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## *The Watchmen*

*puts on the breastplate of  
faith and love and for an helmet  
the hope of salvation*

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*The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire, enquire ye: return, come (Isaiah 21:12).*

*But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 ¶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep – sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 ¶ Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do (1 Thessalonians 5:4-11).*

***Thus saith the word of God***

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## Preface:

### **Remember Lot's wife. Lot was the watchman who did not doubt God's word and lived (Ge 19:14; 2Pe 2:6-8):**

*And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear (Ezekiel 3:11; Genesis 19:14-17).*

The following manuscript is the beginning of a study that focus's on, 'the watchman', spoken of in Ezekiel 3:1-27, and in Ezekiel 33:1-20.

As the late Harold Camping of Family Radio Inc. repeatedly taught: when the whole bible is not brought to bare on any subject, it is exceedingly easy to make the bible say anything you want it to say. But that's not how the faithful are shown to approach God's word (Joshua 1:8; Isaiah 28:10-11; 1Corinthians 2:13; 2Timothy 3:16-17).

In addition: God's people expect to be admonished and corrected, according to the Righteousness of Jesus Christ. After all, it is not their word by which they shed their own blood; but it is the living word of God in Christ Jesus, alone, that is eternally proven to give life and death – according to God's will and good pleasure (Rom 9: 15-16; Philip 2:13).

Thus, the present chaos in the world, and in every nation. For since Adam's sin, and mankind's self-pride (Ps 10:4; 1Co 15:22); none will see nor hear, except they be born again – not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (Joh 1:13). And this is the warning every watchman is to give, whether any shall see and hear, or, shall close their eyes and ears (Eze 3:11; Mt 13:5). But, Salvation is of the Lord (Jonah 2:8-9).

Jesus Christ was the Watchman in His elect Lot. Lot's wife disobediently turned back to see the carnal proof of that last day, *[the fire and brimstone of Sodom and Gomorrah]*; for God had ordained, before the world began, that she should not enter into His rest (Heb 4:1-6). "Remember Lot's wife; Lot was the watchman who did not doubt God's word and lived."

As Lot hesitated, *[maybe because of Lot's wife]*, God, in His mercy, pulled Lot and his family out of Sodom and Gomorrah (Ge 19:14-17). Righteous Lot's 'watching' would be on obedience to the word of God – on God's terms – not on Lot's terms. By the spirit of truth, and from the bible, come God's precepts that quicken; without which God's word only reveals darkness and death *[A pillar of salt]*, (Ge 19:26; Ps 119:93). Of those precepts: "except a man be born again he cannot see, nor enter, the kingdom of God (Joh 3:3-5)". Thus, the watchman's, *[Christ's]*, warning that goes forth:

*32 Remember Lot's wife. 33 Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it (Luke 17:32-33).*

## Chapter I

### **Quit you like men, watch in the same Let all your things be done with charity:**

*¶ Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. 14 Let all your things be done with charity (1Corinthians 16:13).*

*¶ Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving (Col 4:2);*

Unlike natural man, except, in spiritual soberness and prayer; God's faithful ensure that they are living together with Christ (1Jo 1:3). They are those who escape from the deception of the errors of this world, (1Jo 2:15-17). They don't identify the coming of their Lord according to the things of this earth; but by the washing of regeneration of the Holy Ghost – they watch (Titus 3:5). To His elect, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost say:

*¶ And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming (1John 2:28).*

*For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming (1Thessalonians 2:19)?*

On that great and notable day, the scriptures make it clear how a great difference is going to be seen between those who trusted in what they could see with their carnal mind, [*Lot's wife*], and those who would know the end of their sin through the regeneration of the Holy Ghost (Eze 36:24-29). As God spoke of time and judgment to the Pharisee's, [*while on this earth*], Jesus declared: 'the kingdom of God cometh not with observation':

*¶ And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation (Luke 17:20):*

Surely there must be a faithful way of understanding how the word of God teaches, with respect to time and judgment. This understanding must begin and end with the scriptures, only, and in their entirety – one verse at a time – as spiritual things are compared with spiritual – while proving all things – and where truth is not taken out of context – that it shall not have been the believers own words (2Ti 3:16; 1Co 2:13; 1Thes 5:21; Isa 58:13).

**From the bible, the spirit of truth teaches how a spiritual watching takes place when-ever and where-ever the word of God is being studied according to the scriptures** (Jo 14:26; 2Ti 3:16). In hope that is not seen, (Ro 8:24-25), the born again watch to see what God will say unto them, and what they shall answer when they are corrected:

*¶ I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved (Habakkuk 2:1).*

**Despise not thou the chastening of the Lord,  
nor faint when thou art rebuked of him (Heb 12:5):**

From the bible, the Lord's people are instructed to expect that their heavenly Father's correction is going to occur throughout their lives as they remain in earthen vessels that are inclined to err:

*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: ... 8 ¶ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us (1John 1:6-8).*

*For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life (Proverbs 6:23):*

What God does not teach, is that His people shall enjoy the chastisement of the Lord. But, rather, through the chastisement, that God's elect shall rejoice in the fruit of the spirit His correction produces in them:

*Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby (Hebrews 12:11).*

The spiritual exercise God speaks of in Hebrews 12:11 must have everything to do with how God's people watch for what God is saying unto them, individually, and how they are, individually, answering Him. Those who would be God's people desire to know, more than anything else in this life; that they are, in truth, God's born again elect. This is what they watch for throughout their lives. On the flip side: many who also identify with Christ, but who do not watch according to the scriptures, will take God's truth out of context, [*unfaithfulness*], demonstrating unbelief with respect to the faith of God:

*3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? 4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, (Romans 3:1-4) ...*

A trick the devil plays on the simple, who err, is in manipulating them to interpret the scriptures based on what the wicked do, rather than on what God is declaring 'to them'. As such, the prideful become slaves to comparing themselves with others – which is sin (Pr 8:13; 2Co 10:12; Js 2:1).

**Unto them that look for Him shall He  
appear the second time without sin (Heb 9:28):**

God's people do not assume upon God's salvation. They examine themselves daily lest they be found reprobates (2Co 13:5). Nothing else on this earth is more important to them than to see God's mercy and truth abiding in them. If only they might be found steadfast in Christ's faithfulness, and not by their own understanding, which they know is in constant need of correction through the spirit of truth (Phil 3:9; Jo 16:13).

How would praying to a statute, or watching a calendar, [*both which are forms of idolatry*], show the sinner that they are spiritually prepared to meet the Lord – that there should be time no longer (Ro 10:6)? According to the scriptures: God’s people look for the completeness of their salvation, **by Christ’s appearance a second time without sin:**

*So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation (Hebrews 9:28).*

Until that day come, God’s elect recognize how they live in a sinful body that contains the carnal mind, [*the old man*], (Ro 7:15). They trust God will not fail nor forsake them; but, through the spirit, will help them to mortify the deeds of the body (Ro 8:13; Col 3:5; Heb 13:5). Hebrews 9:28 unquestionably reveals the spiritual condition of God’s people when Christ arrives on that great and notable day. Those, who had sincerely been examining themselves in Christ at His second coming, must have become born again (2Co 7:11). Those who had not become born again shall not have perceived nor understood the spiritual things of God, which had been foolishness unto them (1Co 2:14). Praying to a statute, or watching a calendar, to see the completeness of Christ’s salvation – is foolishness.

Those who find spiritual comfort in the carnal mind, (Ro 8:5; 1Jo 4:1), seek an idol. An idol can be a calendar that actually shows the last twenty-four hour day of this earths existence. **But, “to what end is it for you”, God asks?** In Amos 5:18-20, and in Malachi 3:2: God is asking a question that can only be referring to the last day of this earths existence:

*Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. 19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. 20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it (Amos 5:18-20)?*

*But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap (Malachi 3:2):*

Because they have not become born again; the foolish do not ‘watch’ according to every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God (Jer 2:21-22; Ps 14:1; Mt 4:4; 1Co 2:14). They are the ones the bible describes as having no oil in their lamps, while asking others to give them oil [*salvation*]! This is how today’s corporate church leaders come under God’s judgment; as they offer a salvation program that is based on one’s decision and free will. **But Adam and Eve’s decision and free will was eternally discredited after disobediently choosing to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good AND evil.** In Adam, all chose to become slaves to unrighteousness, and death (1Co 15:22a); for God had warned about the consequence that would follow mankind’s disobedience against the law of God (Ge 2:16-17; Ro 6:16):

*Behold, all souls are mine; ... the soul that sinneth, it shall die (Ezekiel 18:4).*

The death, in Ezekiel 18:4, which, in the hearts of the wicked, is spiritual, (1Jo 4:1); is proven in Jeremiah 17:9; however, in verse 10, there is hope:

*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings (Jeremiah 17:9-10).*

The fruit, [hope], that matters the most to God's upright, is the fruit of the spirit; which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith (Gal 5:22). But, these spiritual fruits can only be found in the Lord Jesus Christ, through a regenerated soul. Only by the Spirit of Christ who gave His own soul unto death, (Isa 53:10-11), can the souls of His elect be regenerated, (Eze 36:24-27; Jo 3:3-5), ordained before the world began (2Ti 1:9). So the scriptures warn: Christ shall come as a thief in the night to the unregenerate who had not become born again. Not only will God's judgment come on that last day, but, 'in the day', an unsaved person dies and enters the grave – Christ will have come as a thief in the night for that soul (Luke 12:20; 1Thes 5:2). From the bible, only, and in its entirety, God warns, and instructs His upright; **'Now is the day of salvation'**:

*For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and **in the day of salvation** have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2).*

*But exhort one another daily, **while it is called To day**; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. **While it is said, To day** if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. 16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses (Hebrews 3:13-16).*

As the elect receive the faith of Christ through a regenerated soul that is no longer dead; they cannot help but 'watch' for the coming of their Lord. There is no knowledge they need to see for Christ's salvation to exist in them. "Salvation is of the Lord!" **To day, the desire of God's people is that their brothers and sisters might be saved: and like their Lord; they are not respecters of persons** (James 2:1).

The believers 'watching' is not based on 'time and judgment' as shown by this earth that has an end. Rather, their watching is based on the living word of God which is circumscribed by **the bible, alone, and in its entirety** (Jos 1:8; 2Tim 3:16-17). God, who abides and indwells His people, is revealing the spiritual doctrine of Christ according to His reproofs, and correction, and instruction in righteousness:

*2 Timothy 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*