

Watchman Part 26

Leaders with Watchman Characters

1. Jacob: “1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory. 2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before. 3 And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee. 4 And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock, 5 And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me. 6 And ye know that with all my power I have served your father. 7 And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me. 8 If he said thus, The speckled shall be thy wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ringstraked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ringstraked. 9 Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me. 10 And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived, that I lifted up mine eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the rams which leaped upon the cattle were ringstraked, speckled, and grisled. 11 And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: And I said, Here am I. 12 And he said, Lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle are ringstraked, speckled, and grisled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee. 13 I am the God of Bethel, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.” (Genesis 31:1-13 KJV) Jacob was able to see the changing attitude of his father in law, “2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before. 5 And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.” (Genesis 31:2, 5 KJV) Jacob when he was able to notice the change of attitude from Laban's side, then he was prepared to recognize the voice of God who finally instructed him to leave and go back to his native land, the land of Canaan, “13 I am the God of Bethel, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.” (Genesis 31:13 KJV) We can learn from Jacob as watchman the following:

A. The watchman can notice things others cannot notice: What we need to learn from Jacob that we need to have discernment about certain changes that are taking place around us so we can hear clearly what God is saying to us and understand well what He wants us to do in dealing with the changes of the circumstances around us.

2. Jehu: “18 And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; but Jehu shall serve him much. 19 Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice to do to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal. 20 And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it. 21 And Jehu sent through all Israel: and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that

there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to another. 22 And he said unto him that was over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments. 23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only. 24 And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he that letteth him go, his life shall be for the life of him. 25 And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, and slay them; let none come forth. And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains cast them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal. 26 And they brought forth the images out of the house of Baal, and burned them. 27 And they brake down the image of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made it a draught house unto this day. 28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.” (2 Kings 10:18-28 KJV) Jehu was one of the leaders of Israel that God had raised up for a purpose; Jehu destroyed Baal worship in Israel that started by the wicked Ahab. From the above Scripture we can learn the following things about the leader as a watchman:

B. The watchman will not spare any false prophet: “19 Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice to do to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.” (2 Kings 10:19 KJV) Jehu was very keen not to allow any of the false and wicked prophets to escape from God's judgment. **The watchman should be very aware and will not give permission or approval to sin or to give permission or approval to those who promote sin inside the body of Christ through their false teaching.**

David in *Psalms* 101 says, “4 A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person. 5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer. 6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me. 7 He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight. 8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.” (Psalm 101:4-8 KJV) **The application of that for us today is that we should not approve ministers and workers who their ways of life and their teaching will promote sin and wickedness, especially those who promote and condone immoralities in the form of boyfriend, girlfriend, dating, courting, divorce and remarriage, single mother or single father allowed to marry not the father nor the mother of her or his child or children, and those who promote feasts offered to idols like celebrating birthdays, Christmas, New Year, Valentine, Father Day, Mother Day, Halloween, and the rest of the days according to the culture of the people, and those who accept and condone homosexual and transgender attitudes and marriages. Such people should be silenced and asked to sit down because their ministry will bring corruption.**

C. The watchman will preserve the true ministers: “23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and

look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only." (2 Kings 10:23 KJV) Jehu wanted to be sure in judgment against Baal ministers that he will not include any of the true servants of The Lord. **The application of this is that we need to find out the reliable men who are able to teach others and welcome them to serve the Lord with us.** Let us follow the example of David and what he said, "6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me." (Psalm 101:6 KJV) **David was a good and effective watchman, therefore and in the same way let us keep our eyes on the faithful ministers and invites them and allows them to serve God with us.**

3. King Josiah: "1 And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem. 2 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD. 3 And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant. 4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel. 5 And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven. 6 And he brought out the grove from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people. 7 And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove. 8 And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and brake down the high places of the gates that were in the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city. 9 Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread among their brethren. 10 And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech. 11 And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire. 12 And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and brake them down from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron. 13 And the high places that

were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile. 14 And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men. 15 Moreover the altar that was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the grove. 16 And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words. 17 Then he said, What title is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel. 18 And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria. 19 And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel. 20 And he slew all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem." (2 Kings 23:1-20 KJV) From the preceding Scripture we can learn the following things about the leader as a watchman:

D. The watchman can see and distinguish things others cannot see: King Josiah was leading a great campaign to cleanse Judah and the whole Israel from idol worship as we read. In Samaria he was demolishing the altar at Bethel and the high place with its grove, and he opened the tombs and burned the bones of the dead on the altar to defile it in accordance with the Word of the Lord proclaimed by the man of God who foretold these things: "1 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. 2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee." (1 Kings 13:1-2 KJV) The man of God after his prophesy he died and buried in a tomb in Samaria as we read his whole story in 1 Kings 13:1-32. But what he prophesied came true; Josiah was born and as he grew up and became king accomplished all what God ordained for him to do. And truly he reached Samaria and that altar that was built up by Jeroboam he demolished it and burned bones of wicked priests on it to defile it. But Josiah was a discerning watchman who was able to see the tomb of that righteous true prophet that he needed to spare, "17 Then he said, What title is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel. 18 And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria." (2 Kings 23:17-18) Josiah was really a discerning watchman who spared as well as the bones of the true prophet who was from Samaria who repented after the death of that man of God.

At this time of history where corruption, wickedness, immoralities, idol worship, homosexuality and transgender affecting the body of Christ, still we need to be tactful and

discerning to identify good and righteous things and to preserve them and work them out as the good things of God.

4. Apostle Paul: “4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, 5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; 6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, 7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left.” (2 Corinthians 6:4-7 KJV)

* The life of Apostle Paul is a good example for us today Christians of how to endure suffering in living to God and in serving Him. * A Christian who wants to live for God and to serve Him, he or she would be exposed to opposition, trials and the work of the devil trying to stop him or her from achieving the purpose and the plan of God. * The same will be happening to you and it could be the very thing that you are passing through right now. You should not be surprised; these are not strange matters but they are the very normal thing that what you are experiencing right now. * Leaders with watchman characters watch and persevere in suffering while waiting upon God.

Paul one of the words that he used to describe what he was passing through is ‘watching’, and the Greek word of it is ‘Agrupnia’, and it means sleeplessness or watching, and it is repeated again on 2 Corinthians 11:27.

“24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness..” (2 Corinthians 11:24-27 KJV)

What Paul described here is “watchings”, a plural, so not only on one occasion but that was a repeated event or a norm in Paul’s life. Watching or sleepless nights from the life of Paul as a watchman can teach us and imply one or more of the followings:

E. Continuous travel and movement even in the night and under constant threats and physical trauma: It implies to live away from the warm bed, and in spending time doing certain task or travelling in fulfilling a mission. How Paul would sleep in all the following, “25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;” (2 Corinthians 11:25-26 KJV) Suffering in such a way is a normal matter and not a strange thing, and God may allow us to pass through such.

F. Being in painful physical and life events that hinder you from sleeping: “27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings

often, in cold and nakedness..” (2 Corinthians 11:27 KJV) Pain and chains may cause you sleepless night. Ministry can cause you physical ailments that causing you pain and hinder you from sleeping.

G. Burden and the heaviness of certain concerns in the life of the church and ministry that hinder you from sleeping: Paul said the following, “28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?” (2 Corinthians 11:28-29 KJV) A real watchman is a man who has concern and who feel the pain. A careless and irresponsible worker and minister do not care about what is going on in the life of the church and ministry as long as his food and bed are prepared. But the person who is compassionate is careful and alert and he feel the pain in the heart of God and in the body of Christ, His church.

H. Watchfulness spending the night in prayer: Travailing in prayer over the night and praying for certain concerns and decisions. “Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;” (Colossians 4:2 KJV) The Greek word here for ‘watch’ is ‘Gegoreuo’, and it means to watch, give strict attention to, be cautious, active to take heed lest through remission and indolence some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one. The Lord wants us to be watchful servants and ministers. ‘Gegoreuo’, repeated in the New Testament for 23 times. The following are some of the examples that can be linked to the current message:

“37 Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.” (Luke 12:37 KJV)

“2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.” (Revelation 3:2-3 KJV)

“15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” (Revelation 16:15 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: God had given you eyes and mind and He wants you to be discerning and use them tactfully and courageously to bring the fruit that He wants to see in your life.

The watchman watches in suffering while waiting upon God to act, to answer prayers, to deliver and to save. “6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.” (1 Thessalonians 5:6 KJV) Let us pray ...

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that showed me my assignments and what I need to do and achieve for you. Lord thank you for your Word that revived me and encouraged me to continue to watch and persevere in the midst of the trials that I am passing through in serving you and the ministry that you entrusted to me. Lord thank you for all the rebukes, the corrections and the admonishments that we received in this message.

Confess and renounce your sins. Confess your lack of discernment and attentiveness to what God is showing to you. Confess your worldliness and your love for material things. Confess and renounce your lust and immoralities. Confess your idol worship and your involvement in feasts offered to idols. Confess and renounce your greed, covetousness, and the love of money. Confess and renounce your compromises, corruption and injustice. Confess your lack of reading your Bible and your lack of prayers. Confess and renounce your bondage with the Media and friends. Confess doing your own will and plans and not God's will and plan. Confess and renounce your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Christ and for His church. Lord forgive me, I confess and renounce the following sins
_____.

Lord give me discernment and watchfulness to see the things that you wants me to see and give me wisdom to know how to handle them correctly. Lord give me strength, good health and steadfastness to continue to persevere in achieving the ministry that you entrusted to me. Lord help me to pass the following trial
_____. *Lord continue to build me up and make me the person that you wants me to be. Lord continue to protect me and provide for me to continue to serve you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

Lord thank you for my brothers and sisters who committed their lives for your cause and purpose. Lord build them up and help them to have discernment and be watchful to the events that you allowed to pass in their lives. Lord give them courage to be steadfast to do your work and your will and to implement the discipline that your Word dictates. Lord protect them from persecution and make their lives and ministries fruitful and good example to other to follow.

Lord bless us as your church and help us to have more discernment and to understand what you are telling us and directing us to do. Lord protect us from persecution and help us to deal with the false teachers and false ministers who are teaching against your Word and leading the people astray. Lord raise up people who are willing to follow wholeheartedly your Word and your commands. Lord lead us to faithful people of yours to invite them to work with us. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit, and lead us to evangelize and make new disciples and train new workers. Lord enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and more workers to receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming that when you come we are ready to go with you. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.

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