WATCHMEN WITH BLOODY HANDS

By: Phillip Hayes

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul" [Ezekiel. 3:17-19].

God warns the prophet Ezekiel that there is a price to pay for disobedience! It doesn't matter if you are a prophet, or church member, disobeying God is a serious matter especially when it comes to souls.

God has watchmen scattered across this country and throughout the world. If you think about it, we are all Watchmen. Parents watch over their children. A true body of believers will watch over one another. True Pastors and Teachers watch over their congregations. The Apostle, Prophet and Evangelist reach beyond the local church and watch over the corporate body of Christ world-wide. Don't forget this:

the born again, blood washed, Holy Ghost filled believers watch for lost souls to minister to! Therefore, we are all called to be Watchmen!

We also watch for the signs Jesus and the Apostles gave us concerning the Second Coming of our Lord and the end of the world. Jesus told us to WATCH. Are you watching my friend? A Watchman is a ministry. It is not a title to impress someone, but a ministry that is perhaps the most serious of all ministries. God's Word says many in the last days would be scoffers saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?" So, we know there will be those that are not watching.

Ezekiel was a watchman. His job was to warn the wicked and the righteous that sinned of the awful judgement of God. The Lord wanted His prophet to warn the people that He would destroy them if they walked in disobedience to His commandments. God did not want to destroy them, He wanted to save them.

If Ezekiel failed to preach or warn them, their blood would be required of his hand. He would have to give an account for all that he failed to warn! What an awful responsibility! What a burden!

Throughout the years of my ministry, I have seen countless preachers give up their ministries. Some because of finances, some so discouraged, they couldn't take the ridicule and pressure of ministry any longer.

Surely, the Word of God is being fulfilled right before our very eyes; "Because of iniquity, the love of many will wax cold". Seducing spirits and doctrines of devils are now rampant across the world, like never before. Many voices are crying out: "This is the way, join us, over here, we have the truth," and on and on it goes.

Recent developments in our nation have caused many born again Christians to have some hope for revival. The murder of Charlie Kirk shocked the entire world. The persecution, lies and hatred that exploded after his death has astounded everyone including the media. At the same time, we see a rise in people committing their lives to Christ. Revival fires seem to be spreading to college campuses, churches and other revival events. At the same time, the prince of darkness has risen in the hearts of his people with great boldness, but the righteous are responding with greater boldness and love for the Truth.

God's will is to save men's lives, not destroy them. Here is His will. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" [1Timothy 2:1-4].

Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, and today, and forever! Praise His Holy Name. As I have stated many times, there is only ONE GOSPEL that will truly transform lives – you must be born again!

There is no doubt in my mind, we are living at the end! The judgment of God is about to fall. The Bible is very clear that Judgment will first begin at the house of God! God will and is dealing with His people first; and then God's judgment will be preached like never before. Remember, before wrath, judgment is preached.

Look at this last GOSPEL MESSAGE that will be preached before God destroys the wicked: "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" [Revelation 14:6-7].

God's wrath will be poured out after the wicked have rejected this last day message of judgement.

But first they Must Hear! This is God's will, "That They Hear" for God takes no pleasure in the destruction of the wicked. "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" [Ezekiel 33:11]. Think about that my friends! God wants to give everyone a chance to repent! God says, "Why will you die"!

This nation and the nations of the world are infested with sin. Darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people! On every hand, you are tempted

with all manner of evil. It has gotten so bad that you cannot hardly go to the grocery store without being confronted with nakedness and perversion at the check out stands. All promoting sexuality, sensuality and bizarre ungodly lifestyles.

Everyone seems to be caught up in prosperity. Christians today are far from being "content with what they have". They continue to want more, and more, and more! They are caught in the snare of the world. They have become as Demas, who loved this present world more than he loved God!

But have they been warned? Have the watchmen cried out against their ungodliness and sins? Have the watchmen warned of the coming judgement of God? Or, have the watchmen kept quiet because they didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings or perhaps, they no longer care because their love has waxed cold?

What about you my friend? Have you warned those that you love, your friends, your neighbors? Will there be blood on your hands?

You say, "Well Brother Hayes, that's the preachers job." Yes, that's part of their responsibility but we all have the same responsibility to warn others. Would you warn someone that their house is on fire and they should get out?! Of course you would!

Well, I am talking about helping people that will burn in hell if they don't repent and turn to God! Most are on their way to hell right now and don't know it. Most have never heard a real Gospel Message like the one that was preached on the day of Pentecost! Imagine their surprise and rejection when they hear the true Gospel mixed with fear and judgment!

We cannot stand idly by and let them go on in their sins, never saying anything. We let our friends, relatives, and neighbors, worship God in vain after the traditions and commandments of men and never warn them. Will God hold us responsible for them as He did the prophet Ezekiel? I believe He will.

We let our children get tied up in the world with a fine education, new cars and money in the bank and we wonder why they won't go to church. We have failed to be watchmen in our homes, our neighborhood and our nation.

Today people spend more money on dog food than they give to missionaries. Folks go to the restaurant and spend thirty dollars on junk food and tip the waitress more than they gave in the offering plate at church. I am told that some parents pay more than \$200.00 for name brand tennis shoes for their children but would never think of giving \$100.00 for an offering. Most people's priorities are not in promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Men, women, boys and girls are dying every minute of every hour of every day, without Jesus! Sadly, most of them have never heard of the gospel of the Kingdom of God!

Why haven't they heard? Simply because there are few, real men and women of God preaching the same Gospel the early Church Father's preached.

I have personally known men and women that God saved and delivered from smoking, drinking and partying, that spent hundreds of dollars each week on sin. I have known many God had healed that spent thousands of dollars on doctors and hospitals, but when it comes to giving to help save someone's soul . . . they turn away.

If you're questioning why I bring up giving in this message; it's because what you do with your money reveals the condition of the heart! Look at what the Apostle Paul wrote about Christians in the last days.

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" [2 Timothy 3:1-5].

People are covetous and greedy! They love themselves and pleasures more than they love God. And the shame of it is this: these scriptures not only describing the condition of the world, but also the church!

But what about the blood of those caught in this snare? Is anyone warning them? Will God require their blood on them that refuse to correct those that are in error?

You say, "Well brother, they are not going to hear, they won't repent. You're just wasting your time". Oh my, I hope you get this . . . that is the devil talking! What did the scripture say? What did God tell Ezekiel?

"When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul" [Ezekiel 3:18-19].

You can see plainly here that God requires His servants to simply proclaim what He has spoken and if the wicked repent or not, His servants hands are clean. If we don't warn the wicked, God will hold us responsible! We cannot be influenced by what others say or do. We must obey Him that speaks from Heaven. Look what Jesus said: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" [Mark 16:15-16].

Man will always try and stop you from doing God's will. And the devil is certainly going to discourage you and I from obeying God.

The devil is a liar. We are not suppose to be ignorant of his devices. Satan will go to every extreme to stop the gospel from being preached. Why?

Because it is the only hope for mankind.

I desire very much for people to be saved. But if they repent or not, we must continue to preach the Gospel! It's God's Will – We Must Obey Him! What will you tell Him at the judgement? You didn't think they would repent? You didn't think they would hear you? You quit witnessing because no one responded to you? Maybe You quit preaching because no one would support you or you stopped preaching because someone told you it was no use? Maybe your excuse to not witness is because you didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings? Come on! There will be no excuses on judgment!

There is work to do! Remember Jesus said, "Occupy till I come" (Luke 19:13). The word occupy means to "busy oneself"! To work, to labor, to be busy, etc. Jesus hasn't returned from Heaven yet! This is why I am working! And you my friend, if you are in the body of Christ, you have been called into a Holy Vocation. Your job is to labor for souls, to reveal Christ to a lost and dying world!

I know that many of you have probably had to work overtime on your job because someone didn't show up for work. You had to do your job and also the other persons' job. Because of their sickness or indifference, you had to work harder than usual.

Did you know that the Lord Jesus told us this is exactly the way it would be in the end of the world! He gave us many parables concerning the end time and what it would be like. One of the most profound things about the harvest time was that there would be a great harvest. Did you know that? Most don't! All most folks hear is, "only a few will be saved". And this is true, only a few will be saved; but how many is a few? How can there be a great harvest and only a few be saved?

In Matthew chapter thirteen, verse thirty-six, the disciples asked Jesus to explain the meaning of a parable that He had told them previously. We can understand many of our Lord's parables by this one as Jesus clearly reveals the meaning.

Here is our Lord's explanation of His parable . . .

"The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels" [Matthew 13:38-39].

In this parable, Jesus says, "The harvest is the end of the world". Now at the time of harvest, (which is in the end of the world), Jesus reveals there would be a harvest of the wicked and also the righteous. In another place the Lord called the wicked seed and the righteous seed, "the tares and the wheat", and they would grow together <u>until the harvest</u>. At the end of the world, <u>(harvest time)</u>; God would send the reapers and they would separate the evil seed and the good seed. I believe we are at that time!

The Bible says, it will be <u>A GREAT HARVEST!</u>

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is

great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" [Luke 10:2].

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" [John 4:35].

Now, is the HARVEST at the end of the world or back in the apostles time? Was Jesus speaking to them or was He speaking to us here in the end time?

Oh, I hope you can see . . . WE ARE LIVING IN HARVEST TIME! The END OF THE WORLD! And my friends, THE HARVEST IS A GREAT ONE! Never in the recorded history of mankind are there as many people living than right now. Google reports that the earth's present estimated population is about 8.25 BILLION people. There are more people alive today than has lived and died since the beginning of mankind.

At the beginning of the Christian era, 33 AD, the worlds population was between 250 and 350 million. It took 1700 years for it to double, but amazingly the worlds population doubled again in only 150 years, from 1700 to 1850. By 1950, the worlds population stood at 2.5 billion!

According to a 1992 U.N. Population Fund report, the population of the world would increase by about 97 MILLION ANNUALLY, until the year 2000. Dear ones, that is the equivalent of a United States every two and one half years. And now (2025) the earth's population is estimated to be over 8 billion!!

Look at religion around the world. Churches on every corner. It is estimated that 2.6 BILLION of the earth's population profess Christianity as their religion. Over 2 BILLION identify as Muslim. Multiplied millions of others profess a belief in God such as those in Buddhism, Judaism, etc. There is without doubt, a great harvest on planet earth!

And the <u>laborers are few</u>! So few in fact that our Lord asked us to pray for laborers to be sent into the field to help gather this great harvest! So many excuses are given, but as I have said before, none will be accepted by our Lord.

Yes, there is a great deal of work to do. Some say it's over but don't believe this, for the end is not yet.

I must ask again, "Does God still require you and I to cleanse our hands by warning the wicked?" I believe He does!

Will you be among the watchmen with blood on your hands? You see, I have determined to let nothing stop me from sounding the alarm and doing my duty as a watchman! Whether they repent or not, I cannot tell, but I must obey the Voice that lies deep within my being. That Voice is, "The Voice of one crying in the wilderness of this dark world, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." Jesus is coming!

There will be no blood on my hands for I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole counsel of God. As long as I have breath, and the means to proclaim His Holy name and His glorious truths, I will do so until

Jesus comes in the clouds of glory.

Jesus is the Light of the world. Do you believe that? If you do, then you must also believe that Jesus has made us the light of the world!

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" [Matthew 5:14-16].

Have you hidden your light? The world is in gross darkness because many have hidden their light. Will you follow my example and begin to let the light of the Gospel shine through your life? The light of the gospel is still able to save men's lives but they must see the light before they can believe.

Paul said in one place, "That the life of Jesus might be made manifest in my mortal flesh." Paul was desiring to reveal the Son of God in his life that others might see Christ in him and come to the marvelous light of Jesus.

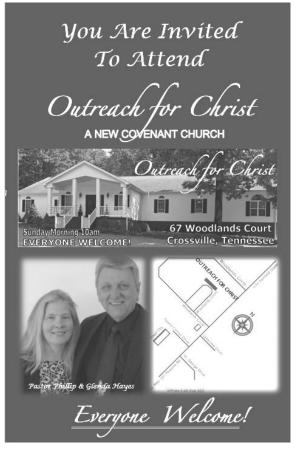
Don't stand in judgment with Bloody Hands! Let your Light shine! Shine the light of the marvelous gospel of our Lord in your home, your job, the marketplace, your neighborhood, your church, everywhere you go. You are the watchman in your part of the world! Don't fail to be God's witness!

How will He find you when He returns? Giving

meat in due season; laboring, giving, praying, watching, or sleeping?

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing" [Matthew 24:44-46].

Be wise my friend! Be a soul winner! "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise" [Proverbs 11:30].



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