

Watchman Part 14

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

Another watchman who worked it to be a good keeper for his brothers is King David.

“12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehemjudah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul. 13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. 14 And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul. 15 But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. 16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. 17 And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp of thy brethren; 18 And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, and take their pledge. 19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. 20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle. 21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army. 22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.” (1 Samuel 17:12-22 KJV)

David was the youngest son of Jesse and he did well his ministry as watchman. In fact he did more than what he was asked from Him. **As faithful watchman God call you to follow the example of David in obeying the following:-**

1. Accept the task: David obeyed his father instruction to go and see the wellbeing of his brothers. He obeyed the command without questioning and he did the work required without grumbling. Being the youngest son, he might be thinking to have fun and go for certain trips and enjoy as a youth. Instead he accepted the task gladly. Some when you ask them to do certain task and ministry unto the Lord and serve others they will grumble and put some excuses to avoid going into the battle field as good soldiers for Christ. Do not be among such people who like to enjoy life spending it with fun. Rather, ***“3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.” (2 Timothy 2:3-4 KJV)*** Soldiers everywhere they have certain uniform they are wearing, and when you see them at once you can recognize them as soldiers and are involved in the army that is responsible to defend the country. The question here why the soldiers wear that uniform? The answer: Because they want to tell this message to everyone; that they are not available for any other matter or service of civilian affairs but to please their master who chosen them as his soldiers. *** In the same way, we who follow Christ, we have our works, families, and ministerial responsibilities, and these we need to keep them as sound as the Word of God teaches us and we should not go astray and entangle ourselves in things, sins and practices that are not go along the will of God that will pull us from our service and ministry unto God. * You need also to understand that**

you need to give priority to God's call in your life and do not give yourself to your emotions, to your desires and to your plans, because all those things may seem right in your eyes but as you neglect the call of God then you are entangling yourself with civilian affairs and you will not be able to fight the good fight that God wants you to get involved with.

The obedience of David and his acceptance to the call of his father was so timely for we can notice from the Scripture that his father was under the impulse of the Holy Spirit when he called him, for the Scripture tell us that Goliath the Philistine went out morning and evening to defy the army, and immediately after this the writer wrote that Jesse called his son David to send him urgently and asked him to run to the battle field to his brethren, ***“16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. 17 And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp of thy brethren;” (1 Samuel 17:16-17 KJV)*** In the same way, we need to be sensitive as David was not only obedient to his father but ultimately to God, the Holy Spirit, who sent him and who will send us to do the works of Him and we need to do it and achieve it on time.

2. Be good steward: David when he was requested to go and watch the situation of his brothers he was a shepherd for his father's sheep. He did not leave the sheep without care, but he put someone instead of him while he was doing the mission work. ***“20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.” (1 Samuel 17:20 KJV)*** So David kept and preserved his work while he did his ministry. There are some who are not careful in keeping their work and leave it prematurely. David here showed his concern as well to the secular work that he has when he put another shepherd in his place to care for the sheep. **Your secular job is your responsibility before God. Even when God called you for God's service, you need to attend your secular duty well, because that what God is expecting from you.** David was good steward and did his secular job well till God took him to be shepherd for His people Israel. **The same for you; do not leave your job prematurely but continue to serve Him and wait upon God till He come and take you fully from your secular job.**

3. Be diligent, hard working and be faithful: David from his working spot as a shepherd he rose up early and travelled without rest to reach his brothers who were in the battle. He faithfully carried the assigned food to them and to the commander of their unit. **To be a faithful watchman and a faithful watchwoman it needs you to be diligent, hard working, travelling and carrying certain supplies and whatever needed to the mission field that you are sent for.**

4. Be inspired and courageous to run to the battle field: ***“21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army. 22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.” (1 Samuel 17: 21-22 KJV)*** David was thrilled with the thought of achieving the required task. **Let us be thrilled to run to the battle field and do the task entrusted to us by the Lord. “19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)** Let us be diligent to go and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and to persevere to teach them to observe all what He asks from us.

5. Be led by the Holy Spirit to accept the challenge and do what is required: When David reached his brothers the following happened, *“23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them. 24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. 25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.”* (1 Samuel 17:23-25 KJV) David was led by the Holy to accept the challenge and to fight against Goliath. **When you reach the field that God and the church asked you to reach the Holy Spirit might open to you further task that needed to be done. In such situation accept the challenge of God and be willing to finish the task.**

6. Do not be discouraged with people criticizing you: David was criticized by his brothers, *“26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God? 27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him. 28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. 29 And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?”* (1 Samuel 17:26-29 KJV) David was not discouraged with what his brothers spoke to him and about him. **The same people that you are serving might criticize you and speak not good to you, but you don't need to take what they say to heart. Take to heart what the Word of God and the Holy Spirit speaks to you. As watchman 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 through you in the life of other people. Have a big heart to accommodate and over come all the hurt.**

7. Be determined and of courage to finish the challenge and do the complete work of God: *“30 And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner. 31 And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him. 32 And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”* (1 Samuel 17:30-32 KJV) **David did not give up but determined to finish the task entrusted to him. In the same way as God had called you be of courage to deal with the enemy and the challenge that God had set before you.**

8. Use your skills and the talents that God gave you trusting Him to accomplish the task entrusted to you: *“33 And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. 34 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: 35 And I went out after him,*

and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. 36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. 37 David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.” (1 Samuel 17:33-37 KJV) David used his talents of shepherd in dealing with the enemies of the sheep, the lion and the bear, as he described to King Saul how he was going after them when they come and take a sheep from the flock. That he beat them, perhaps by his staves to deliver the lamb out of their mouths, and if they will arise to attack him he will catch them with their beard and smite them and kill them. David had killed both the lion and the bear in defending his sheep and so he said to Saul that he will deal in the same way with that uncircumcised Philistine who defied the armies of God. Saul upon hearing such courageous testimony consented to David to go and fight with that Philistine and the LORD shall be with him. **In the same way use all your talents and skills that God had placed in your hand to deal with the challenges.**

9. Do not use the traditional weapons and worldly ways to deal with your challenges: *“38 And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail. 39 And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.”* (1 Samuel 17:38-39 KJV) **We cannot use the worldly ways to do the works of God, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”** (Romans 12:1-2 KJV), **and we cannot use the weapons of this world to fight the power of darkness, “3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.”** (2 Corinthians 10:3-6 KJV) **We go against our enemies with prayer, and fasting and with obeying the Word of God.**

10. Use the instruments that God had placed in your hand which you know how to use them: *“40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.”* (1 Samuel 17:40 KJV) David used the weapons that he was sure that he can use effectively to deal with his enemy. **In the same way we need to be discerning and use the method and the way that we know it will be effective to deal with the challenge ahead of us.**

11. Have full trust in God that He will enable you to deal with the challenge ahead of you even with your humble capabilities: *“41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. 42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. 43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 And the Philistine said to*

David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. 45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hands. 48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came, and drew nigh to meet David, that David hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. 51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.” (1 Samuel 17:41-51 KJV) David as was determined to go forward and finish the task entrusted to him the Lord enabled him to overcome the challenge that was ahead of him. David was sent by his father to look after his brethren and their wellbeing as they went to battle, and he obeyed his father and obeyed God and was a faithful watchman who not only rescued his own brethren but he saved Israel from the hand of their enemies, the Philistines on that day. **In the same way God wants you not only to be faithful to your own family, serve them and save them but as well as to show your faithfulness to God by caring to His church and to His people and help them and work with God to deliver them from their struggles and troubles.**

12. The Lord will reward you for your faithfulness: As David was faithful to God He rewarded him and made king over Israel and established his kingdom. **The same for you as you are faithful to God and faithfully do your ministry by obeying all the instructions, God shall reward you and will lift you up in due time.**

My Dear and Beloved: *“1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.” (1 Peter 5:1-4 KJV)* David was instructed by his father Jesse to go and see and look after the wellbeing of his brothers. And he was faithful and did further things as he was led by the Lord, and so as he showed his faithfulness to the Lord he was lifted up and became a king and a shepherd to care and lead God's people. **In the same way for you, as God is calling you to be a watchmen to care and to look after the wellbeing of your brethren and the ministry and the people under your care and as you show faithfulness, courage, diligence, good stewardship, forgiving heart, and willingness to use your skills and talents and determination to finish the challenge and achieve the task, the Lord shall reward you, bless you further and lift you up.** 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 teaching and your encouraging Word to me. Lord thank you for your call and the challenge that you placed before me and the ministry that you entrusted to me.*

Confess your sins and renounce them. Confess and renounce your lack of respond to God's call. Repent of your non willingness to go and look after the wellbeing of your brethren, and the church that God had placed you in. Repent of your laziness and your carelessness about your secular job. Confess your non willingness to do hard work, to travel and suffer in order to do the ministry and the call that God entrusted to you. Confess and renounce your involvement in civilian affairs. Confess and renounce that you are following your own plan, emotions and desires and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Confess your worldliness and use worldly things and ways to do the works of God and the ministry that He wants you to achieve. Confess your lack of faith and full trust on God that He will enable you to fight the good fight. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins

Lord I commit myself to your call to me and to the task that you want me to do. Lord give me the courage and increase my faith and open my eyes to see further things as you want me to see. Lord, 'Here am I, willing to accept the challenge and to finish the work. O Lord, send me!' This is my pray in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my brothers and sisters who accepted your call to them and the challenge and the ministry that you want them to do. Lord protect them, anoint them, give them discernment to be led by your Holy Spirit and to use the skills and the talents you gave them to serve you. Lord continue to provide their needs so they will continue to serve you.

Lord help us as your church to continue to go and led by your Holy Spirit to direct your people to your call in their lives. Lord raise more faithful watchmen and watchwomen to go and serve you and fulfill your call in their lives. Lord lead us to reach new people with your Word. Open to us new doors to evangelize, to make disciples, and train new 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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