

Watchman Part 32

(The Watchman Acts with Discretion)

“44 It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. 47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.” 48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. 49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.” (Luke 23:44-49)

The last scene of Jesus crucifixion and His death on the cross was observed by different people, who were watching as watchmen and watchwomen; and the word of God described them to us as the following:

1- The centurion: *“47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.” (Luke 23:47) His observation ended with a profound statement, “Surely this was a righteous man.” Nothing is recorded that this statement followed by deeds that confirmed a true faith. Many people they make and utter profound statements but no fruitful actions or deeds followed.*

2- The people: *“48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.” (Luke 23:48) The crowd responded by beating their breasts, and that indicate their deep sorrows and emotions toward what had happened. Emotions are useless things. God would expect clear and profound decision to follow Christ. But what the people did or what was the harvest of all their emotions? The word of God tells us that they “went away.” It ended to nothing! Emotions are misleading things and if you are controlled by your emotions you will not be able to achieve fruitful acts.*

3- Who Knew Christ: *“49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.” (Luke 23:49) They were using their minds properly to analyze of what is going on in order to take further suitable steps. Those who really knew Christ they are effective watchmen and watchwomen who will see events, analyze and process data in their minds and work it out with God to achieve the purpose of God in mankind.*

“50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, 51 who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. 52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. 53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. 54 It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. 55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. 56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.” (Luke 23:50-56)

4- The women: *“55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.” (Luke 23:55) “40 Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.” (Mark 15:40) “Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.” (Mark 15:47) “Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs.” (Matthew 27:55) Everyone left Jesus dead body on the cross but the women wanted to know further than His death. They followed Joseph to see where he will place the body. They, “saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.”*

5- The women obeyed the command of God and kept the Sabbath rest: *“56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.” (Luke 23:56) The women were eager to know further what would happen to the Lord. That is their faith and their love expression toward the Lord. That faith and love toward Jesus was expressed in their obedience to the command of God to keep the Sabbath rest. Obedience always brings victory and relief from burden and troubles. What happened when they obeyed the Lord? Let us read here: “1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb 3 and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?” 4 But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. 6 “Don't be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” (Mark 16:1-7) The women kept the command of God and when they went on the right time to the tomb they found the stone that was blocking the way was removed; they were able to enter the tomb, and met the angel of God who proclaimed to them Christ resurrection.*

If the women would not keep the command of God in keeping the Sabbath and went to the tomb ahead of God's timing, then they will found the stone blocking the way and will not be able to receive the good news of Christ resurrection.

There are many who would meet Christ but they would not know Him that He is the one who can save them and help them in this life. There are many who knew Christ but they do not give careful attention to His word and commands. So what will happen to them? They will live their lives but not in pace with God's will and timing. They will live in sadness, discouragement and frustration. The women were paced with God's will and timing and their watching availed to them much fruit. If they would not go along God's timing, Christ would be resurrected and others will witness that and not the women.

My Dear and Beloved: True watchmen and watchwomen are with discretion who watches carefully; use their minds to analyze things in accordance to God's command and word. They are victorious people, obstacles overcomer, joyous and good news spreaders. I pray for you to be among us. **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 I pray for my brethren who read this word of yours, will put them into practice, and will be transformed to be the kind of watchmen who can overcome obstacles and receive good news and encourage others as we do to serve you and spread your words. This is my prayer is Jesus name, Amen.*