



# CALLING ALL WATCHMEN!

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*"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." Ezekiel 3:17, 33:7*

*"Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray." Matthew 26:40-41*

## Definition of Watchmen

A watchman is a trusted servant with high level clearance entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing the territory. The watchman must be alert and vigilant and operates both on the offensive and the defensive—who sees opportunities for advancement and is alert to potential dangers. In ancient Middle Eastern culture a watchman was a trusted military leader, a guardian of the city, or an overseer of an estate. They would serve 24/7, always on the lookout. They were positioned at the highest point of a rock, mountain, tree, or tower. At times, they would take shifts.

God's watchmen are high-level intercessors who have territorial jurisdiction to oversee a God-assigned domain. They are strategic to both advance Christ's kingdom and defend it against the enemy's schemes. Every church and every ministry needs watchmen in order to alert the leaders and intercessors of both opportunities and dangers. A watchman is to the church what spyware is to your computer. All watchmen are intercessors; not all intercessors are watchman.

## Objectives of this Teaching

- » To activate the watchman in you and to empower you to validate the God-given watchmen on behalf of your local church and ministry.

The primary Hebrew words for 'watch' are shamar (468 X) "to watch over, protect, guard" and tsapha (37 X) "to lean forward in order to peer into the future; to look out for; to spy; to watch over." These two words seem to be used interchangeably.

*Genesis 2:15 "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden to work it and to keep (shamar) it."*

*Genesis 4:9 "Am I my brother's keeper (shamar)?"*

*Isaiah 62:6 "I have set watchmen (shamar) on your walls, O Jerusalem."*

*Psalm 127:1 "Unless the Lord watches over (shamar) the watchman (shama) stays awake in vain."*

*Ezekiel 3:17 "I have made you watchman (tsapha)."*

*Hosea 9:33 "I have set you a watchman (tsapha)."*

The primary Greek word for 'watch' is *gregoreuo* (23 X) "to keep awake, be vigilant, watchful" .

*Colossians 4:2 "Continue steadfast in prayer, being watchful (gregoreuo) and thankful."*

*1 Thessalonians 5:6 "Let us not sleep as others do, but let us watch (gregoreuo) and be sober"*

*1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober and vigilant (gregoreuo), because your adversary, the devil, is a roaring lion and walks around seeking someone whom he may devour."*

## **A. Insights into Watchmen**

1. God is a Watchman.

*Psalm 121:5, 7-8 "The Lord is your Keeper (shamar)...the Lord will protect (shamar) you from all evil. He will keep (shamar) your soul. The Lord will guard (shamar) your going out and your coming in from this time forward and forever."*

2. God hand picks watchmen in order to both advance His kingdom and protect His domain.

*Ezekiel 3:17, 33:7 "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman(tapha) for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me."*

3. In one way or another we are all chosen to be watchmen.

Over our own souls. Over our calling.

Over our families. Over our ministries.

*Ephesians 6:18 "Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints."*

4. Christ was not only a watchman, but an activator of watchmen.

When Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane, He invited His disciples to join Him as watchmen, and they failed miserably. Obviously, they missed an opportunity that was available to them.

The watchman anointing is the Gethsemane anointing.

*Matthew 26:40-41 "Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray."*

## **B. Action Steps**

1. Thank God for calling you to be a watchman. Embrace this call on your life as part of your identity in Christ.
2. Receive your watchman anointing—empowerment to always be vigilant and alert in prayer.
3. Spend time each day standing on the wall, watching in prayer—waiting, watching, and listening.
4. Identify, recruit, validate, and affirm the specific watchmen God has set around you. They need your validation.

## **C. Pearl Harbor Illustration**

Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, shows the tragic destruction when watchmen are not functioning properly. 75 years ago, the Japanese destroyed much of the U.S. Naval fleet in Hawaii because watchmen were not serving effectively and the Japanese snuck in undetected.

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