

Watchman Part 18

(The Watchman Is a Keeper for his Brothers Part B)

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

"12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was old and well advanced in years. 13 Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. 14 David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem. 16 For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand. 17 Now Jesse said to his son David, "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. 18 Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. 19 They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines." 20 Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. 21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. 22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers." (1Samuel 17:12-22)

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 for or expected 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 trip. 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, *"Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus."* (2Timothy 2:3)

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. So he kept his work and he did the 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 travelled early without rest to reach his brothers. He faithfully carried the assigned food to them and to the commander of their unit. To be a watchman it need 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 to run to the battle field: *"David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers."* (1Samuel 17:22) 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 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28"19-20)

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 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. 24 When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear. 25 Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel."* (1Samuel 17:23-25) 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 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?" 27 They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, "This is what will be done for the man who kills him." 28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle." 29 "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?"* (1Samuel 17:26-29) 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 finish the challenge and do the complete work of God: *"30 He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered*

him as before. 31 What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him. 32 David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." 33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth." 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you." (1Samuel 17:30-37) David truly was determined to go forward and finish the task entrusted to him from the Lord. "48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. 49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. 50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him. 51 David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the scabbard. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran." (1Samuel 17:48-51)

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

My Dear and Beloved: 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 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 finish the challenge and achieve the task, the Lord shall reward you, bless you further and lift you up 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, 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 serving you with a loving, caring, mature, responsible and forgiven heart. Lord gives me the courage and increases my faith and opens my eyes to see further things as you want me to see. Lord, 'Here am I, willing to accept the challenge and finish the work. O Lord, send me!' This is my pray in Jesus name, Amen.

Jesus christ



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"1 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed; 2 Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers--not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away." (1Peter 5:1-4)

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