

Watchman Part 13

The Watchman Is a Keeper for his Brothers from the Life of Joseph

“12 And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. 13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I. 14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. 15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou? 16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks. 17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.” (Genesis 37:12-17 KJV)

Joseph was sent by his father Jacob to go and to look for his brothers. He was called to be a watchman to look after the wellbeing of them. From the above passage we can conclude the following points:-

1. You are called to be willing to be sent and to go to the places and to the peoples that God is sending you to: *“13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.” (Genesis 37:13 KJV)* When Joseph his father Jacob called him at once he replied to him, *“Here am I”*. He did not make any excuses or tried to escape the task that he was called to do. Many when they are called they will start to complain, grumble, and utter many excuses. Joseph did not say, ‘Oh it is far’. ‘Oh it is long’, ‘Oh it is hot weather’, ‘Oh it is winter and very cold’, ‘Oh I am afraid ... my brothers don’t like me’, ‘Oh I have headache’, ‘Oh I feel tired’. **Don’t make excuses to escape the call of God and the task entrusted to you, otherwise God shall not bless you.**

2. You are called to look after the wellbeing of your brothers and bring a report about them: *“And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again.” (Genesis 37:14 KJV)* Joseph was called to look after the wellbeing of his brothers, the ten of them, and not only them but the wellbeing of the flocks. Joseph was called also to bring a report to his father Jacob. **So the watchmen and you among them have the responsibility to look after the affairs of your brothers and bring a report to those who are responsible and accountable on them.**

3. You are called to bring a report about the evil doing of your brethren to the responsible authority: Previously Joseph also reported the wrong doings of his brethren, the children of Bilhah and Zilpah to his father, *“2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.” (Genesis 37:2 KJV)* Joseph was willing to be hated and persecuted in order to speak and report the truth. **In the New Testament we need first to face those who sin and explain to them their sins as we read here, “15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.” (Matthew 18:15 KJV)** If he

or she will not respond to correction then needed to be escalated and others get involved and finally the church, *“16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. 17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.” (Matthew 18:16-17 KJV)* * **The purpose for all that so sin will be dealt with. Therefore as a watchman and a watchwoman reporting is mandatory whenever that is needed in order for sins to be dealt with. * Therefore the watchman and the watchwoman who suppose to deal with sin and report it when that deemed necessary they needed to be living in holiness and away from sins.**

4. You are called to endure the hardship of travelling: *“So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.” (Genesis 37:14 KJV)* So Joseph here had to travel a considerable distance before he would be able to reach them. He travelled from Hebron to Shechem which was around 95 kilometers. In addition to that he travelled from Shechem to Dothan which was around 19 kilometers in distance, *“17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.” (Genesis 37:17 KJV)* Joseph travelled by his feet, not having an ass or a horse. **So as watchman you may need to travel long distances before you can reach the people that you are sent to look after and examine their lives.**

5. You are called to endure traveling from field to field in order to find your target that you are looking: *“And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field:” (Genesis 37:15 KJV)* Joseph perhaps was moving in different fields in order for him to find and reach his brothers. When Joseph did not find his brethren in Shechem he did not go back to his father, but instead he continued searching for them in order to find them. **Those who are not committed to the service and the ministry you find them easily giving up and come back to you with negative answers; ‘Oh they are not there’, ‘Oh I don’t know where they went’, ‘Oh no use to look after them’, etc. Don’t be similar to such and behave in such a way if you want God to bless you.**

6. God will send you people to direct you in your journey: *“15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou? 16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.” (Genesis 37:15-16 KJV)* Joseph was looking and searching for his brothers and God sent him a man who noticed how Joseph was wandering, perhaps from field to field, and so he asked him about what he was looking, and Joseph answered him and said that he was looking for his brothers and gave him the details that they were feeding their flocks, so the man answered him and told Joseph that they went to Dothan, *“And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan.” (Genesis 37:17 KJV)* **As a watchman or a watchwoman certain times God will allow that certain people to come across your lives to help you and give you some details that will help you to achieve what you need to do to complete the ministry that God entrusted to you.**

7. Persevere and do not give up: *“17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.” (Genesis 37:17 KJV)* Joseph did not give up when he heard that they moved to Dothan. **As a watchman or a watchwoman in order for you to achieve your ministry you need to move further and persevere till you reach the place that God wants you to reach.**

“18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him. 19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh. 20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams. 21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him. 22 And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again. 23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him; 24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it. 25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt. 26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood? 27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content. 28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt. 29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes. 30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go? 31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; 32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no. 33 And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces. 34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. 35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him. 36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.” (Genesis 37:18-36 KJV)

8. Be wise and discerning in handling people: “Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him.” (Genesis 37:20 KJV) Joseph was sent by his father to look after his brothers, but they were thinking evil of him and mistreated him. They even told lies to hide their crime from the knowledge of their father. **As a watchman and a watchwoman you are called to be wise and discerning of how to handle the people that you are sent for,** “16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” (Matthew 10:16 KJV)

9. Remain faithful and accept persecution: **As a watchman and a watchwoman be faithful to God and do your ministry faithfully to the Lord.** Even the people that you are serving my mistreat you and persecute you, but you need to hold on your integrity and continue to serve the Lord. “22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. 23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the

prophets.” (Luke 6:22-23 KJV) Persecution is not reason for you to back out of the ministry and retreat from being a faithful watchman and a faithful watchwoman.

10. Have a big heart and forgive those who hurt you, and understand God's plan of salvation: “5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.” (Genesis 45:5 KJV) After many years from the above incident Joseph met with his brothers and they were afraid that he will punish them but Joseph did not harm them or punished them. Joseph understood the plan of God of salvation for the whole of his family. He even comforted his brothers and assured them, “7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.” (Genesis 45:7-8 KJV) Even after the death of his father he assured his brothers that he will not harm them, “15 And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him. 16 And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying, 17 So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him. 18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants. 19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? 20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. 21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.” (Genesis 50:15-21 KJV) **As a watchman and a watchwoman you need to have big heart and be willing to forgive those who hurt you and harm you so God's plan of salvation shall flow in the life of other people. Ask God to give you a big heart to accommodate and overcome all the hurt. Lord give me a big heart to forgive and overcome in Jesus name, Amen.**

My Dear and Beloved: Joseph was instructed by his father Jacob to go and see and look after the wellbeing of his brothers. And he was faithful and he continued to care and provide for them even after they had hurt him so the plan of God of salvation was fulfilled in the life of His people. Joseph was here a type of Christ. Jesus, though he was the beloved Son of his Father, and hated by a wicked world, yet the Father sent him out of his bosom to visit us in great humility and love. He came from Heaven to earth, to seek and save us; yet then malicious plots were laid against him. He came to his own, and his own not only received him not, but consulted against him: This is the heir, come let us kill him; Crucify him, crucify him. This He submitted to, in pursuance of His design to redeem us and save us. **In the same way God is calling you as watchmen and watchwomen to care and to look after the wellbeing of your brethren and the ministry and the people under your care.**

Let us pray . . .

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that makes things clear to me and give to me more wisdom, understanding and insight to go on and serve you with a loving, caring, mature, responsible

and forgiven heart. 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 reluctance to respond to the call of God, and your non willingness to go to certain people in certain places. Repent of your non willingness to go and look after the wellbeing of your brethren. Confess your non willingness to confront those who sin and to report them to the church to help them to come back to God. Confess your non willingness to go and travel in long distances to places and people. Confess and renounce your lack of patience, perseverance and long suffering in order for people to be saved. Confess your non willingness to suffer for Christ and got persecuted for His cause. Confess and renounce your anger and non forgiveness to those who harmed you. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord I commit my life to the call of yours to me in this message to go and reach the lost and those who had gone away from you. Lord I commit myself to go and look after the wellbeing of my brethren and willing to bring report about them to the church. Lord I am willing to forgive the following people _____, so that your plan of salvation shall flow to others. Lord help me to reproduce more fruit of the Sprit, love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, patience, long suffering, and self-control. Lord help me and continue to provide my need and I will continue to serve you.

Lord thank you for my brothers and sisters who committed themselves to be faithful watchmen and watchwomen to the call that you entrusted to them in their lives. Lord mold them to the task and help them to surrender fully to you to accomplish their assignments and bring the salvations of your to others. Lord protect them and preserve them from all persecution and provide their needs so they will continue to serve you.

Lord help us as your church to continue to declare your Word and your will and to teach you people your ways and your plan for them to be faithful watchmen and watchwomen in their service to you. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and lead us to reach new people with your Word, to evangelize, making disciples, and training workers to go and plant new 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 send the message to the rest of the church congregations, members, workers and the lost souls. 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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