

I HAVE MADE THEE A WATCHMAN EZEKIEL 3

Text: Ezek. 3:17

Introduction:

A watchman had a very important job. His job was not to fight the battle. His job was not command the battle. His job didn't even mean that there was a battle going on. His sole responsibility was to warn the people of oncoming danger.

1. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WATCHMAN.

A. Universal Responsibility

See Matt 28:20

(Mat 28:20 KJV) "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Observe: Observe means action.

Observe Thanksgiving you eat. Observe 4th of July you have a barbecue and put off fireworks.

1. To Warn People

B. Unfulfilled Responsibility

Illustration:

125,000 people will die today and go to hell according to old statistics.

What if everyone in this city drank poison water and everyone died. That would be a tragic thing, but more people die every day and go to Hell and it seems as if we're not even bothered by it.

I'm told that there will be 137,000 people who will be born today and will live there life and never hear a clear presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

If you were to take every lost person alive today and stand them in line around the world, they would circle the 25,000 mile world 9 times and that line grows 20 miles a day.

If we were to stop the births and stop the deaths and win souls at the rate that we are winning them at now it would take 400 years to win America to Christ and it would take 4000 years to win the world to Christ.

C. Urgent Responsibility

1. Danger was present, therefore a warning needed sounded.

2. RESOURCE FOR THE WATCHMAN

A. God's Word

(Ezek 3:17 KJV) "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me."

See Heb 4:12

(Heb 4:12 KJV) "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

3. RECKONING OF THE WATCHMAN

(Ezek 3:18 KJV) "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand."

(Ezek 3:20 KJV) "Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand."

See 2 Cor. 5:10-11

(2 Cor 5:10-11 KJV) "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. {11} Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences."

See Acts 20:31

(Acts 20:31 KJV) "Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears."

4. REWARD FOR THE WATCHMAN

Give Illustrations of Soul winning experiences.

Mrs Watts in hospital with brain cancer

Todd Newman now a preacher.

5 REJOICING BECAUSE OF THE WATCHMAN

See Luke 15:7

(Luke 15:7 KJV) "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

See Ps 126:5-6

(Psa 126:5-6 KJV) "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. {6} He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Close:

Our responsibility as a watchman is universal and great and one that must be seriously considered. Our resource in God's Word is the very source needed to

sound the appropriate warning. But let us never forget that we who are saved will someday stand before the Lord and give an account what we have done with the opportunities that we were given. Some at that time will receive the reward while others will be a reproach. But oh what rejoicing there is when the warning is heeded and a life is saved.

I have made thee a watchman.