

- 1  **A WATCHMAN TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL**  
Ezekiel 3.16-17
- 2  **What Is A Watchman?**
  - A man who watches
  - Two-fold job – watch and warn
  - Apprise king of anyone approaching city
    - *2 Samuel 18.24-27; 2 Kings 9.17-20*
  - More often, watch and warn of encroaching enemies
    - *Ezekiel 33.1-6*
- 3  **What Is A Watchman?**
  - “On the city watchman hung the fate of the city—the lives of fellow citizens. He was exempted from other duties that he might the better discharge *this*” (J. D. Davies, *The Pulpit Commentary: Ezekiel*, 65)
  - Watchmen were often stationed in towers
    - *Isaiah 21.8; Habakkuk 2.1*
- 4  **What Is A Watchman?**
  - W. were to sound the alarm as loud as possible
    - Trumpet call – *Ezekiel 33.1-6; Jeremiah 4.5; 6.1, 17; Hosea 5.8; 8.1; Joel 2.1; Amos 3.6*
    - Shouting loudly – *Isaiah 58.1; 21.6; 52.8; 62.6*
  - Certain w. were also policeman
    - *Song of Solomon 3.3; 5.7*
- 5  **What Is A Watchman?**
  - W. were to be constantly alert
    - *Isaiah 21.8; 62.6*
  - W. held responsible for death, if he failed duties
    - *Ezekiel 33.1-6; Isaiah 56.10*
  - However, if fulfilled duties, not responsible
    - *Ezekiel 33.1-6; Jeremiah 6.17ff*
- 6  **The Charge, Call, Commission of Ezekiel**
  - Ezekiel chapters 1-3 record his call and commission
  - Ezekiel sent as watchman to warn wayfaring Israel
    - *Ezekiel 3.17*
  - The Lord gave Ezekiel message
    - *Ezekiel 2.9-3.4*
- 7  **The Charge, Call, Commission of Ezekiel**
  - Israel had become “rebellious,” who had “trans-gressed against” God, stiffhearted and stubborn
    - *Ezekiel 2.3-4*
  - Ezekiel’s message: “You shall surely die”
    - *Ezekiel 3.18*
- 8  **The Charge, Call, Commission of Ezekiel**
  - If Ezekiel failed to warn, Israel would still, but the Lord would require their blood at his hand
    - *Ezekiel 3.18*
  - If we warned, they might still die, but he would deliver his own soul and be saved
    - *Ezekiel 3.19*
- 9  **The Charge, Call, Commission of Ezekiel**
  - But was that all?
  - Ezekiel also had responsibility to warn righteous
    - *Ezekiel 3.20-21*
  - The charge and commission of the Lord’s watchman was to warn all people, the wicked and the righteous, of the consequences of sin. A failure to do so would result in the deaths of the wicked and the watchman.*
- 10  **“Watch” and “Warn”:**  
**Is It A Charge For Christians Today?**
  - No mention of watchman in NT
    - *Matthew 12.45; 21.33; Mark 12.1; Luke 13.4; 14.28*

- OT prophesied that Christ's Kingdom would have w.
  - Isaiah 52.7-8; 62.6 (cf. vv. 1-7)*
- Consider following NT passages about watching
  - Matthew 16.6; 25.13; 26.41 (cf. Mark 8.15; 14.38)*
- 11  **"Watch" and "Warn":**
  - Is It A Charge For Christians Today?**
  - Teachings of Jesus about warning
    - Luke 12.4-5; 16.28 (cf. vv. 19-31)*
  - Consider the example of the apostle Paul
    - Acts 18.6-7; 20.26, 27, 21, 20, 29-30, 31-32*
- 12  **"Watch" and "Warn":**
  - Is It A Charge For Christians Today?**
  - "Watch" and "warn": Is it a charge for Christians today? *Yes!*
  - Any person who has read the New Testament can clearly see this fact. A person would have to work hard to obscure this truth.
  - There is absolutely no truth to the claim that those who watch and warn today are forming some sort of secret society of watchdogs or watchmen.
- 13  **Saint and Sin**
  - We must watch for sin in our own lives
    - 1 Corinthians 16.13; Galatians 5.5; 6.1; Colossians 4.2; 1 Peter 5.8; 2 John 8*
  - Watch for the souls of others
    - Romans 16.17; 2 Thessalonians 3.14-15*
  - We must also warn all people
    - Matt. 18.15; Galat. 6.1-2; James 5.19-20; Jude 22-23*
- 14  **Saint and Sin**
  - If a saint fails to watch out for the souls of others and warn them of the consequences of their sin, they have become disobedient to the word God, suffer eternal consequences
    - Matt. 7.12; 16.26; 28.18-20; Mark 16.15-16; Luke 10.30-37; John 15.1-6; Col. 4.5-6; Heb. 5.12-14; 12.5-13; Jas. 2.14-26; 4.17; 1 Pet. 3.15; 1 John 3.16-24; 2 John 9-11; Jude 3; etc.*
- 15  **Elders and Enemies**
  - There are enemies of Christ – *Philippians 3.18*
  - Elders must protect sheep from enemies, whether from without or within
    - Hebrews 13.17; 1 Peter 5.1-2; Acts 20.28, 31*
  - The very concept of shepherding demands diligent vigilance in watching over the sheep
    - 1 Sam. 17.34-36; Ps. 23; Ezek. 34.12; Luke 2.8*
- 16  **Elders and Enemies**
  - Elders must do everything in their power to see that Satan does not snatch and steal souls of sheep
    - 1 Peter 5.8; Acts 20.28-31; 2 Peter 2; 3.15-18; 1 Timothy 1.18-20; 2 Timothy 2.16-18*
  - Elders must warn flock; silence those who contradict
    - Titus 1.9-11*
- 17  **Elders and Enemies**
  - An elder who fails to be a watchman, to watch and warn, over the sheep God has entrusted to his keeping will be held responsible for those sheep
    - Hebrews 13.17; Ezekiel 34.10; 3.18-20; 33.1-9; 34.1-10; Isaiah 56.9-11; Acts 20:29-30; Jeremiah 23.1-2*
- 18  **Elders and Enemies**
  - Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood!* (Acts 20.28)
- 19  **Evangelists and Error**
  - Evangelists are to watch themselves
    - 1 Timothy 4.16; 2 Timothy 4.5*
  - The Spirit explicitly and expressly says some would depart from the faith, devoting themselves to the deceitful doctrines of demons, and Paul tells Timothy he is to point these things out to the brethren

- 20  **1 Timothy 4:1-3**  
 **Evangelists and Error**  
 Every evincing evangelist will warn alien sinners and apostate saints alike of their need to accept the salvation of God's grace through the mediating Messiah and ransoming Redeemer!  
 1 Timothy 2.3-7; 1.15-17; 2 Timothy 1.8-12
- 21  **Evangelists and Error**  
 Paul charges Timothy and Titus with the responsibilities of a watchman to "point out," "prescribe" and "preach"; to "convince," "convict" and "command"; to "remind," "reprove" and "rebuke"; to "entrust," "instruct" and "insist"; to "exhort," "encourage" and "urge"; and to "appeal," "avoid" and "admonish" "with all authority"
- 22  **Evangelists and Error**  
 Evangelists must follow Paul's example  
 Preach whole counsel of God, positive and negative – Acts 20.17-38; Jeremiah 1.10; Rom. 11.22; 2 Tim. 4.2  
 Put forth the word of God, not oneself, nothing more and nothing less – 1 Cor. 2.1-5; 2 Cor. 4.1-5
- 23  **Evangelists and Error**  
 *Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers* (1 Timothy 4.16).  
 *Preach the word; be ready in season and out season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching* (2 Timothy 4.2).
- 24  **Sound the Clear, Clarion, Call of Christ**  
 WE ARE AT WAR!  
 2 Corinthians 10.3-6; Ephesians 6.10-18; 1 Timothy 6.12; 2 Timothy 2.3-4; 4.7-8  
 And we need watchmen!
- 25  **Sound the Clear, Clarion, Call of Christ**  
 We need watchmen who will sound forth the clear clarion call of Christ that alone has the power to save people from their sins and to rescue them from Satan's snare  
 Romans 1.16-17; 2 Timothy 2.24-26; Jude 22-23
- 26  **Sound the Clear, Clarion, Call of Christ**  
 We need watchmen who will watch and warn in the spirit of love, even though it may be painful to the watchmen or the hearers  
 *Ephesians 4.15; 2 Timothy 4.2; 1 Peter 3.15; Acts 20.19, 31; 2 Corinthians 2.4; Philippians 3:18; Hebrews 12:5-11; etc.*
- 27    
 If there was no error in principle or practice, then controversy, which is only another name for opposition to error, real or supposed, would be unnecessary. If it were lawful, or if it were benevolent, to make a truce with error, then opposition to it would be both unjust and unkind. If error were innocent and harmless, then we might permit it to find its own quietus, or to immortalize itself. But so long as it is confessed that error is more or less injurious to the welfare of society, individually and collectively considered, then no man can be considered benevolent who does not set his face against it. In proportion as a person is intelligent and benevolent, he will be controversial, if error exists around him. Hence the Prince of Peace never sheathed the sword of the Spirit while he lived. He drew it on the banks of the Jordan and threw the scabbard away (Alexander Campbell, *The Millennial Harbinger, Vol. 1, No. 1 [January 1830], 41*).
- 28  **Conclusion**  
 Are you fulfilling your role and responsibilities in the work of a watchman? If not, why not?  
 *Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest"* (Matt. 9.37-38).  
 *"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me"* (Ezekiel 3.16-17).
- 29  **God's Plan For Your Salvation**  
 Hear God's Word – *Matthew 17.5; Romans 10.17*  
 Believe in Christ – *John 8.24; Romans 10.9*

- Repent of Sins – *Luke 13.3; Acts 2.38*
- Confess Faith in Christ – *Romans 10.10*
- Be Immersed in Water – *Mark 16.16*
- Live Faithfully – *Revelation 2.10; Colossians 1.21-23*
  - Repent of Sins & Pray for Forgiveness - *Acts 8.22*
  - Confess Sins - *James 5.16; 1 John 1.9*