

COMING HOME

Prioritizing Our Responsibilities



August 22, 2021

Ezekiel 33:1-9(ESV)

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, speak to your people and say to them, If I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from among them, and make him their watchman, ³and if he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows the trumpet and warns the people, ⁴then if anyone who hears the sound of the trumpet does not take warning, and the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. ⁵He heard the sound of the trumpet and did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But if he had taken warning, he would have saved his life. ⁶But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, so that the

people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any one of them, that person is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand. ⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

INTRODUCTION:

1. The picture of a watchman

Ezekiel 33:1-5

Ezekiel 33:6

2. The meaning of a watchman

Ezekiel 33:7-8

Ezekiel 33:9

God says to those in government, “I have made you a watchman.”

“I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2

God says to the Church, “I have a made you a watchman.”

Error #1: we can avoid speaking out of fear of conflict.

Error #2: we can speak in a way that lacks grace.

“. . . always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.” 1 Peter 3:15-17

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

God says to parents, “I have made you a watchman.”

God says to each Christian, “I have made you a watchman.”

3. How to be a faithful watchman

- a. Pray
- b. Use what God has given you (and don’t stress about what he hasn’t given you)
- c. Look to the Captain of the Watch