

The Call of a Watchman
Ezekiel 3:16-21
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance & need for a “watchman” today.

- Intro:
1. Are you familiar with the idea of a watchman?
 2. Armies have those “on watch”.
 3. But, what about the church?

I. What is a watchman?

A. What did they do?

1. According to Strong's the definition of a watchman is this; *to look out or about, spy, keep watch, observe, watch*
2. A watchman is someone who was a lookout, this term is used in different ways.
 - a. It could be the lookout at the gates of a city
 - b. It could be a spiritual lookout, false teaching, trouble makers, etc

B. Who or what makes a person a watchman?

1. In Bible times God did at times make a person a watchman. (**Ezk 3:16-21**)
2. What makes a person a watchman is what they did. What and why they were watching.

II. Does the church today have watchmen today?

A. Consider the office of an Elder

1. An elder is comparable to watchman.
2. **Acts 20:28 “overseers”; Titus 1:9-11**

B. Christians are encouraged to be watchful

1. **2 Timothy 4:5a; 1 Cor 16:13**
2. For these reasons a mindful Christian can very much be a watchman today and can do so without being an Elder.

III. Why are watchmen needed?

A. The church today faces many threats (**Mt 7:15-16a**)

1. Too many do not recognize a false teacher because they do not recognize false teaching (**Acts 17:11**).
 - a. Watchman aide in guiding believers in truth.
 - b. Truth however, not opinions.

B. The watchman recognizes sin.

1. Since the watchman recognizes sin, who then must warn his brethren.
2. **James 5:19-20**

Application & Conclusion:

1. Watchman were important in Bible times and are important still today.
2. A watchman is for everyone, but those who have the ability also have the responsibility to act (**Ezk 3:18-19**)

3. Full Invitation

God's plan for the alien sinner

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Luke 13:3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – Rev 2:10,

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9