

Watchman Part 14

(The Watchman Has a Merciful, Bold 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 meet his brother needs: “35 If one of your countrymen becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him as you would an alien or a temporary resident, so he can continue to live among you. 36 Do not take interest of any kind from him, but fear your God, so that your countryman may continue to live among you. 37 You must not lend him money at interest or sell him food at a profit. 38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.” (Leviticus 25:35-38) Help the brother who is in need and lend him without interest.

2- The watchman treat kindly the brother who is in need; not to be treated as slave but as a hire worker: “39 “If one of your countrymen becomes poor among you and sells himself to you, do not make him work as a slave. 40 He is to be treated as a hired worker or a temporary resident among you; he is to work for you until the Year of Jubilee. 41 Then he and his children are to be released, and he will go back to his own clan and to the property of his forefathers. 42 Because the Israelites are my servants, whom I brought out of Egypt, they must not be sold as slaves. 43 Do not rule over them ruthlessly, but fear your God.” (Leviticus 25:39-43) Do 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 If an alien or a temporary resident among you becomes rich and one of your countrymen becomes poor and sells himself to the alien living among you or to a member of the alien's clan, 48 he retains the right of redemption after he has sold himself. One of his relatives may redeem him: 49 An uncle or a cousin or any blood relative in his clan may redeem him. Or if he prospers, he may redeem himself. 50 He and his buyer are to count the time from the year he sold himself up to the Year of Jubilee. The price for his release is to be based on the rate paid to a hired man for that number of years. 51 If many years remain, he must pay for his redemption a larger share of the price paid for him. 52 If only a few years remain until the Year of Jubilee, he is to compute that and pay for his redemption accordingly. 53 He is to be treated as a man hired from year to year; you must see to it that his owner does not rule over him ruthlessly.” (Leviticus 25:47-53) Do your part to help and 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. Learn more about that from the following Scriptures: “8 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” (Proverbs 31:8-9) “learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:17) “He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?” declares the LORD.” (Jeremiah 22:16)

4- The good Samaritan is a merciful watchman who care for the victim: “30 In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of

robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’ 36 “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” 37 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.” (Luke 10:30-37) 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. Jesus instructs us to go and do the same “Go and do likewise.”

5- The midwives who protected the Hebrews babes were merciful and faithful watchwomen who feared God: “15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, 16 “When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.” 17 The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. 18 Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?” 19 The midwives answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.” 20 So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. 21 And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.” (Exodus 1:16-21) 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 instructing the two Hebrews midwives, “16 When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.” (Exodus 1:16) But they did not comply to Pharaoh’s command and instruction because they fear God and the Lord rewarded them for that. We need 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 that as well: “29 Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!” (Acts 5:29) We need to be bold and faithful so that we can perform our duties faithfully as watchmen.

6- The group of people who protected the life of the baby king Joash from the hand of Athaliah they were faithful and bold watchmen and watchwomen: “1 When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family. 2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him away from among the royal princes, who were about to be murdered. She put him and his nurse in a bedroom to hide him from Athaliah; so he was not killed. 3 He remained hidden with his nurse at the temple of the LORD for six years while Athaliah ruled the land. 4 In the seventh year Jehoiada sent for the commanders of units of a hundred, the Carites and the guards and had them brought to him at the temple of the LORD. He made a covenant with them and put them under oath at the temple of the

LORD. Then he showed them the king's son.⁵ He commanded them, saying, "This is what you are to do: You who are in the three companies that are going on duty on the Sabbath—a third of you guarding the royal palace,⁶ a third at the Sur Gate, and a third at the gate behind the guard, who take turns guarding the temple—⁷ and you who are in the other two companies that normally go off Sabbath duty are all to guard the temple for the king.⁸ Station yourselves around the king, each of you with weapon in hand. Anyone who approaches your ranks is to be put to death. Stay close to the king wherever he goes."⁹ The commanders of units of a hundred did just as Jehoiada the priest ordered. Each one took his men—those who were going on duty on the Sabbath and those who were going off duty—and came to Jehoiada the priest.¹⁰ Then he gave the commanders the spears and shields that had belonged to King David and that were in the temple of the LORD.¹¹ The guards, each with weapon in hand, stationed themselves around the king—near the altar and the temple, from the south side to the north side of the temple.¹² Jehoiada brought out the king's son and put the crown on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant and proclaimed him king. They anointed him, and the people clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!"¹³ When Athaliah heard the noise made by the guards and the people, she went to the people at the temple of the LORD.¹⁴ She looked and there was the king, standing by the pillar, as the custom was. The officers and the trumpeters were beside the king, and all the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her robes and called out, "Treason! Treason!"¹⁵ Jehoiada the priest ordered the commanders of units of a hundred, who were in charge of the troops: "Bring her out between the ranks and put to the sword anyone who follows her." For the priest had said, "She must not be put to death in the temple of the LORD."¹⁶ So they seized her as she reached the place where the horses enter the palace grounds, and there she was put to death." (2King 11:1-16)

7- Esther acted as faithful, merciful and bold 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 is the following: "For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?" (Esther 8:6) Esther rescued her life to save her people from the hand of the enemy as we can read in the following Scriptures:

A- She responded to the challenge and God's calling: "¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." ¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions." (Esther 4:16-17)

B- She dealt shrewdly with Haman who planned to execute the whole Jewish: "So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet,² and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."³ Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request."⁴ For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king."⁵ King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?"⁶ Esther said, "An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen.⁷ The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his

fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.⁸ Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining. The king exclaimed, "Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?" As soon as the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.⁹ Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman's house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king." The king said, "Impale him on it!"¹⁰ So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king's fury subsided." (Esther 7:1-10)

C- She reversed the plan of evil and save the rest of her people and executed judgment on the enemy: "¹ That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her.² The king took off his signet ring, which he had reclaimed from Haman, and presented it to Mordecai. And Esther appointed him over Haman's estate.³ Esther again pleaded with the king, falling at his feet and weeping. She begged him to put an end to the evil plan of Haman the Agagite, which he had devised against the Jews.⁴ Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him.⁵ "If it pleases the king," she said, "and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king's provinces.⁶ For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?"⁷ King Xerxes replied to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, "Because Haman attacked the Jews, I have given his estate to Esther, and they have impaled him on the pole he set up.⁸ Now write another decree in the king's name in behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the king's signet ring—for no document written in the king's name and sealed with his ring can be revoked." (Esther 8:1-8)

My dear and beloved: The above Scriptures would inculcate in our hearts and minds faithfulness toward God, mercy toward one another and boldness to do God's will. As a watchman or watchwoman God called you to offer your life to Him and to have a heart the same of His heart, kind and merciful. Therefore act accordingly and with boldness to fulfill his will and serve His purpose as you agree to 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 I commit myself into your hand. Mold my heart and my life to be the kind of watchman that wants me to be; to see and to act mindfully and mercifully to achieve your purpose. Lord equip me, protect me and provide for me to achieve that, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 15

Issue 21

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