

Watchman
Part 36

(The Watchman Should Has Eyes and Deeds)

A- "Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair." (Luke 7:44 NIV)

The above verse was part of what Jesus said and discussed while he was in the Pharisees house where he was anointed by a sinful woman. Let us read the whole event:-

"36 Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37 When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, 38 and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is--that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. 41 "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. 44 Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." 48 Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50 Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:36-50)

The Pharisees looked on the old sins of that woman but he failed to see her repentance and what she did to the Lord. He was not a good watchman and was not able to see and recognize certain deeds that accompanied her repentance:

1- Willingness to serve: The first service to God is our repentance. Jesus said to the Pharisee, **"I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears"** Washing of the feet is willingness to serve; to be servants and not masters. In **Luke 7: 38 "As she stood behind him at his feet weeping."** The woman was humble for she came from behind and from the feet side and not from the front. Jesus can see how humble she is because she was in repentance. Jesus is seeing broken heart and contrite

spirit from the way she behave, **"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."** (Psalm 51:17) Humbleness is required so we can serve. Do you get the message? Humility is needed from now onward. Do not sit on Jesus' head but be at his feet.

2- Willingness to be disfigure and humiliated: **"And wiped them with her hair"** The woman wiped the feet of Jesus with her hair. She was willing even to offer her beauty and sacrifice it to the Lord. When we want to serve, in certain circumstances we get more hard time that even can affect our own physical fitness and beauty because we would have less sleep, less food and less rest or we will be exposed to the heat of the sun or the cold of the winter time. But the Willingness to sacrifice must be there. The woman who wiped Jesus feet with her hair, as a girl she care for her hair, wash it, put cream on it, and make it beautiful; but after being at Jesus feet she is no more concern about her beauty but to serve God and care for His things.

3- Giving much is required: We need to do outstanding things that deserve recognition. The woman she has poured perfume at Jesus' feet. She did not put little but much. She gave much of Expensive perfume. We need to give much of Expensive things for God. Did the bible tell us how much she gave to the Lord? In **Matthew 26:7** It speaks about, **"A woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume."** But in **John 12:5** it says how much what she gave equal; **"It was worth a year's wages."** What she gave was equal to one year salary. In **Matthew 26:10** Jesus said about the woman **she has done a beautiful thing to me.** She has done a beautiful thing to Jesus; therefore we need to do beautiful things for Jesus. Ask yourself now have you done any beautiful thing to the Lord. In **Matthew 26:13** The Lord said about the Woman: **"I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."** We need to do outstanding things that the Lord will approve and commend.

4- Purity in heart and motive: In **Mark 14:3** of the same story the **woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard.** Purity before God is required. As watchmen and watchwomen not only we need to do good work but also our motive should be clean.

5- Purposeful giving is required: In **John 12:7** Jesus said about the woman **"Leave her alone,"** Jesus replied. **"It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial."** It was intended that she should save this perfume for a good purpose. So there is a purpose to keep aside certain precious things for God.

B- "Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap." (Ecclesiastes 11:4) The watchman and the watchwoman should not see things and events that would finally discouraged them to do the work of the Lord. Watching TV, news, facebook notifications, these things will bring doubts, anxiety and impeachment to our faith and will discourage us from going forward with the plan of God and doing the good work of the Lord. Be careful then and observe what you are watching, otherwise you will neither plant nor reap good things for you and for the Lord and His people.

C- "1 But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. 2 He prayed to the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. 3 Now, O LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." 4 But the LORD replied, "Have you any right to be angry?" 5 Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city." (Jonah 4:1-5) Jonah was sent by the Lord to Nineveh to preach the message to them. After much struggle with God's will he finally went and preached to them the message. But instead of him being praying and interceding on behalf of the city and the souls in Neenah Jonah got angry with God and was watching and hoping that God would destroy the city. Such bad attitude of the watchman and woman would hinder and disturb the work of God. Do not be so judgmental and run ahead of God and before the appointed time. You will disturb yourself and trouble your spirit and will not be able to enjoy seeing fruit in your ministry.

D- "But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt." (Genesis 19:26) Lot's wife disobeyed the instruction of God, **"Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!" (Genesis 19:17)** She should be looking forward to the new plan that God had for her to be delivered and to live her life in righteousness. But instead she looked back, and that look took her life.

E- "Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62) The watchman and the watchwoman are the workers in the vineyard of the Lord. They need to look forward and to do the things that God want them to do. Those who regress and are unwilling to do the work they are unfit to be workers for God's Kingdoms.

My Dear and Beloved: In the above example that we had discussed, we find that there are people who suppose to function as watchman and watchwoman for the Lord. But unfortunately they were entangled by wrong thoughts and perception and got affected. They were neither fruitful nor effective in their ministry and service unto the Lord. Some even lost their lives. Wake up, watch yourself carefully and repent so you will be able to see things as God sees and function fruitfully for His glory 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 to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for revealing to me my sins and my shortcomings. I repent from the following sins _____ . Lord cleanses my mind and purifies me from all unrighteousness. Lord I commit myself to look forward, hearing your voice leading me to do your will and finishing your work. Enable me and provide for me Lord to do that. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

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"1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. 2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

(Hebrews 12:1-2)

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