The Ezekiel Watchmen

Summary

Ezekiel's "watchman" commission didn't end in ancient Israel — this article argues it's a job description still in force today, with real consequences for those who ignore it.

- Ezekiel's watchman commission applied to the present day: an obligation to warn modern "spiritual Israel" of coming judgment.
- A revived "Assyria" identified as the source of that coming judgment.
- The elect held responsible if they fail to warn.
- An extended marriage-covenant analogy (Ezekiel 16; Revelation 19): the "firstfruits" congregation as the Messiah's betrothed bride.

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The book of Ezekiel is addressed to Israel. But Israel had been in captivity over 100 years when Ezekiel wrote this message. Ezekiel also warned Judah about being taken captive by Babylon. Judah was conquered and Ezekiel was a prisoner. The captivity of Judah was only a TYPE of what is to happen to America and the British Commonwealth *(Biblical Spiritual Israel),* as well as Judah *(modern-day physical Israel)*, in the near future!

Yahweh has revealed to us through the prophecy contained in the book of Ezekiel, that the watchman of Ezekiel has a special job to do. He must warn physical and spiritual Israel - not save them, but warn them of their transgressions.

The watchman is prophesied to be present, and warning, when modern Assyria *(Central Europe, probably including Germany)* rises to power and destroys us *(U.S. and Britain)* unless we repent. "Again the word of Yahweh came unto me, saying, "Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, `When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a people of their coasts, and set him for their watchman'"" *(Ezek. 33:1,2).* Ezekiel was in prison. He was a Prophet not a watchman. Many verses in Ezekiel tell us that this book is for our time today.

"If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet and warn the people" *(v. 3)*. The watchman is to warn the people when he SEES the sword. He is on the scene and personally sees the invasion coming - only we can fully see that happening today.

"Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be on his own head. He [who] heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. But if the watchman sees the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand" *(vv. 4-6)*. The blood of the people is going to be on the head of the watchman if he does not warn. This is repeated several times. If we *(the elect)* are able to understand this, we are obligated to accept the associated responsibility!

"So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me" *(Ez. 33:7)*. Yahweh chose us to "hear" *(understand)* this message, and therefore, He obligated us to "warn" modern spiritual and physical Israel!

"Say unto them, as I live saith the Lord Yahweh, 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?" *(v. 11).* Yahweh has personally warned the elect of the congregation that Israel is going to die. The warning is about the death of great nations!

"For I will lay the land most desolate, and the pomp of her strength shall cease; and the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, that none shall pass through. Then shall they know that I am Yahweh, when I have laid the land most desolate because of all their abominations which they have committed" *(vv. 28,29).* This is prophecy for the very end, just before our great nations collapse.

"And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness" *(v. 31).* This speaks of modern traditional Christianity, that "talks endlessly" of love and good works, but absolutely refuses to keep Yahweh's commandments. And they conduct their lives principally around their greed for material things.

"And when this comes to pass, *[lo, it will come]*, then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them" *(v. 33).* When the Tribulation comes, the people will realize that the prophetic warning message they heard was from Yahweh and that they should have repented.

In Ezekiel's time there was only one nation of Israel. Today, Israel is comprised of many nations. "And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day" *(Ez. 2:3)*. The word nation is actually "nations" in the Hebrew. This warning message is primarily to U.S., Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and many English speaking democracies of the world.

"For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I DO SEND THEE UNTO THEM; and thou shalt say unto them;`Thus saith the Lord Yahweh. And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear *["refuse", New King James], [for they are a rebellious house]*, yet shall they know that there hath been a prophet among them'" *(vv.4,5).* Whether they will hear or not, Yahweh says we must deliver this message.

"And thou, Son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house" *(v. 6).* Yahweh tells us that our message is not going to be well received; that we will be trying to warn angry, dangerous people, but that we should not fear them.

"And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe" *(vv. 9,10).* Our message is very difficult to deliver, but it's better to speak about lamentations, mourning and woe, than to experience it! "Moreover he said unto me, `Son of man, eat that

thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel'" *(Ez. 3:1).* Before we speak, we must eat and digest Yahweh's spiritual food. Then we will have the strength through faith to deliver this message.

"Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river at Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days" *(v. 15).* Ezekiel was in captivity along with the Jews.

"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" *(v. 17).* "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" *(v. 18).* WE, because we understand this prophecy, are going to be there when Israel dies! If we fail to warn them, we die with them!

Yahweh points out who the real CAUSE of the problem is - the shepherds or ministers of Israel. "And the word of Yahweh came unto me, saying, "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them; `Thus saith the Lord Yahweh unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?'"" *(Ez. 34:1,2).* Traditional Christian pastors, and our modern governmental leaders, are simply self-centered, egotistical people, not faithfully concerned about the people or Yahweh's true work. Satan is always working to get to religious and political authorities; he can deceive many sheep via deceiving our leaders.

"Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock" *(Ez. 34:3).* Satan got to these false ministers through self-centeredness. "The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but by brute force and with cruelty ye have ruled them" *(v. 4).* This speaks all too clearly of the things we see happening all around us these days!

When Yahweh's people get their minds off basic Biblical realities, including the warning message of Ezekiel, they simply become consumed in the sin of selfishness! They don't know what the work of Yahweh is - they are too lost! This prophecy is being fulfilled right now! "And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered" *(v. 5).* Yahweh is talking about an event about to occur - RIGHT NOW! These words are symbolic. "Scattered", means taken captive by other heathen nations *("beasts"),* of the world *("field"),* and placed into captivity *("meat")*!

"For thus saith the Lord Yahweh; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out...of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country" *(vv. 11-13).* Yahweh is going to gather our people from the countries where they will be taken as PRISONERS! We are going to be driven out of our own land if we don't repent!

"And as for my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet" *(v. 19). (Also see verses 17, 18 for more clarification.)* Yahweh has given us "deep waters" - the truth as revealed by His Holy Spirit, which false ministers of traditional Christianity have "fouled", or polluted with their false doctrine.

"Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle" *(v. 22).* Yahweh's people are no more going to be a prey - this end-time scattering is the last time it will happen!

"And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel,... and ye shall know that I am the Lord Yahweh" *(13:9).* Here Yahweh is referring to the false ministers not being a part of Israel after the Tribulation - when the rest of the people will finally know the true God. "Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, `Peace; and there was no peace'; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar" *(v. 10).* Yahweh's own people are being seduced by a false doctrine, or "wall"; created by "one", the papacy; and reinforced by "others", the rest of traditional Christianity; using non-Biblical myths, or "untempered mortar". This same prophecy is contained in many other Scriptures such as Amos 3 and 4; Zech. 3 and 4; Mal.1-4; 2 Thes. 2; and Revelation 3.

"So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that the FOUNDATION thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am Yahweh" *(v. 14).* During the Tribulation, when Yahweh destroys the false wall, He shall reveal its false foundations, which are the false doctrines taught by Satan's traditional Christianity. Yahweh's "Foundation" - His truths, referring to the true Gospel of the Kingdom of Yahweh that Yah'shua the Messiah preached, shall also be revealed. Destruction of the false wall also means permanent destruction of the false ministers and religious authorities - finally!

"Therefore thus saith the Lord Yahweh; Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgements in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations. And I will do to thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations" *(vv. 8,9).* Yahweh is going to punish Israel in an extreme manner, making them an example of shame to the world because of their sins.

"In all your dwelling places the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate;...and your idols...and your images...and your works may be abolished" *(6:6).* "Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries. And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me,...and they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have committed" *(vv. 8,9).* When some of the Israelites are taken captive around the world, they will tell their captors about these prophecies! The heathen nations will learn about Yahweh from their captives! So we see that even Israel's *(our)* captivity serves Yahweh's Work!

"Again the word of Yahweh came unto me, saying, `Son of man, cause JERUSALEM to know her abominations'" *(Ez. 16:1,2).* Yahweh says His Elect *(the Ezekiel watchman),* must cause Jerusalem to know her abominations. In this chapter, Yahweh's primary focus is on "Jerusalem above", or the end-time Congregation of Yahweh. We get our truth from Jerusalem above. This is probably one of the most inspiring chapters in the entire Bible! The focus is on a wife that has broken her marriage vows.

Ezekiel discusses two marriages. First, an old covenant marriage with ancient Israel, and second, the new covenant marriage with modern Israel *(U.S. and British Commonwealth)* - the True Congregation, which is led by His Holy Spirit. "Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord Yahweh, and thou becamest mine" *(Ez. 16:8).* The expression "spread my skirt over thee" is a sign of marriage. *(See Ruth 3:9-11.)* The expression means that Yahweh has agreed to protect his wife *(as any good husband should - if his wife is loyal)*. Yahweh's loyal people, his Elect, who are part of this marriage covenant will be protected by Yahweh during the Great Tribulation - in his skirts. Provided they are obedient to deliver this message!

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready" *(Rev. 19:7)*. The Messiah's wife must be ready when He returns. WE ARE NOW TO BE PREPARING for that fabulous marriage - which the Messiah looks upon as already consummated! That's why we are called His "wife" and not His "fiancée". This is the most exalted award ever offered any human being in history, and most people are too stubborn and "hard-hearted" to grasp the reality of it.

"Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and anointed thee with oil" *(Ez. 16:9)*. This is referring to the forgiveness of our sins due to the Messiah's shed blood, and our being anointed with His Holy Spirit. "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SAINTS. And he saith unto me, `Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb'" *(Rev. 19:7-9).*

We are granted the right to clothe ourselves in "fine linen", or in other words, to behave righteously. This will ensure our "marriage" to the Messiah. "Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk,...and thou wast exceedingly beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom" *(Ez. 16:13)*. This is history and prophecy. Ancient Israel prospered into a kingdom but failed Yahweh. Modern Spiritual Israel has prospered into many wealthy nations, and today, all of the "firstfruits" are the Kingdom of Yahweh in "embryo" - to be BORN AGAIN as that Kingdom. Rejecting this incredible firstfruit calling is the real tragedy of turning away from Yahweh - not dying for all eternity! It's the missed opportunity that is so sad - salvation to eternal life will be offered to all.

"And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord Yahweh" *(v. 14).* This applies to us in modern Spiritual Israel -

the Messiah's spiritual bride. Yahweh's perfect comeliness or character comes to us through His Holy Spirit, *(See Phil. 2:5.)* and the entire world seems to covet the "western", or American ways.

"But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by..." *(Ez. 16:15).* The word "fornications" is better translated "adultery"! We are, whether we accept it or not, married to the Messiah today! If we turn away from Yahweh and Yahweh's true doctrine, to an atheistic point of view, or to other false gods, which is what most of spiritual Israel *(U.S. and British Commonwealth)* has done through traditional Christianity, we have in fact, committed spiritual adultery!

This is prophecy for us as we read it! Only Yahweh's firstfruits bride *(us, the House of Israel)* can commit adultery in this end-time, because only we are married to the Messiah! That's why the Messiah was so specific in His choice of words in His marriage covenant. Worldly translators do not understand about Yahweh's marriage and Yahweh's family, that is why they use the word "fornications" instead of adultery!

We are not officially married to the Messiah until He returns. However, Yahweh already looks upon the Congregation *(Spiritual Israel)* today as His wife. As in Rev. 19:7: "...His WIFE has made herself ready". The time frame here is just before our marriage to the Messiah. This verse alone reveals Yahweh's thinking. This lady was the Messiah's WIFE, while she was getting ready for the marriage. That is how we walk by faith. Yahweh views His side of the covenant as absolute, but we must prove ourselves.

"Yahweh, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were" *(Rom. 4:17).* That is why we are called the Messiah's wife, even though the marriage itself will not actually be official until the marriage supper is celebrated. John 6:47 teaches that; "he that believeth on me HATH everlasting life". Do you have eternal life now? Technically no. But Yahweh still looks upon us as already having eternal life. That's because we do - IF we uphold our part of the agreement!

If we view this covenant through Yahweh's eyes and obey Him, the marriage is certain. That is why He views our turning away from Him as spiritual adultery. However, there is a human element. We are allowed to fail and NEVER be a part of that wedding. The lesson Yahweh is trying to teach *(those of us who don't think we, "know too much" already),* is that a covenant is a promise to keep your word. And our word should be fulfilled, if we manifest the character of Yahweh. Yahweh judges us on the basis of our promise to keep His commandments, which reflect our part of the marriage covenant. His rewards are promised to His saints: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those that keep the commandments of Yahweh and the faith of Yah'shua the Messiah" *(Rev. 14:12).* His part of the covenant is absolute. Our part is too - if we have the faith of Yah'shua the Messiah to keep Yahweh's commandments. Once we become the Messiah's wife, we cannot commit adultery, because we will have become one of the "Elohim" family, and Elohim or "Yahweh", cannot sin. Viewing it spiritually, we can only commit adultery during the engagement period - during this mortal lifetime.

Carnal minded man cannot grasp the magnitude of our reward. They can't get it! It takes His Holy Spirit to grasp what is being offered to the firstfruits! Satan wants to destroy, or blur this wonderful, most inspiring vision. We must not let him! Yahweh says this adulterous sin is "no small matter"!

"And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will give thee blood in fury and jealousy" *(v. 38).* The more we are given, the greater our responsibility toward Yahweh. When we are called to be the Messiah's wife, Yahweh expects us to act like His wife - not an adulterous harlot! This is why traditional Christians will be "spewed out" of Yahweh's mouth into the Tribulation *(Rev. 3:14-20).*

"And I will also give thee into their hand, and they shall throw down thine eminent place, and shall break down thy high places: they shall strip thee also of thy clothes, and shall take thy fair jewels, and leave thee naked and bare" *(v. 39)*. We have been blessed with great material wealth in the nations of modern Spiritual Israel, but because we are not thankful to Yahweh for this, but rather think we obtained it by our own devising, Yahweh will see us stripped of it all.

"Behold, every one that uses proverbs shall use this proverb against thee, saying, 'As is the mother, so is her daughter'" *(v. 44)*. A woman is a type of congregation. Yahweh's marriage to ancient Israel is likened to the "mother", while His marriage to the firstfruits bride is compared to the "daughter", as happening later. When Yahweh discusses "mother" and "daughter" in this context, HE IS ILLUSTRATING THAT THIS PROPHECY IS DUAL! The wife rebelled anciently, and the wife *(all but the Elect few who are not deceived)* rebels today, even though today, we have His Holy Spirit.

"When I shall bring again their captivity of Sodom and her Daughters, and the captivity of Samaria and her Daughters, then will I bring again the captivity of thy captives in the midst of them" *(v. 53).* This is to be in the FUTURE! Yahweh sent His old covenant wife into captivity. Now in this end time, He must send His new covenant wife - Spiritual Israel - into captivity for transgression as well!

"Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant" *(Ez. 16:60).* Spiritual Israel essentially began on the Day of Pentecost. Yahweh remembers the covenant He made with them in their "youth", meaning in the earliest days of New Covenant Israelite faith. We learn in 2 Thes. 2, that the early Israelites "betrayed" the wife of their youth - the marriage covenant. Traditional Christianity has continued this betrayal to this day! Yahweh, however, is going to punish His adulterous wife, and bring her BACK INTO THIS SAME MARRIAGE. All who repent during the Tribulation will be blessed by being allowed to MAINTAIN the marriage covenant even though they don't deserve it!

This is not another covenant - it is the same covenant made "with thee in the days of thy youth", and it is maintained, or re-established, as "an everlasting covenant". This word "everlasting", according to *Gesenius**, "refers to future time", and in this context, refers to Yahweh's wife today and for all eternity *(present-*

continuous tense). "And I will betroth thee unto me forever" *(Hos. 2:19).* The firstfruits - those who respond to the call before the Messiah returns - will be the Messiah's Bride forever!

*"*Gesenius Lexicon*" is a dictionary setting out the English meanings of Biblical words as translated from Hebrew.

When we are married to the Messiah, what will our job be? "And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith Yahweh, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth; and the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel" *(Hos. 2:21,22).*

This means that our perception of Yahweh's physical and spiritual laws will finally be in perfect harmony. The heavens *(plural)* and earth are here personified as needing each other's cooperation.

Everything in the heavens and earth - the WHOLE UNIVERSE - is brought into perfect harmony with Yahweh's laws! This is the monumental work that the Messiah AND HIS BRIDE WILL DIRECT AND ADMINISTER FOR ALL ETERNITY! We are not getting ready to marry the Messiah so that we can pluck harps forever! Our future job of "managing the universe", is of such magnitude that only the mind of Yahweh can comprehend it!

"Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for DAUGHTERS, but NOT BY THE COVENANT" *(Ez. 16:61).* This means that all the millions who sadly miss this message in this lifetime, will come into Yahweh's family, but not on the WIFE level!

Those who come into Yahweh's family later will be a type of DAUGHTER CONGREGATION - or likened to children in Yahweh's family. These "children" of Yahweh's will have eternal life, however the Bible depicts them as being the ones "administered", not "administering", as is the case with the Messiah's wife.

Can we grasp the mind-staggering promise Yahweh has made to all His Saints - His Elect, that are not deceived! Nobody else for all eternity, will be on the wife level in the glorious Kingdom of Yahweh. Our great work is not ending when we marry the Messiah, it is just barely beginning!

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