

Watchman Part 11

The Watchman Has a Merciful, Courageous and Faithful Heart

The Word of God admonishes us to be kind hearted to the people around us and especially more toward our own brothers and sisters in faith.

1. The watchman sees and meets his brother needs: “35 And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee. 36 Take thou no usury of him, or increase: but fear thy God; that thy brother may live with thee. 37 Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase. 38 I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.” (Leviticus 25:35-38 KJV) The brethren who are already with us in the church and if it happened that they fall into trouble and start to be in need then we need to relieve them from their troubles so they can continue in faith with us. The way we relieve them is to neither lend them the money they need with interest nor lend them food or any other goods in return to a benefit.

2. The watchman treats kindly the brother who is in need; not to be treated as slave but as a hired worker: “39 And if thy brother that dwelleth by thee be waxen poor, and be sold unto thee; thou shalt not compel him to serve as a bondservant: 40 But as an hired servant, and as a sojourner, he shall be with thee, and shall serve thee unto the year of jubile. 41 And then shall he depart from thee, both he and his children with him, and shall return unto his own family, and unto the possession of his fathers shall he return. 42 For they are my servants, which I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: they shall not be sold as bondmen. 43 Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God.” (Leviticus 25:39-43 KJV) * Now here the other way that you can help the brother or the sister who are already in the church and started to be in need is that by using their services that you need and pay them money for their services. That you can use their skills and the talents of their hands and you pay them for that. * That also means that people should not join the church because they will have some business and income; that is not correct because people will start to join the church not because of God but because of getting certain benefits. * Such should be applied to those who are already part of the church and started to be in need; in such a situation you can use their services and pay them for that. * Also if there is any brother or sister who has certain skill or profession should not be used for free by others because that is taking advantage. The more is that you should not take advantage of the needed brethren when you ask them to do certain secular work and you don't pay them.

3. The watchman work it out and see that his brother is to be set free and not to be enslaved under other people: “47 And if a sojourner or stranger wax rich by thee, and thy brother that dwelleth by him wax poor, and sell himself unto the stranger or sojourner by thee, or to the stock of the stranger's family: 48 After that he is sold he may be redeemed again; one of his brethren may redeem him: 49 Either his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him of his family may redeem him; or if he be able, he may redeem himself. 50 And he shall reckon with him that bought him from the year that he was sold to him unto the year of jubile: and the

price of his sale shall be according unto the number of years, according to the time of an hired servant shall it be with him. 51 If there be yet many years behind, according unto them he shall give again the price of his redemption out of the money that he was bought for. 52 And if there remain but few years unto the year of jubile, then he shall count with him, and according unto his years shall he give him again the price of his redemption. 53 And as a yearly hired servant shall he be with him: and the other shall not rule with rigour over him in thy sight.” (Leviticus 25:47-53 KJV) * There are brothers and sisters in the church who go and lend money or take loans and put themselves under the mercy of the banks or the money exchangers and be enslaved by heavy interest that they are not able to pay. In such situations we need to do our part to help them to be set free from under other people powers and from the bankers or the other money exchange personals and agencies. We can do our part as a church if we have money to lend them to close their loans and later on they will pay us without interest. * So you need to do your part to help to set free the brethren who are under other people power. If you cannot, then seek others if they can do this work and watch that finally they will be set free. But the best for such situations needed to be referred to the church so can decide better about them of what to do to help them. Learn more about that from the following Scriptures: ***“8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. 9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.” (Proverbs 31:8-9 KJV)*** ***“17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.” (Isaiah 1:17 KJV)*** ***“16 He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well with him: was not this to know me? saith the LORD.” declares the LORD.” (Jeremiah 22:16 KJV)***

4. The good Samaritan is a merciful watchman who cares for the victim: “30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. 33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, 34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. 36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? 37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.” (Luke 10:30-37 KJV) The priest and the Levite they were bad example of a watchman, they saw the victim but they did nothing to help, rescue and restore. But the Samaritan was a good watchman with a merciful heart to help and restore the victim. He was not afraid to put his hand and help. Jesus instructed us to go and do the same, ***“Go, and do thou likewise.”*** We need to do the complete work when we are led by God to rescue someone who is in trouble and we need to bring them into stable condition, and equip them to go and manage their lives.

5. The midwives who protected the Hebrew babes were merciful and faithful watchwomen who feared God: “15 And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphray, and the name of the other Puah: 16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a

son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live. 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. 18 And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive? 19 And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them. 20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. 21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.” (Exodus 1:16-21 KJV) At that time Pharaoh was persecuting the people of God in Egypt and wanted to reduce their men number by executing the new born boys. He instructed the two midwives, “16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.” (Exodus 1:16 KJV) But they did not comply with Pharaoh’s command and instruction because they feared God and the Lord rewarded them for that. They were merciful, they were also courageous to say no to injustice and cruelty and they had faithful hearts toward God that they will not do anything against His will and purpose. **We need to do the same to protect and shield our children and not to comply with rules that will bring ruin into their lives.** The Word of God and the apostle teaches us that as well: “19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.” (Acts 4:19 KJV) “29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29 KJV) We need to be merciful, courageous and faithful to God so that we can perform our duties faithfully to Him as watchmen and watchwomen in the places that God had placed us.

6. The group of people who protected the life of the baby king Joash from the hand of Athaliah they were merciful, faithful and courageous watchmen and watchwomen: “1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal. 2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain. 3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land. 4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them the king's son. 5 And he commanded them, saying, This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you that enter in on the sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house; 6 And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down. 7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king. 8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in. 9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest. 10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of

the LORD. 11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple. 12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king. 13 And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD. 14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason. 15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD. 16 And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.” (2 Kings 11:1-16 KJV) Here we can see a team of merciful, courageous and faithful people who took charge over the life of Joash. Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, the auntie of Joash took care of him. She stole him from among the king’s sons whom Athalia killed, and he and his nurse she hid them in a room and was with her in the house of God for six years while Athaliah did reign over the land. But in the seventh year Jehoiada the high priest made a good arrangement and sent and fetched the rulers, the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and showed them the king’s son. So Jehoiada brought the king’s son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him, and was under the protection of the guard and they took Athalia and put her to death and those who followed her. We see here clearly a full team, composed of men and women, faithful, merciful and courageous, an army of watchmen and watchwomen to preserve the life of one child who later on became the king of Judah. **In the same way we as a church need to work as team of men and women to care for each and every child God placed in our hands to raise him as a responsible disciple of Jesus and a leader for God’s church in the coming days.**

7. Esther acted as faithful, merciful and courageous watchwoman when she interfered and save the life of her people from the hand of Haman who schemed plan to execute all the Jewish: Esther famous saying was the following: “6 For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?” (Esther 8:6 KJV) Esther as watchwoman was not willing to see evil falling on her people the Jewish. So she endeavored and rescued her life to save her people from the hand of the enemy as we can read in the following Scriptures:

A. Esther responded to the challenge and God’s calling: “15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer, 16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.” (Esther 4:15-17 KJV) Esther fasted three days and was willing to go and meet the king even if she will perish. **God had placed each and every one of us in certain places for His purpose. So we need to love God and His work and be faithful and courageous to do what we are called to do from assignments.**

B. Esther dealt shrewdly with Haman who planned to execute the whole Jewish: “1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen. 2 And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom. 3 Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request: 4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage. 5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so? 6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen. 7 And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king. 8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of king's mouth, they covered Haman's face. 9 And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon. 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.” (Esther 7:1-10 KJV) We should not go with our emotions when we deal with our enemies, but we should be wise and follow what God is leading us to do so we can handle them properly and protect ourselves.

C. Esther reversed the plan of evil and saved the rest of her people and executed judgment on the enemy: “1 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her. 2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman. 3 And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews. 4 Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king, 5 And said, If it please the king, and if I have favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces: 6 For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred? 7 Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews. 8 Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.” (Esther 8:1-8 KJV)

As watchmen and watchwomen when we submit ourselves fully to God and led by Him then we can see the evil plan of the enemy had returned on their own heads.

***My dear and beloved:** The above Scriptures would inculcate in our hearts and minds faithfulness toward God, mercy toward one another and courage to do God's will. As a watchman or watchwoman God called you to offer your life to Him and to have a heart same of His heart, kind and merciful, faithful and courageous. Therefore act accordingly and with courage, wisdom and discretion to fulfill His will and serve His purpose. Let us pray ...*

***My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for all the teaching about the watchman in this message, and thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments that we received from you.*

Confess your sins and renounce them. Confess and renounce your lack of concern, love, mercy and care to others including your family and children. Confess and renounce your negligence to raise your children in a Godly way. Confess and renounce your non willingness to help the poor and the needy from among the brethren, and those who are in troubles. Confess your lack of courage and faithfulness. Confess your abuse and taking advantage of others. Renounce your non willingness to take the risk, got persecuted and suffer for the sake of Christ in serving the purpose of Him in your life and in the life of His people. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to abide with your Word and instruction that we received in this message. Lord I commit myself into your hand. Mold my heart and my life to be the kind of watchman or watchwoman that you want me to be; to see and to act mindfully and mercifully to achieve your purpose. Lord give me the courage to act. Lord equip me, protect me and provide for me to achieve that, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my brothers and sisters who committed their lives to follow your Word and the instruction we received in this message. Lord use them to help the brethren who are in need and rescue those who are in troubles. Lord use them in the places that you put them to fulfill your purpose in their lives and in the lives of the people around them. Lord help them to raise their children in a Godly way. Lord protect them, provide them their needs to continue to serve you, and use their lives as good testimonies so others will follow you.

Lord bless us as a church and lead us to fulfill the Word of yours that we received in this message, to help the brethren who are in need, to rescue those in troubles, to raise up Godly children who will do the works of yours in the future. Lord give us wisdom and the strategy to deal with our enemies and those who oppose the truth. Lord raise more faithful watchmen and watchwomen full of courage and mercy. Lord refill us with the Holy and lead us to evangelize, making disciples, training workers and to plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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