

“The Watchman Anointing”

Ezekiel 3:17

Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

Introduction

1. We are to be in the presence of God so we can go back into the world with God’s anointing to do God’s work.

Note the old hymn, “Let me Touch Him.”

Let me touch Him; Let me touch Jesus;
 Let me touch Him as He passes by;
 Then when I shall reach out to others,
 They shall know Him;
 They shall live and not die.

Refrain

O, to be His hand extended,
 Reaching out to the oppressed.
 Let me touch Him; Let me touch Jesus,
 So that others may know and be blessed.

I was straying so far from Jesus;
 I was lonely, had no peace within;
 Then the hand of my Savior touched me,
 Now I'm reaching to others in sin.

There's a river, a river flowing
 From within and to cleanse my soul;
 And the flow sets my life to glowing,
 Holy Spirit, more than silver or gold.

2. Let us look at a message that reveals to us that we are watchmen.
3. The Genetic Plague
 - a. The only thing worse than shopping is watching someone shop.
 - b. The above statement is true for everyone except for my wife
 - i. I do not mind following her around the mall for two to three hours while she shops.
 - ii. I show my interest with little grunts like Un-huh, or how much

- iii. Shopper Watching is about as interesting as a “sewing match.”
- iv. According to Dutch Sheets there is a gene in young girls that kicks in unexpectedly as they approach womanhood.
 - 1) He said that he went to anoint one of his daughters with oil who had the shakes, flulike symptoms.
 - 2) His wife said that anointing her with oil would not help, they had to get her to a mall quick.
- v. Dutch Sheets said he was in the food court writing, and his wife brought their oldest daughter, who is 17 to leave her with him, while she went back for one more item.
- vi. According to Rev. Sheets, aerobic exercise the older women are doing is in reality “shopping conditioning.”

4. We need to Watch what we Watch

- a. Men do Exciting Watching
 - i. Watching for deer in sub-freezing weather
 - ii. Watching a football game, it does not matter who is playing
- b. All kinds of watching take place
 - i. T. V. watching
 - ii. Parade watching
 - iii. Watching the clock
 - iv. Watching the stock marking
 - v. Bird watching which ranks close to sewing matches
 - vi. Watching people laugh
 - vii. Watching people cry
 - viii. Watching someone die
 - ix. Watching someone being born

- c. Watching someone look for something precious
 - i. A lady was digging through the debris of what had been her home after an earthquake had hit San Pedro, Guatemala.
 - ii. When asked what she was looking for, she replied that she was looking for her husband's watch and a bag of beans.
 - iii. She knew where he had been sleeping when he got killed, and the questioners joined in the search.
 - iv. They joined in the search, found the watch, and discovered that "Treasure" is a relative term, as the lady held the watch close to her breast with tears streaming down her face declaring "Muchas Gracias, Muchas Gracias."
 - d. Another lady was observed walking away from a food line with her three year old child and an empty bowl after being told "no mas," "no mas," as she was last in line, and the food was all gone when she stepped up to the pot.
5. Some things that we watch give us pleasure for a moment, and other things will change our lives forever.
- a. Our priorities become rearranged.
 - b. Bank accounts do not mean as much as we look into someone's eyes, and see their hopelessness, and we watch them walk away without helping them.

I. We are to Be on the Alert

A. We are to Watch in Prayer

- 1. We are called and equipped as intercessors to be forewarned of Satan's schemes and plans
- 2. We are called and equipped as intercessors to pray against Satan's schemes and plans.
 - a. Pray against satan's scheme and plan to destroy our children and grandchildren
 - b. Pray against satan's scheme and plan to destroy our church
 - c. Pray against satan's scheme and plan to rob us of our finances, etc

3. Scriptures

- a. Ephesians 6:18

i. Kjv

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

ii. Amp

Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people).

Note: Job prayed for his children, and we should use that same diligence in our prayers

b. 1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Note the following stories

i. 16 angels guard the Higgens family

During the Mau Mau uprising in Kenya in 1960, missionaries Matt and Lora Higgens were returning one night to Nairobi through the heart of Mau Mau territory, where Kenyans and missionaries alike had been killed and dismembered. Seventeen miles outside of Nairobi their Land Rover stopped. Higgens tried to repair the car in the dark, but could not restart it. They spent the night in the car declaring Psalm 4:8:

"I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." In the morning they were able to repair the car.

A few weeks later the Higgenses returned to America on furlough. They reported that the night before they left Nairobi, a local pastor had visited them. He told how a member of the Mau Mau had confessed that he and three others had crept up to the car to kill the Higgenses, but when they saw the sixteen men surrounding the car, the Mau Mau left in fear. "Sixteen men?" Higgens responded. "I don't know what you mean!"

While they were on furlough a friend, Clay Brent, asked the Higgenses if they have been in any danger recently. Higgens asked, "Why?" Then Clay said that on March 23, God had placed a heavy prayer burden on his heart. He called the men of the church, and sixteen of them met together and prayed until the burden lifted. Did God send sixteen angels to represent those men and enforce their prayers?

ii. Protection through prayer for Fred Mitchell

In 1947, while I was travelling on horseback in Central China with Mr. Fred Mitchell, we

came to a spot that was notorious as a robber hide-out. The missionary accompanying us was keeping a sharp look-out. Suddenly we came upon a body lying beside the path. The victim was obviously not long dead. The brigands had been at work.

A few days later I received a letter from my wife, asking whether we had been in any danger on a date and at a time she named. On that particular night she had been suddenly awakened with the strong impression that I was in danger. She rose and prayed until the burden lifted and peace returned.

On consulting my diary, I discovered that this midnight prayer synchronized with the time we were passing through the robber-infested area. God heard and answered the prayer for the safety of His servants. — J.O. Sanders

iii. Protection through prayer

In 1950, the tent of two female missionaries serving in Africa is surrounded one night by headhunters. Rather than cower in the dark, they light their lamp and proceed to make and drink tea all night. In the morning, they discover the headhunters have left. Months later, one of them receives a letter from a mission supporter back home telling how she'd been unable to sleep on that very night and so had stayed up all night to pray for the safety of the missionaries serving at that particular station — had the missionaries had any sort of special need that evening?

Note: We need to be alert to what the Spirit of God directs us to do.

c. 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

10) 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; 11) Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Note: To the degree of the ignorance

- i. We have of how our adversary thinks and operates,
- ii. We have of his plans, plots, schemes, and devices,
- iii. To that degree, he will gain on us, prey on us, defraud us of what is ours and have or hold the greater portion.

4. Four observations from these three passages of Scripture

1st. Protection from the attacks of our enemy, even for believers is not automatic.

- i. There is a part for us to play

- ii. God is sovereign, but He has left mankind responsible for his decisions and actions which means that God has relinquished control.
 - iii. We have to believe that we matter, and that we are relevant for ourselves and for others.
- 2nd. God's plan is to warn or alert us to satan's tactics.
- i. God wants us to be aware of what is happening around us
 - ii. God wants to warn us, or alert us of satan's tactics.
 - iii. Examples:
 - 1) Noah, build an ark for it is going to flood.
 - 2) Abraham, I am going to destroy Sodom
- 3rd. We must be alert, remain watchful, or we won't pick up on God's attempts to warn us of satan's attacks and plans.
- i. The attacks of satan are not going to be obvious all the time.
 - ii. Therefore, we are to stay alert.
 - iii. Many Christians are like the watchmen in Isaiah 56:10 (Kjv)

His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

- 4th. If we are not alert and watchful, if we are ignorant of satan's schemes, he will take the bigger portion.
- i. Satan will take advantage of our ignorance.
 - ii. According to Hosea 4:6, we can be destroyed due to ignorance. (Kjv)

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children

- iii. Satan has gained a lot of territory in American, because we are like the desert nomad who awoke hungry.
 - 1) He lit a candle, grabbed a date, took a bite, and it had a worm in it.

2) He threw it out of the tent, grabbed another date, bit into it, and it had a worm in it, and he threw it out of the tent.

3) Afraid he might not get anything to eat, he blew out the candle, and ate the dates.

Note: Many of God's people prefer the darkness of denial to the light of truth. The truth is still the truth, and denial will not change it. Where satan has made gains, let us admit it, and determine to take back that territory.

B. There are two New Testament Greek words that make the connection to the Old Testament concept of watchmen.

1. They are Gregoreuo and Agrupneo

a. They mean Stay awake as a sentry or guard watches over the camp.

b. Gregoreuo means

i. Give strict attention to and be cautious

ii. Take heed lest through remission and laziness some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one

c. Agrupneo means

i. To be sleepless, to keep awake, and watch

ii. To be circumspect, attentive, and ready

2. Let us look at some of those verses

a. Colossians 4:2...

Continue in prayer, and watch (grēgoreō) in the same with thanksgiving;

b. Mark 14:34, 38

34) And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch (grēgoreō)...38) Watch ye (grēgoreō) and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

c. 1st Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant (grēgoreō); because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

d. 1st Corinthians 16:13

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

e. Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching (agrypneō) thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

f. Luke 21:36

Watch ye (agrypneo) therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man..

C. We are to be alert, and we are to watch for “strategic” or “karios” times, and pray accordingly.

1. We are to set boundaries through prayer, and in doing so, we watch over our community, church, friends, and loved ones.
2. We are to be alert for karios times of prayer
 - a. Randy praying for family on a day several tornados went through this area
 - b. Bro Kizzee praying for Frank because of a burden he felt
 - c. Jim Peterson awaking and praying for me
 - d. Cindy Jacobs praying for a couple with three kids, and she saw a vision of a wheel coming off causing a terrible accident.
 - i. She prayed for their safety
 - ii. When they arrived, she asked if anything was wrong with their right wheel.
 - iii. They said no. They took it to a mechanic anyway, and he said there was no logical reasoning for the wheel to be on the vehicle. It should have came off.
 - iv. Her husband carried with him a bag of wheel bearings calling it the “trophies of intercession.”

Note: In these examples is the “watchman anointing” in operation. We sense the danger at a karios time, and we establish boundaries of protection through intercession.

II. Biblical Watchmen

A. They were what we would call sentries, guards, or lookouts

1. They were responsible for protecting
 - a. Vineyards from thieves and animals
 - b. Cities from invading forces
 2. They would take shifts and watch for 24 hours.
 3. During the season of harvest, it was more urgent to have watchmen
- B. They were stationed on City walls to watch for Messengers and enemies

1. Scriptures

- a. Isaiah 21:6

For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth.

- i. In v7, God told him what the watchman was to watch for
- ii. God has called us to be watchmen, and we are told to watch
 - 1) For signs of troubling times
 - 2) For those who need our intercession
 - 3) For the coming of the Lord.

Note: Are we at our post day after day, and night after night, or are our friends, family, church, community without a watchman.

Note: A saint of God died in a church that I pastored, and the family asked who will pray for us now?

- b. Jeremiah 51:12

Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the Lord hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.

- c. Isaiah 62:6

I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence.

2. They watch for messengers

- a. They need to know when to open the gates
- b. Seasoned watchmen are alerted by the Holy Spirit
 - i. That a messenger is or is not of God
 - ii. Recognize wolves that are sent to devour the flock
 - iv. Recognize hirelings who have impure motives
 - v. Scriptures that warn us to watch for false messengers

1) 2 Peter 2:1-2

1) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2) And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

2) Acts 20:28-31

28) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. 29) For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30) Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31) Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

3. Watch for the Enemy

- a. The watchmen on the wall was responsible to warn the people when they saw the enemy approach, and the people became responsible for preparing themselves.
- b. We are to watch for the enemy in a spiritual sense, and warn the Body of Christ, the church.
- c. We are watchmen. We are not to live in fear of our adversary, and neither are we to live in ignorance of him.

Note: We cannot ignore satan, for We are called to be watchmen

4. Be a good soldier

- a. Be well-informed of your enemy

- b. Be aware of the enemy, but be infatuated with and in awe of Jesus.
- c. Love Worship, not warfare, but when necessary, go to war.

Note: We as Christians are to Concentrate on Jesus and His victory, but

- i. At the same time, we are also to understand our authority over satan and understand the need for Spiritual warfare.
- ii. Concentrating on Jesus will not make satan go away, and
- iii. Focusing on love will not make people do what is right.
- iv. There are times that lines have to be drawn, information has to be given, and we fight for the right because we are on a battlefield, not in a recreation room.

III. The Watchman Looks Ahead

A. Watchmen did not only guard cities and fields

- 1. Watchmen also “hedged around something” or built walls.
- 2. Watchmen could hide or conceal something from the enemy.
- 3. Through intercession, Watchmen create the secret place of protection that is mentioned in Psalms 91 (v1-2)

1) He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2) I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

B. The Watchmen looked ahead, peering into the distance

- 1. He wanted to foresee the attacks of the enemy. The watchmen was for the offense, not just defense.
- 2. Adam in Genesis 2:15 was to “keep it” or watch it.
 - a. Adam felled to watch for satan
 - b. The description of satan in Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

- i. Our enemy is crafty
- ii. Our enemy is cunning

Note: But we are filled with the Spirit, and the Spirit will inform us, or alert us if we are vigilant to his devious and his warfare, so we can be ready to go to war.

IV. Be Defensive---Keep The Serpent Out

Note: It is easier to keep him out, then it is to get him out once he has infiltrated our lives, or our church.

A. Adam was told to “keep the garden”

B. Keep the Serpent out

- 1. Keep him out of your home, your garden
- 2. Do not give him one excuse to enter

C. Uses of the Word of Watchmen

- 1. Keep or Keeper--Watchmen keep things, places, and individuals safe. They ensure against loss, theft or damage. They keep things intact, in possession.
- 2. Guard---Watchmen are guards
- 3. Bodyguard---
 - a. Watchmen guard individuals, protecting them from danger and harm.
 - b. Watchmen are shields, the secret service agents of God’s kingdom, guarding and protecting others.
 - c. Watchmen represent Jesus by watching over others.

Note: Pastors need spiritual bodyguards

4. Doorkeeper or Gatekeeper---

- a. Watchmen determine who goes in and out of their homes, their families’ lives, their churches, and their cities, etc
- b. Watchmen discern by the Holy Spirit what to allow in, and through prayer, open and close the door.

- c. Watchmen invite in the work of the Holy Spirit and reject the works of darkness.
 - d. Watchmen set boundaries, and keep enemies out.
5. Preserve or preserver
 - a. Watchmen preserve or keep things from ruin and destruction
 - b. Watchmen preserve lives, anointings, moves of God, and many other things by covering them in prayer
 6. Pay Attention---They are on the alert for lives are at stake.
 7. Observe---They see what others fail to see.
 8. Behold---They see clearly
 9. Beware---When they see the lion approaching, they meet him enforcing Calvary's victory with the "Mama Bear Anointing."
 10. Protect---They build walls and set boundaries of protections from the attacks of satan, and they distribute the blessing of the Lord.
 11. Maintain---They are maintenance people. They keep things working and prevent breakdowns. They maintain the anointing, integrity, health, and many other necessary blessings of the kingdom.

Conclusion

1. In Psalms, the Bible tells us that "unless God keeps the city, the watchman waketh in vain."
 - a. The watchmen realizes that he is a representative of God
 - b. Therefore, he is calling on God to keep the city.
 - c. God gets involved in keeping our families, our church, our cities, our country, because watchmen have saw the danger, and they are building the hedges, crying out to God for the victory.
2. Watchmen lay siege against the enemy
3. Watchmen take cities and nations for God, and individuals
4. Watchmen see cities and families transformed.

5. Are you ready to be a watchmen

Note: Sam and Jed heard that there was a \$5,000.00 bounty being offered for the capture of killing of wolves So, they became bounty hunters. Late one night, Sam woke up and saw that he was surrounded by 50 pairs of gleaming eyes, ravenous wolves licking hungry chops. Sam says: “Jed, wake up,” “We are rich!”

6. It is time that we see the unbelievers around us as not threats, but as opportunities.