

Watchman
Part 38

(The Watchman Had Given Authority to Do a Great Responsibility)

"17 I appointed watchmen over you and said, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But you said, 'We will not listen.'" (Jeremiah 6:17)

The above passage is part of a long passage where the Lord was pronouncing His judgment against Judah and Jerusalem.

"1 Flee for safety, people of Benjamin! Flee from Jerusalem! Sound the trumpet in Tekoa! Raise the signal over Beth Hakkerem! For disaster looms out of the north, even terrible destruction. 2 I will destroy the Daughter of Zion, so beautiful and delicate. 3 Shepherds with their flocks will come against her; they will pitch their tents around her, each tending his own portion." 4 "Prepare for battle against her! Arise, let us attack at noon! But, alas, the daylight is fading, and the shadows of evening grow long. 5 So arise, let us attack at night and destroy her fortresses!" 6 This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Cut down the trees and build siege ramps against Jerusalem. This city must be punished; it is filled with oppression. 7 As a well pours out its water, so she pours out her wickedness. Violence and destruction resound in her; her sickness and wounds are ever before me. 8 Take warning, O Jerusalem, or I will turn away from you and make your land desolate so no one can live in it." 9 This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Let them glean the remnant of Israel as thoroughly as a vine; pass your hand over the branches again, like one gathering grapes." 10 To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? Their ears are closed so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it. 11 But I am full of the wrath of the LORD, and I cannot hold it in. "Pour it out on the children in the street and on the young men gathered together; both husband and wife will be caught in it, and the old, those weighed down with years. 12 Their houses will be turned over to others, together with their fields and their wives, when I stretch out my hand against those who live in the land," declares the LORD. 13 "From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. 14 They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. 'Peace, peace,' they say, when there is no peace. 15 Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when I punish them," says the LORD. 16 This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, 'We will not walk in it.' 17 I appointed watchmen over you and said, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But you said, 'We will not listen.' 18 Therefore hear, O nations; observe, O witnesses, what will happen to them. 19 Hear, O earth: I am bringing disaster on this people, the fruit of their schemes, because they have not listened to my words and have rejected my law. 20 What do I care about incense from Sheba or sweet calamus from a distant land? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable; your sacrifices do not please me." 21 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "I will put obstacles before this people. Fathers and sons alike will stumble over them; neighbors and friends will perish." 22 This is what

the LORD says: "Look, an army is coming from the land of the north; a great nation is being stirred up from the ends of the earth. 23 They are armed with bow and spear; they are cruel and show no mercy. They sound like the roaring sea as they ride on their horses; they come like men in battle formation to attack you, O Daughter of Zion." 24 We have heard reports about them, and our hands hang limp. Anguish has gripped us, pain like that of a woman in labor. 25 Do not go out to the fields or walk on the roads, for the enemy has a sword, and there is terror on every side. 26 O my people, put on sackcloth and roll in ashes; mourn with bitter wailing as for an only son, for suddenly the destroyer will come upon us. 27 "I have made you a tester of metals and my people the ore, that you may observe and test their ways. 28 They are all hardened rebels, going about to slander. They are bronze and iron; they all act corruptly. 29 The bellows blow fiercely to burn away the lead with fire, but the refining goes on in vain; the wicked are not purged out. 30 They are called rejected silver, because the LORD has rejected them." (Jeremiah 6:1-30)

The Lord is telling the people to flee from Jerusalem because he is sending a disaster on them (V1) to destroy Jerusalem (V3). God is sending foreign shepherds to cease the city (V3) He is encouraging them to attack Jerusalem (V4, 5) and to cut its tree and build siege to punish her (V6). God is doing that because the wickedness of the people of Jerusalem (V7) and their failure to take warning (V8). God wanted now that the enemy will take away whatever left for Jerusalem (V9). God resolved to do that because no one was willing to listen (V10), *Their ears are closed so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it.* Therefore God sent His full wrath on every one (V11) and their houses he handed over to their enemies (V12).

Even the Lord's servant who was greedy and were looking for unjust gain (V13) and they gave the people false assuring messages (V14). The people were not ashamed of their wrong conducts therefore will receive the Lord's punishment (V15). Repeatedly they were warned and were asked to open their eyes and see the truth clearly and walk in the ways of God but they refused to listen (V16).

The Lord appointed watchmen to warn the people of Jerusalem and to admonish them to repent but they refused to listen to the appointed watchmen: *"17 I appointed watchmen over you and said, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But you said, 'We will not listen.'" Jeremiah was one of the appointed watchmen over the city of Jerusalem and his ministry and commission from the Lord is to warn the people; sounding the trumpet is to warn the people that if they will repent God wrath will come on them. Therefore you are appointed by God to warn the people and to convince them to repent. You have a great responsibility and you need to do it well. You are accountable before the Lord for the lives of the souls that you are assigned to warn.*

The watchmen they receive authority from the Lord in order for them to face the people with their sins, expounding to them the coming judgment of God, to rebuke them, hoping that they will repent. In the book of *Song of Solomon 3:3 "The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?"* The girl who went outside looking for her man was caught by the watchmen who had the authority to question her and find out what for she is moving around? Also *Song of Solomon 5:7 "The watchmen that*

went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.” The watchmen here even they spank the girl who was roaming around looking for her man. They spanked her, wounded her to discipline her and purge away her naughtiness. They had even the authority to take away the veil to identify the person and who is she or he. Therefore you had received authority from the Lord in order to do your responsibility effectively. You are called to combat sin and to restrain sinners.

You need to tell the people God’s word and describe to the clearly His word (V19) You must make them understand that their burnt offering and sacrifices cannot cover their sins (V20); let them know that they need to repent. Describe to them further details of God’s wrath (V21-23) contextualize to them events from the realities and link it with the word of God (V25=27) and with their sins (V28-30)

My Dear and Beloved: As watchman and as watchwoman for God ahead of you is a great responsibility, and a hrd work and a long journey of service with God. God had appointed you and ordained you to do that. He will back you up as you show your willingness to serve God and to achieve His purpose in your generation 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 I am willing to do well my responsibility toward you and to be a watchman who is doing his responsibility well. Lord uphold me with your grace, protect me nad provide for me to do this task. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen*

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

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