

Watchman

Part 12

(What you can Learn from Moses to be a Watchman Section C- The Priests as Watchmen)

Moses and Aaron as watchmen directed Eleazar son of Aaron to watch that services in the Sanctuary are directed according to God's word:

1 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron: 2 "Take a census of the Kohathite branch of the Levites by their clans and families. 3 Count all the men from thirty to fifty years of age who come to serve in the work in the Tent of Meeting. 4 "This is the work of the Kohathites in the Tent of Meeting: the care of the most holy things. 5 When the camp is to move, Aaron and his sons are to go in and take down the shielding curtain and cover the ark of the Testimony with it. 6 Then they are to cover this with hides of sea cows, spread a cloth of solid blue over that and put the poles in place. 7 "Over the table of the Presence they are to spread a blue cloth and put on it the plates, dishes and bowls, and the jars for drink offerings; the bread that is continually there is to remain on it. 8 Over these they are to spread a scarlet cloth, cover that with hides of sea cows and put its poles in place. 9 "They are to take a blue cloth and cover the lampstand that is for light, together with its lamps, its wick trimmers and trays, and all its jars for the oil used to supply it. 10 Then they are to wrap it and all its accessories in a covering of hides of sea cows and put it on a carrying frame. 11 "Over the gold altar they are to spread a blue cloth and cover that with hides of sea cows and put its poles in place. 12 "They are to take all the articles used for ministering in the sanctuary, wrap them in a blue cloth, cover that with hides of sea cows and put them on a carrying frame. 13 "They are to remove the ashes from the bronze altar and spread a purple cloth over it. 14 Then they are to place on it all the utensils used for ministering at the altar, including the firepans, meat forks, shovels and sprinkling bowls. Over it they are to spread a covering of hides of sea cows and put its poles in place. 15 "After Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy furnishings and all the holy articles, and when the camp is ready to move, the Kohathites are to come to do the carrying. But they must not touch the holy things or they will die. The Kohathites are to carry those things that are in the Tent of Meeting. 16 "Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, is to have charge of the oil for the light, the fragrant incense, the regular grain offering and the anointing oil. He is to be in charge of the entire tabernacle and everything in it, including its holy furnishings and articles." 17 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, 18 "See that the Kohathite tribal clans are not cut off from the Levites. 19 So that they may live and not die when they come near the most holy things, do this for them: Aaron and his sons are to go into the sanctuary and assign to each man his work and what he is to carry. 20 But the Kohathites must not go in to look at the holy things, even for a moment, or they will die." (Numbers 25:1-20) The watchman is discerning how to give with discretion everyone his ministry and how to watch and observe them how they are doing it. At that time of Moses there are two set up of workers in the sanctuary, the Priests and the Levites. Every one of them had different responsibilities. The Levites here are represented with the Kohathites branch of the Levites. They are under the direction of the priest "Eleazar son of Aaron, He is to be in charge of the entire tabernacle and everything in it, including its holy furnishings and articles." (Numbers 25:16) According to God's word every one of them had his own assignment and should not go ahead and do what he is not asked to do. The Kohathites should not come in contact with the holy things, therefore God advice was the following: "Aaron and his sons are to go into the sanctuary and assign to each man his work and what he is to carry. 20 But the Kohathites must not go in to look at the holy things, even for a moment, or they will die." (Numbers 25"19b-20) As we read, the priests the descendent of Aaron are to wrap everything and then the Kohathites to come and carry. And when they are carrying they are under the direct instruction of the priest who will direct them of what to carry. The key verse from the above

passage for the watchman ministry in in verse 17 and 18. "17 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, 18 "See that the Kohathite tribal clans are not cut off from the Levites." (Numbers 25"17-18) As watchmen Moses and Aaron directed Eleazar son of Aaron to watch what is going on in the tent of meeting, in order to protect the Kohathites by not allowing them to do certain services that will be displeasing to God and expose them to death.

How we can apply the above message in the life of the ministry today? In every congregation there are workers of different level of achievement, consecration and holiness. There are those who can be pastors and there are those who can be workers. The point here that we should not delegate responsibility to people who are not yet mature or who are not yet able to handle certain task without being exposed to danger. Many who are given certain responsibilities in the church they could be not yet fit to the task and when they will start to serve they will do mistakes and wrong steps and even sin that will bring the anger of God.

The Lord is calling us accountable in the matter of delegation, to whom and what we delegate. As watchmen and having the key person position should know what to delegate and whom we to delegate. Paul said to Timothy in 2Timothy 4:5 "5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry." But he also told him in 1Timothy 5:22 "Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure."

Do this for them: The following things we need to observe in delegating responsibilities:

1- Certain minimum period of time needed to pass before we delegate responsibilities: Time will reveal certain thing that is not apparent at first instance. Minimum 6-12 months before we delegate. Always those who remain with us and for long time they are more privilege for the purpose of delegation. The early church when they wanted to replace the place of Judah they put this criteria "21 Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us." (Acts 1:21) Those who remain with us and for long time they are faithful people.

2- The level of maturity and the worker character and attitude need to be observed before delegation: Certain people they show commitment to the Lord and to the church but they are still not yet reached certain level of maturity or their attitude cannot be trusted for ministry.

3- The level of commitment of the worker: The worker who is a candidate for any ministry, his commitment to God, prayer life, reading and studying God's word, his commitment to the church, to his family, to his work and his responsibility toward the society in preaching the gospel should be checked before delegation.

4- After delegating the responsibilities to the workers a period of close observation needed to observe their achievement: A period for example of three to six months, more or less, is needed before we let them to serve and do their ministry alone.

5- Continuous follow up and supervision for all the workers: Every worker needed to be followed up and his character, attitude and maturity needed to be evaluated and whatever needed to be done for them that we need to do so they will preserved and be restored.

My dear and beloved: As a watchman called to protect the spiritual life of the personals, your brother and sisters that the Lord put under your care to help you in serving the Lord. Therefore, smoothly and tactfully lead them and introduce them to God's service. As *Aaron and his sons are to go into the sanctuary and assign to each man his work and what he is to carry* you too need to do the same and help others to serve God under your direct supervision as you agree to pray. **My Prayer**: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus. Lord I commit myself to abide with your word and instruction and to be responsible to take care spiritually of the life of the people whom you put under my care in the way to delegate to them the responsibilities that are suitable for them. Lord give me wisdom, the discernment and the strength needed to do that. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*