

Watchman

5-3-20

Ezekiel 3:17 (ESV)

Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the (northern Virginia area). **Whenever you hear a Word from MY Mouth,** you shall give them warning from ME.

The watchmen and women are responsible for the Word they have heard from the very Mouth of God. The Word is not their own thinking or insights. The Word is based on God's breathed out Scripture and the work of the Holy Spirit. **The primary Word from God's mouth is our Salvation through Jesus Christ. Our Salvation includes receiving the Holy Spirit and being transformed into Jesus' image. Although this Word is the very Breath of God, it may not be very popular as Paul found out when he shared with Festus:**

Acts 26:24 (ESV)

And as Paul was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are out of your mind!"

As Paul, no matter what the response may be, we as watchmen and women have the responsibility to share what God has revealed to us and we will be held accountable for our actions. We see this clearly when God speaks to Ezekiel:

Ezekiel 3:18–19 (ESV)

¹⁸ If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' **and you give him no warning,** nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for his iniquity, **but his blood I will require at your hand.**

¹⁹ But **if you warn the wicked**, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die for his iniquity, **but you will have delivered your soul.**

Please take note, we see this same responsibility and accountability for sharing what God speaks to us in the NT.

Acts 18:5–6 (ESV)

⁵ When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶ And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, **“Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent.”**

Why would Paul say this? Because he understood what Ezekiel understood. God wants watchmen and women to share HIS spiritual truth warning people by giving hope and addressing the world’s lies. This is so important that God actively seeks watchmen and women to stand in the gap for HIM proclaiming HIS truth.

Ezekiel 22:30 (ESV)

I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it, **but I found none.**

How grievous it is to hear God say that HE cannot find a man or a woman to stand in the gap for HIM. God desires a men and women like Moses to stand in the gap.

Psalm 106:23 (ESV)

Therefore, God said HE would destroy them—
had not Moses, HIS chosen one,
stood in the breach before HIM,
to turn away HIS wrath from destroying them.

God was going to destroy the people for their disobedience, but Moses stood in the gap and prayed for the people and God turned away HIS wrath. Of course, Jesus is the greatest example of one who stood in the gap. Jesus stood in the gap and died for our sins and HE still stands in the gap by continuing to intercede for us. Seeing the example of Moses and Jesus standing in the gap for people, God similarly is asking us to stand in the gap for people around us. God is saying we have a responsibility and are accountable to share God's truth. Paul knew his responsibility and knew he would be held accountable. Therefore, Paul warned everyone whom he came in contact with.

Acts 20:26–27 (ESV)

²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day **that I am innocent of the blood of all,** ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

As watchmen and women, we stand in the gap because, we know that God will do exactly what HE says HE will do.

Ezekiel 33:33 (ESV)

When this comes—**and come it will!**—then they will know that a prophet has been among them.

In closing let us hear God's commission to us; our responsibly for which we will be held accountable.

2 Timothy 4:1–5 (ESV)

¹I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²**preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.** ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵**As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.**

As Watchmen and women, we are to stand in the gap and prophetically proclaim the Words from God's very Mouth. Always start with the greatest prophetic Word:

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.