . .

The devout Simeon needed special revelation, directly from the Holy Spirit, to recognise the Christ Child. This secret was hidden from everyone except for a chosen few. Now, however, the birth of Christ and His full salvation is known throughout the world. The New Testament proclaims the information, preachers testify to the Good News of Jesus, and through all types of communication methods the Gospel of our Saviour has been proclaimed to every nation. In that sense we are no longer in the "times of ignorance" but "now God commands all men everywhere to repent." (Acts 17: 30)

And yet, it still remains true that these glad tidings of the birth of Jesus, the "reason for the season", is still a secret because only the Holy Spirit can enlighten a person to grasp the facts and the meaning of His coming into the world. Pray with all your being that Christ would be made known to you by the Holy Spirit and that, as the Gospel is preached across the world, the Lord would enlighten "all men everywhere to repent" because of God's gift to the world.



LIFE CHAIN - 4 & 5 October 2008



On 4 & 5 October Life Chains were held at different places.

4 October: In Empangeni, 120 members of Christians for Truth (CFT), marched from the taxi rank to the state hospital dressed in black and carrying miniature coffins. Passers-by asked whether there were corpses of real babies in their coffins. A Memorandum of Concern was handed to a representative from the hospital. This was the first Life Chain ever held in Empangeni.

5 October: In Durban, about 50 CFT members formed a Life Chain along Umgeni Road. They received many thumbs up from passing motorists. Radio Khwezi and Good News Community Radio conducted interviews with the participants.

The Life Chain is an international prayer vigil and peaceful placard protest against abortion.



GodSpeaks.org.za

Simple, Relevant, Life-changing

As you may recall, at the last two CFT Annual General Meetings we have agreed that we look into a project called GOD SPEAKS. This is an American based project and they have given us the go-ahead to do the same in South Africa.

Basically, it is a project to put up giant Billboards with short slogans like the ones mentioned below. Of course, we value your suggestions. So, please logon to www.godspeaks.co.za; peruse the website then click on "contact" and give your comments.

MORE Billboard Slogans:

Loved the wedding, invite me to the marriage. - God
Love Thy Neighbor. - God
Will the road you're on get you to My place? - God
Need a marriage counselor? - God
If you must curse, use your own name! - God
My way is the highway. - God

Fax 086 615 6540
Cell 082 492 4428
www.godspeaks.org.za
info@godspeaks.org.za

