



“The word of the LORD came to me: .... “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from Me.” (Ezekiel 33:1;7 - NIV)

**Prayer:** Dear Lord Jesus, Let Your mercy continually cleanse and defend Your Church on earth; and because it cannot continue in safety without Your Almighty Hand, protect and govern it always by Your goodness; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN



**Order of Worship – The Common Service Without L.S. – pg. 15**

- Greetings by the Pastor

- Invocation (Liturgy pg. 15)

Opening Hymn **C.W. 282 / TLH 5**

- Confession of Sins

- Absolution

- Prayer and Praise (pg. 16)

- Prayer of The Day (pg. 17)

**First Lesson** – Ezekiel 33:1-11 – Ezekiel a Watchmen.

**PSALM OF THE DAY** Psalm 51a (Lit. pg. 86 – Sung by Monica McInnis)

**Second Lesson** – Romans 13:1-10 – All Authority come from God.

**Gospel Lesson** – Matthew 18:15-20 – Church Discipline.

The Apostle’s Creed – (Pg. 19)

Sermon Hymn: **C.W. 543 / TLH 483**

**Sermon Text:** Ezekiel 33:1; 7

Sermon Theme: What Type of A Watchman Do You Want?

"Create in Me" – (pg. 20)

Offering (The plates will not be passed but are at the entrance doors)

Offering Prayer

Prayer of The Church

Lord’s Prayer (Traditional Version)

Hymn **C.W. 544 / TLH 264**

Collect / Prayer (pg. 25)

Benediction

Hymn **C.W. 542 / TLH 482**

Wherever You Are, There Is God’s Mission Field.

SERMON TEXT: Ezekiel 33:1; 7 (592 B.C to about 570 B.C. Ezekiel is God's Prophet to a people in captivity.)

Vs. 1 – The Word of the Lord came to me: (Ezekiel)

Vs. 7 – Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from Me.

GREETING: How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. (I John 3:1)

A handful of enemy soldiers made it to the wall of the city undetected.

This elite group of men now climbed their way up the city wall. Again, to their surprise and delight, undetected. As they silently crept to the watch tower, they found the watchmen fast asleep the trumpets sitting in the corner. This elite group of fighting men now knew why they were able to not only make their way to the wall undetected, but to also climb the wall with no alarms being sounded.

The watchmen were quickly disposed of while they slept, and the city gates opened, thus enabling the entire army of the enemy to silently enter in the early morning hours while the city slept. The enemy soldiers spread out, making their way through the city, house to house, leaving no one alive to raise an alarm.

The city was ransacked, all the soldiers of the city were killed as they slept in their beds, everyone in the city was killed except for the few who would make good slaves.

The palace was entered, the king was bound and his family was killed before his very eyes, after which his eyes were gouged out, so that the last thing he saw was the death of his wife and children.

The city was plundered and before the day was over all things of value were on the backs of pack animals and the city was in flames.

All this happened because the watchmen had fallen asleep and did not sound the trumpet.

No one likes to be woken in the evening when they are in a deep sleep, but when the enemy soldiers came, it would have been one time when it would have been beneficial to be woken before the enemies scaled the wall and opened the gates of the city.

If your house is on fire during the night, do you want someone to come and wake you up?

In this section from Ezekiel the Lord God Almighty went to the prophet Ezekiel and said:  
**Vs. 7 – Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from Me.**

Ezekiel was called by God, and Ezekiel's job was to be a watchman.

The work that Ezekiel was to do as a watchman for the house of Israel was to speak the Word of God to the people of Judah and warn them of impending danger.

The impending danger was that the Lord God was going to send an enemy nation to besiege and destroy the city of Jerusalem. (See Ezekiel 4:1-7; Ez. 5:5-17)

The reason that the Lord was going to send devastation upon the city of Jerusalem and the surrounding countryside of Judah was because as a nation, the people had rebelled and rejected God. (Ez. 22:1-31)

When Ezekiel was called by God, we learn from Ez. 1:1 that Ezekiel was 30 years old.

Ezekiel was part of the first deportation of Jews (597 B.C), prior to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. And so, even though Ezekiel was a prophet of God, he was also deported by the Babylonians. This shows us that even Christians / Believers suffer. {However, as Believers in Christ, we know that even if we suffer death, we have heaven in Christ Jesus our Risen and Victorious Savior.}

As the book of Ezekiel begins, he was by the Kebar River, a canal of the Euphrates River, in the land of Babylon. We also learn that it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin, king of Judah. (Ez. 1:2)

Ezekiel was told to proclaim the Word of the Lord, and proclaim he did.

Ezekiel proclaimed that the Lord would send – sword – famine – wild beasts and plague against Jerusalem. (Ez. 14:21)

Yet there would be some survivors. (Ez. 14:22)

The Lord God would spare some because He had promised to send a Savior from the root of Jesse. That Savior is of course Christ Jesus our Lord. A Lion from the tribe of Judah. (Rev. 5:5; Gen. 49:9-10; Isa. 11:1; 10; Heb. 7:14)

What if Ezekiel did not proclaim the Word of the Lord?

It would have been like the watchman who was sleeping as the enemy advanced and entered the city.

**Vs. 8 – When I say to the wicked, O wicked man, you will surely die, and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, the wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood.**

**Vs. 9 – But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sins, but you will have saved yourself.**

My Friends in Christ, do you know someone who is trapped in their sinful ways and sinful words and sinful lifestyles?

Then apply the Words of our Lord Jesus as given in the Gospel of Matthew 18:15-18

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.”

“If he will not listen, take two or three witnesses.” “If he fails to listen to them, tell it to the church”

“If he still fails to listen, treat the unrepentant individual as a pagan or a tax collector.”

As we look at these words of our Lord, through the Prophet Ezekiel, we ask ourselves;

“Where is the hope?” “Where is the Gospel?” “Is there any Good News?”

For the answer to those questions we look at Ez. 33:10-11

**Vs. 10 – Son of man, say to the house of Israel, This is what you are saying: Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?**

**Vs. 11 – Say to them, As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?**

The Lord God does not want people to die! Rather the Lord God wants people to live here and now for Him in our daily life, and then forever in heaven. (Rev. 7:9-17; Rev. 21:1-7; Lk. 24:36-44; Jn. 14:1-4; Romans 6:1-14)

These words from Ezekiel 33:10-11 are very similar to the words of our Lord through the Apostle Paul to a young Pastor by the name of Timothy.

**“God our Savior wants all mankind to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” I Tim. 2:3-4**

How did God provide for the salvation of mankind?

“For God so loved the World, that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.”

As the Lord God continues to provide those who faithfully proclaim the Word of our Lord Jesus, may we all continue to hear the message which God’s watchmen proclaim. That Message is: Christ Jesus has Come – Christ Jesus Lived – Christ Jesus Died – Christ Jesus Rose – Christ Jesus is coming again! AMEN

**THEME: What Type of a Watchman do you want?**