

Watchman Part 30

The Watchman Acts with Discretion, See Christ's Resurrection and Proclaims the Good News

“44 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. 46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. 47 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. 48 And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned. 49 And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.” (Luke 23:44-49 KJV)

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 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.” (Luke 23:47 KJV)* His observation ended with a profound statement, *“Certainly this was a righteous man.”* But 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. Please don't be among such people, because if you believe in Christ then you really need to follow Him.**

2. The people: *“48 And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned.” (Luke 23:48 KJV)* 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 *“returned.”* 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. Those who Knew Christ: *“49 And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.” (Luke 23:49 KJV)* They were using their minds properly to analyze of what was 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 And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: 51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. 53 And he took it

down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. 54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. 55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. 56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.” (Luke 23:50-56 KJV)

4. The women: *“55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.” (Luke 23:55 KJV)* *“40 There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome;” (Mark 15:40 KJV)* *“47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld where he was laid.” (Mark 15:47)* *“55 And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him:” (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, ***“beheld where he was laid.”*** **As watchmen and watchwomen God wants you to know what is beyond and to go along with Him to the next step of your ministry in serving God reaching to the resurrection of Christ and proclaim that to others.**

5. The women obeyed the command of God and kept the Sabbath rest: *“56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.” (Luke 23:56 KJV)* The women were eager to know further what would happen to the Lord. That was their faith and their love's 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 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. 2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. 3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. 5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. 6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. 7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.” (Mark 16:1-7 KJV)* 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's 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's 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. **What we can conclude from here that if you will not go along God's command, will and timing then you will not witness the good things Christ is doing and you will live in doubt, discouragement and despair, while others are enjoying the good things of God.**

Let us further read the Scriptures: *"1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the LORD out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. 11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my LORD, and I know not where they have laid him. 14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the LORD, and that he had spoken these things unto her. 19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD. 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained. 24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the LORD. But he said*

unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. 26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My LORD and my God. 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." (John 20:1-29 KJV)

"1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. 3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: 5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee. 7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. 8 And they remembered his words, 9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. 10 It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles. 11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. 12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass. 13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. 16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. 17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? 18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? 19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not. 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. 28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. 29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? 33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. 35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. 36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. 37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. 40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? 42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took it, and did eat before them. 44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. 45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And ye are witnesses of these things. 49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. 50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. 51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: 53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.” (Luke 24:1-53 KJV)

Praise be to God for the Scriptures that the Lord had placed in our hands to make us certain of Christ's resurrection and to prepare us to be witnesses to Him and to proclaim this good news to the whole world.

From what we read in **Luke 24** and **John 20** we as watchmen need to understand that we need to discern and see Christ's resurrection in four major ways.

A. To see him and meet Him face to face: In the Scriptures that we read mentioned clearly that certain people had seen Him literally face to face as you can read in **John**, “14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the LORD, and that he had spoken these things unto her. 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD. 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the LORD. But he said unto them, Except I

shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.” (John 20:14, 16, 18, 20, 25, 29 KJV) and “31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. 34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon, 35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. 37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. 40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? 42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took it, and did eat before them. 48 And ye are witnesses of these things.” (Luke 24: 31, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40-43, 48 KJV) Christ one way to appear and reveal Himself to you is by meeting Him face to face; this in order for you to believe in Him and to commission you to go and tell others about him “48 And ye are witnesses of these things.” (Luke 24:48 KJV)

B. To see the evidences of his resurrection through indirect ways: In the Scriptures that we read it mentioned that some of His disciples discerned and concluded His resurrection by seeing other events as you can read in **John**, “2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the LORD out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.” (John 20:2, 5-8 KJV) and in **Luke**, “2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. 3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.” (Luke 24:2-3, 22-24 KJV) Christ may not appear to you but He may do certain things in your life makes you conclude He is alive and resurrected from the dead.

C. To see the evidence of His resurrection through other witnesses who had seen the resurrection of the Lord: Do not be like Thomas who doubted the disciples who told him clearly and in details that they had seen the Lord, “and be not faithless, but believing.”

D. To see the evidence of Christ's resurrection through the Scriptures: The Scriptures that we had read in **John** and **Luke** had linked Christ's resurrection by the Scriptures as you can read: “9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.” (John 20:9 KJV) “5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, 7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise

again. 8 And they remembered his words, 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? 44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. 45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” (Luke 24:5-8, 25-27, 32, 44-47 KJV) Christ shall open your mind so you can understand the Scriptures and believe and be an effective witness for Him.

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 commands and Word. They are victorious people, obstacles over comers, joyous and good news spreaders. I pray for you to be among us.

“3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-8 KJV)

As watchman and as watchwoman for God are called to open your eyes clearly and see how Christ is alive in your life; appearing to you in vision, through indirect evidence, through the testimonies of others and through the Scriptures. God had called you to be alert about all of that so that you can be an effective witness for others. Let us 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 your Word that showed me you had called me not only to believe in you but to be an effective witness for others. Lord thank you for equipping me with all the evidences about your resurrection from the dead. Lord thank you for all the teaching the corrections and the rebukes I received in this message.

Confess and renounce your sins. Confess your stubbornness, your doubts and lack of faith. Confess your emotions that you are led astray by them. Confess and renounce all the works of the flesh in your life. Confess your lack of concern to the things of God. Confess and renounce your disobedience to God’s Word and to God’s commands. Confess and renounce doing your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Confess and renounce your lack of reading of God’s Word equipping

yourself with the Scriptures to reach others and prove to them Christ’s resurrection from the Scriptures. Confess your non willingness to go and evangelize and declare Christ’s resurrection and your non willingness to suffer and be persecuted for the sake of Christ. Lord forgive me, I confess and renounce the following sins _____.

I commit my life fully to go on and serve you and be a witness of your resurrection of what I saw and believe. Lord here am I fill me with the Holy Spirit and send me to reach the lost souls. Lord protect me and provide for me to continue to serve you and bring new souls into your kingdom. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord I pray for my brothers and sisters who committed their lives to you that they will put into practice all what we received in this message and 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. Lord send them to reach the lost and make them fruit bearers and make their lives good testimony to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as your church and help us to continue to do the mandate to go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Lord fill us with your Holy Spirit and give us the Spiritual gifts that we need to go and evangelize and make new disciples. Lord enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and more workers to receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming that when you come we are ready to go with you. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.’ Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all in Jesus’ name, Amen.

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