## Watchman *Part* 21 The Watchman Who Keep the pattern

## "See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." (Exodus 25:40)

Moses as watchman in the life of the Israelites he imparted to them what God wanted them to know and to do. He instructed them how to serve God and how to make the tabernacle of God in the way that it should be done. The value of the watchman ministry in the church is to direct the people to serve God according to God's word and His instructions in the bible. According to *Hebrews 8:5* Moses was warned to build the tabernacle according to the pattern God gave him in the mountain, "They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." Stephan when he preached to the Jewish in Acts 7 pointed out to them the same thing, "Our forefathers had the tabernacle of the Testimony with them in the desert. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen." (Acts 7:44) Any ministry and service in the church should be based on the description and instruction of God's word.

The same is when David commissioned his son Solomon to be the king after him and to build the temple of God; he gave him the pattern of the temple with all the details and materials to be used in accordance to the details that David received from God by The Holy Spirit: "11 Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, 12 And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things: 13 Also for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD. 14 He gave of gold by weight for things of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service; silver also for all instruments of silver by weight, for all instruments of every kind of service: 15 Even the weight for the candlesticks of gold, and for their lamps of gold, by weight for every candlestick, and for the lamps thereof: and for the candlesticks of silver by weight, both for the candlestick, and also for the lamps thereof, according to the use of every candlestick. 16 And by weight he gave gold for the tables of shewbread, for every table; and likewise silver for the tables of silver: 17 Also pure gold for the fleshhooks, and the bowls, and the cups: and for the golden basons he gave gold by weight for every bason; and likewise silver by weight for every bason of silver: 18 And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubims, that spread out their wings, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD. 19 All this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern." (1Chronicles 28:11-19 KJV) Any

ministry should go along the pattern that the Holy Spirit gave and that should go along the word of God.

According to *Hebrews 9:23 KJV* the ministries and the service that we do for the Lord has heavenly patterns, therefore it is necessary for us to abide and follow, *"It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these."* Therefore no one can do his will or chose the ministry that he wants. There is a pattern that everyone should abide with.

Many they follow the pattern of the world to live their lives and in their service to God. Paul wrote to the Romans in this regard the following: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:2) You cannot serve God while you still in bondage with the world and with friends, relatives and traditions. Your mind and thoughts should be renewed with God's word so that you will be transformed and will be able to offer the parts of your bodies to serve God and fulfill what Paul wrote to the in Romans 12:1, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship."

Paul instructed Timothy to keep the pattern of the sound teaching that he taught to him, "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus." (2Timothy 1:13)

Paul taught Titus more clearly that his life style and conducts in life is a pattern for others to learn from and to follow, and his holy living will be a shield to protect him from those who wants to accuse him, "7 In all things <u>shewing thyself a pattern of good works</u>: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed , having no evil thing to say of you." (Titus 2:7-8 KJV)

Speaking about the pattern there is a story about King Ahaz, and that what we can read in 2King 16:1-18 KJV

<sup>"1</sup> In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.<sup>2</sup> Twenty years old was Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.<sup>3</sup> But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.<sup>4</sup> And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree." Ahaz followed the worldly people in his life and in raising up his children.

<sup>45</sup>Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to war: and they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.<sup>6</sup> At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drave the Jews from Elath: and the Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there unto this day.<sup>7</sup> So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.<sup>8</sup> And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria.<sup>9</sup> And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin." King Ahaz when he faced threat instead of he would repent and seek the Lord and trust Him, he went to the king of the Assyrian to relieve him and he gave him all what God gave him to buy their protection.

"<sup>10</sup> And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and saw an altar that was at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the fashion of the altar, and the pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof." Now here further the miserable action of Ahaz; he wanted to copy the pattern of the Pagan altar that he saw and wanted the priest to follow it and do the same.

<sup>41</sup> And Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus: so Urijah the priest made it against king Ahaz came from Damascus. <sup>12</sup>And when the king was come from Damascus, the king saw the altar: and the king approached to the altar, and offered thereon.<sup>13</sup> And he burnt his burnt offering and his meat offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar." Actually what the priest did is not good and he is not a good priest. He went along the king wishes and he did not keep the pattern of God that He ordained in His word and instructions. The priest can represent now the pastor of the church and the king is the people who have the choice to do what they want. The pastor of the church should not go along the people wishes and approves their wishes and delight. Urijah the priest should not comply with Ahaz request because that was against God's word and instructions. Always the people will try to deviate the pattern that God gave in His word and deviated to fit their thoughts, wishes and dreams. And we should disapprove the wrong things they propose, and not to be threatened or intimidated with their requests. It is very shameful to Urijah the priest to be mentioned about him the following, "16 Thus did Urijah the priest, according to all that king Ahaz commanded." (2King 16:16)

<sup>*u*14</sup> And he brought also the brasen altar, which was before the LORD, from the forefront of the house, from between the altar and the house of the LORD, and put it on the north side of the altar. <sup>15</sup> And king Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice, and his meat offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meat offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar shall be for me to enquire by." Ahaz left the brazen altar which was before the LORD to be kept beside the new altar. As we can read above, Ahaz called the new altar the great altar and on it he would offer almost everything he had and received from the Lord's goodness. And that what unfaithful people do now a day, they offer all the good things that they receive from the Lord and spend them on their pleasures and worldly desires. We really as royal priests of the Lord should not approve such kind of peoples' lives and condone with them their sins.

The question is this now: Why Ahaz kept *brasen altar?* This is what Ahaz said to the Urijah priest, *"and the brasen altar shall be for me to enquire by."* He kept the brazen altar so that in case he is stock with a difficult situation and does not know what to do, then he will come to the priest to enquire for him. Some people they abuse God and the church and the leaders of the church to serve their wishes and purposes. They don't want the church to interfere with their personal lives and decision, but they will use the church and the pastor of the church to relief them when they are in crisis and they don't know what to do. As leaders of the church should not allow such pattern in the church to go on; the people should not dictates their pattern on the church, but the church should dictates on the people God's laws and commands.

When you compromise with the people and agree with them, they will do more wicked things and will distort more the pattern of the ministry and deviated more from God's word. Let us read what Ahaz did further for the temple of God when Urijeh the priest went along his wishes: "<sup>17</sup> And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them; and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen that were under it, and put it upon the pavement of stones. <sup>18</sup> And the covert for the sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king's entry without, turned he from the house of the LORD for the king of Assyria."

My Dear and Beloved: "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." (2Timothy 2:2) What you receive from us from teaching and as pattern of sound teaching from God's word apply that in your life and in your family and your ministry, and entrust it to reliable men who are trust worthy to keep the pattern that God entrust to us from His word 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 I commit myself to comply with your word and the pattern of the sound teaching that I receive from your word to apply in my life, my family and the ministry that you entrust to me. Lord give me perseverance, protect me and provide for me to do your will. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.



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