© Victory Everlasting Gospel Free Seventh-day Adventist Church

June 18, 2016

The title of today’s sermon is:

© **“Where are the Watchmen?”** Part 1

© Before we begin, let us pray …

© The subject of the sermon brings up an interesting question. Exactly what are the watchmen?

© According to Noah Webster’s 1828 Dictionary, a WATCHMAN, n. A sentinel; a guard. So watchmen would be a number of sentinels or guards, and these would be people who have the responsibility to guard and protect something very important. Now let’s go to the scriptures.

© Isaiah 62:6, 7: “**I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence. And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth**.” We know that Zion is God’s church through the ages and that Jerusalem would be the headquarters of Zion. Today the SDA church, Zion, is worldwide with a membership of over 19 million and

© Jerusalem, the General Conference headquarters is located in Silver Spring, MD, USA. Well has the leadership of God’s remnant church **never holding their peace day nor night: and keeplng not silence. And making Jerusalem a praise in the earth**?” I think the opposite is true. Instead of the head, we have become the tail.

© What is the world-wide mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church here in the end-time?

© We are to preach God’s Last Message of Love, the everlasting gospel found in the Three Angel’s Messages of Revelation 14:6-12, warning the world against receiving the mark of the beast. Well how are we doing?

© God’s prophet said this: *“The night of trial is nearly spent. Satan is bringing in his masterly power because he knoweth that his time is short. The chastisement of God is upon the world, to call all who know the truth to hide in the cleft of the Rock, and view the glory of God. The truth must not be muffled now. Plain statements must be made. Unvarnished truth must be spoken, in leaflets and pamphlets, and these must be scattered like the leaves of autumn.”*--Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 231.

© Are the publishing houses putting out leaflets and pamphlets for mass distribution? On the contrary, many have closed shop, including the Review and Herald in Hagerstown, MD,

© which was a printing ministry started by James White.

© God’s prophet said that more than any other book, “The Great Controversy,” was to be distributed around the world. What did the leadership at the General Conference do?

© They created a book titled “The Great Hope,” in which every reference to the Papacy in Rome was removed. Instead the book actually turned out to be,

© The Great Hoax. It would offend no one for the very truth meant for exposing the beast was nowhere to be found.

© But thank God for a faith-filled watchman by the name of Ron Goss of Project Restore. He had a book produced that is the full “Great Controversy” that is at a very low cost. His ministry through many donations, has already sent many millions to cities across the United States. The General Conference should have been spearheading the project.

© Do you remember the historic visit of the Pope to Philadelphia in September 2015?

© Project Restore sent 700,000 Great Controversy books in advance to the city of brotherly love. The distribution made the radio, TV and the newspapers. Did the General Conference back this mighty project exposing the beast of Revelation 13?

© Not at all. They were very angry and highly embarrassed and a letter of apology was drafted to the Vatican assuring Pope Francis that the SDA denomination had nothing to do with that mailing, rather it was some independent splinter group. The liberals in Adventism and planted Jesuits have complete control now of the SDA church.

But what about the ministers in our denomination. What message did God’s prophet give concerning them?

© *“Christ's ministers are the spiritual guardians of the people entrusted to their care. Their work has been likened to that of watchmen. In ancient times, sentinels were often stationed on the walls of cities, where, from points of vantage, they could overlook important points to be guarded, and give warning of the approach of an enemy. Upon their faithfulness depended the safety of all within. At stated intervals they were required to call to one another, to make sure that all were awake, and that no harm had befallen any. The cry of good cheer or of warning was borne from one to another, each repeating the call till it echoed round the city.”* {GW 14.2}

© *Upon their faithfulness depended the safety of all within.* When I came into the SDA Church in 1960 the pastors were still preaching our historic messages without compromise. But even back then there was evidence that Satan was getting a foothold in the church. One by one our pillar doctrines were being eroded and Spirit of Prophecy was being shunned. What possibly could have caused such a rapid erosion?

© Pope John XXIII, reigning pope from 1958-1963, formally opened

© the Second Vatican Council, or Vatican II, October 11, 1962, not long after his election to the papacy. It was the first such council in the Catholic Church since Vatican I (1869-1870). The council was an opportunity for the Catholic Church to come to terms with the challenges of the modern age. One of the goals of Vatican II was to foster new dialogues between the Catholic Church and the non-Catholic world, so they invited non-voting observers from other denominations to offer counsel. The SDA Church was represented there. Pope John XXIII did not live to see the conclusion of the council, December 8, 1965, for he died of stomach cancer on June 3, 1963.

© Pope Paul VI, became his successor 18 days later on June 21st.

© What was one of the chief improvements as far as how the Protestant world viewed the Catholic Church; that came forth from these historic meetings?

© For many centuries if you were not a Roman Catholic, you were classified as a heretic and were worthy of death. In an effort to improve their image

© they changed the classification to Separated Brethren.

© The Vatican II Council gave birth to the Ecumenical movement and the Seventh-day Adventist Church climbed on the train. It was as if Satan had taken over the direction that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was to go in.

© The Spirit of Compromise came in and the historic doctrines and standards that guided the church since the time of the pioneers were replaced. God’s prophet put it like this:

© *“In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust, as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe, and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God.”* {CET 228.1}

© More and more of the younger ministers were coming out of the Jesuit controlled seminaries, having not even a clue that the religion had been remarkably changed. What were the older ministers to do who saw the apostasy deepening?

© Would they dare to be a Daniel and follow the admonition of Isaiah 58:1?

© Would they **“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins?”** The house of Jacob being the SDA leadership. They are the watchmen on the wall and should never be silent in such a crisis.

© Or would they be a faith-less coward, fearing for loss of paycheck and pension if they should speak up in the crisis facing the church. Our subject is “where are the watchmen?” Let us now read Ezekiel 33: 1-9.

© **“Again the word of the LORD 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 man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman: If when he seeth the sword**

© **come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He 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 see 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 his iniquity; but his blood will**

© **I require at the watchman's hand. 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. When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not**

© **speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”** What excuse will God accept from any pastor who is very familiar with these verses, if he were such a watchman? I have been talking about watchmen and SDA pastors, but let’s talk about Sunday keeping pastors for a few minutes.

© The date was December 24, 2015. The Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria were able to down a Jordanian F-16 fighter jet and they captured the pilot who was attacking ISIS targets in northeastern Syria. Here he is shown having been pulled from a lake. His family pleaded in vain for his release.

© On February 3, 2016, after a mock trial the pilot was dressed in an orange jump suit.

© He was then put into a metal cage like an animal where he was doused with gasoline

© and was set on fire. He screamed as the pain was horrific but there was no one present to give him sympathy. Isis had the nerve to videotape the execution and then post it on YouTube for the world to see. Now listen, Christians all over the world condemned the action as cruel and inhumane.

© Now why would I show you these pictures? I have but one reason. Every single Christian denomination and organization said that this execution was barbaric, to do this to another human being. Even though death came in minutes, to impose such a degree of suffering, on another human being is hateful, heartless and unthinkable. Oh really?

© Then tell me why all these admired Sunday-keeping pastors will stand in the pulpits and say that a loving God

© is going to send the wicked to hell and burn them with fire that will torture them for as long as God lives and never shall they know a single moment where they will not suffer excruciating pain. Why would any person want to sit in the congregation of these abominable liars who charge a loving God with an act more cruel than Hitler or any other despotic dictator? What kind of a watchman is that? What kind of a messenger of the Lord are they?

© Why does Satan want you to listen to these so called reputable preachers? Because Satan apparently knows the scriptures 10,000 times better than Adventists. You see it took hundreds of years to perfect the combination of truth and error and have all the Sunday-keeping churches become unified in teaching the same erroneous messages.

© But God’s word says in Isaiah 8:20 **“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”** How much light is in Dr. Stanley and TD Jakes? No light. Some will say I listen to them because I learn things from them. If God’s word says no light in them, how can that be interpreted as God’s green light to listen to their message? So why does Satan want you to listen to these so called reputable preachers?

© Because your subconscious mind is 30,000 times more powerful than your conscious mind and it will store the messages you listen to; the truth and the errors whether your conscious mind heard the errors or not. At a later date you may be talking on a certain subject and actually repeat the errors thinking you are speaking truth. He delights in our folly.

© Brothers and sisters the Sunday-keeping pastors do not have the truth on the hell-fire; they do not have the truth on the state of the dead; they do not have the real truth on the second coming of Jesus; they do not have the truth on the millennium; and they certainly do not have the truth regarding God’s holy, blessed and sanctified Sabbath. When God said there is no light in them, what is it that they are saying that we need to hear?

© Malachi 2:7-9 **“For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.”** (Priest, rabbi or pastor, what is it that the congregation should seek at his mouth? The Law. And why? Because he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

© 2:8 **“But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.** What has the LORD of hosts said that the pastors have caused many to do? **“… stumble at the law …”** Can we really learn from them?

© 2:9 **“Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.”** What part of the law have these contemptible pastors been partial in? They have left out the 4th commandment and have substituted the counterfeit Sabbath, one of the six working days for God’s holy, blessed and sanctified eternal seventh day Sabbath.

© God calls these pastors contemptible. What does that mean? Contemptible is an adjective.

© It means deserving contempt; despicable; detestable, hateful, reprehensible, deplorable, unspeakable, disgraceful, shameful, cowardly, unworthy and worthless.

© He also said these pastors are Base. What does that mean? Base is also an adjective.

© It means Low in place, mean; vile; worthless; that is, low in value or estimation; of low station; without rank, dignity or estimation; used of persons; of mean spirit; disingenuous.

© So these disseminators of misinformation, which God has called contemptible and base, which mean all these things that we have just read. Do you in your heart of hearts really believe that God wants you to be watching, listening to or even associating with these people?

© I no longer go to ministerial association meetings. The pastors are nice people, but why does God call them contemptible and base before all the people?

© Because even though he is supposed to be the messenger of the LORD of hosts, the under-shepherd of the flock; he is a deceiver and the people’s eternal life is in jeopardy. Now Satan can only get error into you in through your 5 senses. Why would you be party to helping Satan deceive you? So God, should I be watching and listening to these people? What do you think His answer is?

© We just read that if they who don’t pass Isaiah 8:20, they are **contemptible and base.**

© God’s prophet says we are to be the watchmen. In Ev 119.3 we read, *“In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light-bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world.”* Ev 119.3 We are to be watchmen and we are to be sounding the alarm. How? Keep passing out GC/NSL books.

© What is the last warning message we must present to the world? **The three angel’s messages** of course.

© Revelation 14:6 **“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, …”** Does that leave anyone out? Does that leave out our neighbors or people we come in contact with every day? We are to be the watchmen on the wall.

© Verse 7 **“Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come:”**

© 172 years now the investigative judgment has been going on and millions go to Christ-less graves. Listen to this from God’s prophet Patriarchs and Prophets, page 140:

© PP 140 *“Every day the probation of some is closing. Every hour some are passing beyond the reach of mercy. And where are the voices of warning and entreaty to bid the sinner flee from this fearful doom? Where are the hands stretched out to draw him back from death? Where are those who with humility and persevering faith are pleading with God for him?”* {PP 140.1}

© 5T 466 *“Every day we have been associating with men and women who are judgment bound. Each day may have been the dividing line to some soul; someone may have made the decision which shall determine his future destiny. What has been our influence over these fellow travelers? What efforts have we put forth to bring them to Christ?”* {5T 466.1} What efforts have we made? Or is it too inconvenient? We all need to ask this of ourselves. Are we afraid they might turn down our offer for free literature? Are we putting the same value on souls that Jesus does, because He surrendered His life on Calvary? That’s how valuable a soul is, including yours and mine. We are all watchmen yes, but are we all sleeping?

© Mar 261 *“The truth contained in the first, second, and third angel's messages must go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people; it must lighten the darkness of every continent, and extend to the islands of the sea. There must be no delay in this work.”* {Mar 261.6}

© Every single day names are coming up before God. Names are accepted, names are rejected and we have no idea when your name or my name is coming up, but when it does, the decision is eternally final.

© Revelation 14:7 **“Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him;** (We give glory to God with our heath message)

©  **for the hour of his judgment is come:** (1844 it began)

©  **and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.** (And that is the Sabbath that we are to cry aloud and spare not as repairers of the breech made in God’s law by the beast power that the world today is swooning over.)

© Verse 8 **“And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”** The Roman Catholic Church with the Papacy at its head is fallen, Protestantism is fallen because Rome made all nations drink the wine of false doctrine.

© Verses 9 & 10 **“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; …”** When the wrath of God is poured out with no more mixture of grace and mercy, the too late prayers and screams will fall on Divine ears that will no longer hear.

© Revelation 18:4 **“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”** God is saying that many of His people are still in these fallen churches and He wants to save them and He wants to use us to get literature to them. It’s His command … but are we obedient to the call? What is this 4th angel we just read of? In the 7th volume of Testimonies it says,

© *“And in a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power and who lightens the earth with his glory. Solemn is the responsibility that rests upon our houses of publication.”* {7T 140.3 & 4}

We are at a time when our publishing houses should be running 24 hours a day, 6 days a week to get present truth into the hands of God’s people in these corrupt churches. But one after another our publishing houses are shutting down and the canvassing work of the colporteurs, or literature evangelists, has been stopped, except for some in the Southern Union and some independents who carry on a work, characterized as more important than the preacher in the pulpit.

© Who do you think has come down like a roaring lion and has almost devoured a most important work that has brought tens of thousands into the church? Leadership says that people just don’t read books anymore.

© But a USA Today survey found that 83% of those surveyed prefer to read books and 17% read electronic format.

© We are told this, *“God will soon do great things for us if we lie humble and believing at His feet. . . . More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications.”--*Review and Herald, Nov. 10, 1885. {CM 151.3} This is why we need to keep passing out Great Controversy and National Sunday Law books.

© Our closing text Isaiah 6:8 **“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.”** Can you say to the Lord, Here am I, send me? © Let us pray …