Watchmen Without Trumpets

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

Topic:

Watchmen Without Trumpets

Bible Text: Isaiah 56:9-12

Teacher: Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ the Creator of Heaven and Earth, the great I am, I say thank You for all You have done, Lord I pray that as we learn at Your feet today, that You'd teach us Your word, and let it nourish our inner man, in Jesus Christ name, Amen.

Study

You are all welcome into God's presence.

Isaiah 56:9-12 KJV

All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest. [10] His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. [11] Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. [12] Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.

In the preceding verses, the Lord made promises to His people Israel and these promises transcends to us too. But in verse 9, He changed the tone of the message which is quite fearful. **Isaiah 56:9 KJV** **All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest**. it is the delight for the beast of the field to come up to devour their prey so it has to be filled. Though the sheep might be peaceful but when the beast comes upon the fold, chaos and arrest comes in "yea, all beast in the forest" this gets worse when a beast without numbers is made to attack, it leaves the fold in total waste. Such it is with God's sheep, when the ravaging enemies are permitted to come upon them to devour them, rendering them desolate. Plundering them and scattering them like sheep without a

Shepherd. God Himself called on His people's enemies to enter their land to devour them for He uses even beasts as His weapon of judgment. Why would He allow such on His people, His He wicked or unjust? The reason is simply because **Isaiah 56:10 KJV His watchmen are blind:..**

Who is the watchman?

- A watchman is a person who keeps watch.

- He is a keeper.

- He is a guard.

- He is a watcher.

What is a Trumpet?

According to Merriam Webster Dictionary, A trumpet is a wind instrument consisting of a conical or cylindrical usually metal tube, a cup-shaped mouthpiece, and a flared bell.

It is a musical instrument used in making alarm; watchmen are those who possess trumpets to alert people of impending dangers. **Jeremiah 6:17 KJV Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken**.

Before a person can be referred to as a watchman, it means that there must be something he is keeping watch over. It can be properties or people. Often, a watchman stays at the gate with his trumpet to monitor the coming in and going out of people. He detects strange movements that can serve as a threat against his jurisdiction, he alerts the people with the trumpets whenever he sees danger coming. A city without a watchman is a defenseless city. Therefore, The Lord called on the beast to come and devour His people because the men who were to watch after them were not doing their job as they have been instructed and all the people do not mind whatsoever thing they do against the Lord. The Lord brought His accusation against them lest they say they do not know why calamity has befallen them. He said that

1. **His watchmen were blind:** It becomes a tragic thing when those who are to foresee, who are employed as watchers are blind and cannot see if danger is coming or not; it becomes a more tragic thing for people whose lives and properties are to be watched over to set blind men over themselves. It's commonly said that one-eyed man is the king in the land of the blind but the reverse is the case here. They have blind leaders who are leading the blind, as the Lord Jesus Christ said and their falling into the ditch becomes inevitable. **Matthew 15:14 KJV ...if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch**.

When watchmen are regarded as blind men, it means they are unable to see dangers ahead of those who God has placed them over, or they see it but pretend as though they do not; hence, they have eyes but seest not. **Jeremiah 5:21 KJV ...which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not:** they close their eyes to the sins of the people, they treat wickedness as if it was never committed, they are utterly unfit to be watchmen. If those who are watchmen do not see, who shall see for us? in the body of Christ today there are so many blind watchmen who are there but cannot see the evil committed by those coming in and going out of their gates, and this has opened way for the wolves, that have come preying on the sheep. They are shepherds who do not see the atrocities committed even under their noses, yet the Lord placed them as watchmen both physically and spiritually over His people. Demons has enter the church taking over and worldliness is also taking over gradually, ranging from worldly dressing, songs and dances even to the message preached by those under them, yet, they do not see, for they are blind watchmen who are not aware or chose not to see what the enemy is doing.

2. **His watchmen our ignorance:** what disaster it is for those who are to teach people knowledge to be without knowledge themselves; for the people perish for lack of knowledge. **Hosea 4:6 KJV My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children**. Whether God's people perished because they had no one to teach them knowledge or they themselves refused to seek it as gold, none is justifiable before God. Though the watchmen look like those who have understanding about their duty yet they are not for they are shepherds that

cannot understand. **Isaiah 56:11 KJV ...they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter**. They do not know what should be done about the sheep nor can they feed them with understanding. It is quite unfortunate that there are leaders in Christendom who do not know the right meal to feed the sheep with, as such they feed them with poison or whatever thing that would never make them grow. Knowing the right thing to feed the sheep with is as important as feeding them. Peter already had the knowledge of the right meal for the sheep for the Master had taught him as he is commanded to feed the sheep and not only feed them but tend them. **John 21:15-17 KJV So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. [16] He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. [17] He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep**.

Those shepherds whom God has chosen according to His own heart would not be ignorant in feeding His people with knowledge and understanding. **Jeremiah 3:15 KJV And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding**. Because the ignorance and mistake of the leader can also be the ignorance and mistake of the followers too.

These ignorant watchmen are basically without trumpets. For they do not know what they should even alert the people of, for all movements in and out of their fold looks alike and they are not discerning to know who should be separated from the flock.

3. **These watchmen are dumb dogs; they cannot bark:** Those who should rise up to alert the Shepherd and the sheep are speechless and mute as those possessed with a mute spirit. When they see evil they cannot speak against it. What is the essence of sending the dogs to guide the sheep if they cannot back to alert the shepherd and frighten the wolves? To be candid, for the wolves to have gained ground in the church today is as a result of the leaders who have turned

dumb and would not speak against evil committed. These dumb leaders would never tell people their faults, they would never reprove those who are to be reproved, neither would they warn sinners about the impending judgment of God, but would rather deal their lips. This is because they fear that these sinners they have as members would leave their church and money would no longer come in. As they have become watchmen without trumpet and because of their indifferent attitude towards evil, those who are truly sheep are led astray or ill fed just because they want to keep both goats and sheep. They themselves are male prostitutes and cannot bark since the sins they should bark at is still the same they are committing or even leading those sheep under them to commit with them. They intrude into households and by their heresies take prisoners of those who are led astray by desires and sins, that is, immorality. **2 Timothy 3:6 KJV** **For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,**

4. **The watchmen are sleeping:** Laying down, loving to slumber, those who should be awake and not even only awake but at alert are sleeping and dreaming at their post. They themselves are liable to attacks and death even as they sleep; it is not even that they dozed off but they are lying down sleeping, they laid down intentionally to invite sleep not minding what is at stake. At gethsemane, sleep overpowers the disciples because of grief and fatigue but for them it is not so, "saying soul, take thy ease" It is bad with a people when their shepherds slumber. **Nahum 3:18 KJV** **Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall dwell in the dust : thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth them**. But it is well with God's people because He that watches over Israel never sleep nor slumber. When the watchmen sleep, the sheep are prone to attacks; they cannot be in peace, for their sleep would often be disturbed by wolves. Looking into the world today we will see that many are sleeping in the body of Christ. Churches where the truth wouldn't be preached are headed by sleeping leaders who decided to have their soul take it rest. When they themselves are sleeping, how would their members be awake? Revival is needed? **Psalm 85:6 KJV** **Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?** Because of these watchmen without trumpet the people suffer in the hands of Satan, their enemy.

5. **The watchmen are greedy dogs which can never have enough:** Those whose main concern should be their watch over the fold, they should be committed in this work that they would not have time in amassing wealth, but here are marked by greed, they have and show a selfish desire for wealth and possession, they lose sight of what they are called to do and pursue after the shadows. The more they get and acquire, the more they want, since the things of this world never satisfy the longings of the souls. They keep pursuing these vain things. **Ecclesiastes 5:10 KJV** **He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.** Their pursuit is money and since their minds are centered on it, they preach it too, merchandising the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, not minding the souls that are trooping into destruction daily. **1 John 2:15-16 KJV** **Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world**.

Those who are to see to the cares of the church, flogging those who make merchandise out of it with the cords of the true gospel are the same set of people found in such acts, for all they enquire is what they shall get and not what they shall do. As much as money is coming in, nothing more concerns them about souls if they are prepared for heaven or not. They are those who look to their own way minding his own private interest and have no regard at all to the public welfare. What is of Christ is of little or no concern to them. **Philippians 2:21 KJV** **For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's**. They have become watchmen without trumpets. Everyone is propagating his own opinion in form of Gospel and advancing his own party which he calls church or ministry, raising his own family with public funds called members tithes and offerings, fulfilling only the desires of his heart while the common concern of the sheep which is to prepare them for eternity is wretchedly neglected and postponed. They call on those who are like them, those who also work according to their course, they call on them saying they will fetch wine, and will fill themselves with strong drinks. **Isaiah 56:12 KJV** **Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant**. What becomes of the fold when the shepherd is taken away in drowsiness? When they even hire the sheep to join in their sins. Hence,

they mock themselves and put themselves in commotion because of their marred reasoning, they become clamorous. Therefore they are deceived by it for they are not wise.

It would have been of little concern if they are carried away in it by themselves and on their own but of serious concern when others are led astray too by their conducts. They then speak about the morrow as if it is within their power to secure it, saying it shall be like today and filled with much more abundance than today because they have plundered the flock and made them helpless and by this they confirmed their wickedness, their hearts hardened, those they should have reproved are hereby encouraged to drink strong drink, how could then the sheep think it is wrong to drink when the watchmen themselves joined with them and led them to it. You who say people should depart from evil are you not also committing that evil? when watchmen themselves are not busy with their work but negligent and the sheep suffer they are without trumpet. From this it is clear that there are many watchmen who might have some time ago possessed a trumpet that makes them sound alarm to the sheep but have lost it, or probably have allowed the devil collect this trumpet from them or those who never even had any trumpet in the first place for they were not commissioned by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Man of God, Woman of God, do you still have a trumpet? One that cries against sin. Sin makes people candidates of God's wrath, have you not lost your trumpet of truth, righteousness and judgment? Are you getting the sheep prepared? God's wrath is coming, get your flock prepared. Have you not lost the trumpet of warning, of rebuke, of correction, of reproof? If Satan has taken your trumpet away from you because of the cares of this world, remember there is eternity, get your trumpet back, fear God's judgments rather than man's applauds, don't be a watchman without a trumpet.

Prayer point

My Lord, my God in any way I have lost my trumpet as a watchman, Lord by your mercy recover it for me now in Jesus Christ name.

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