



THE
***Watchman
on the Wall***

*A Classic Apostolic
Pentecostal Booklet
on the Ministry of
the Watchman*

ELDER KEITH JOEL WALKER



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Written by
Elder Keith Joel Walker

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Foreword

The Lord has always raised watchmen to give warning, to pray, to discern, and to intercede for His people. My booklet is written for Apostolic Pentecostal believers who desire to understand and carry out the biblical calling of the watchman on the wall — honoring the authority of Scripture, water baptism in Jesus 'Name and the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Acts 2:38 is bible plan of Salvation, holiness distinctive of the Apostolic Pentecostal faith, and the power of the Holy Ghost in prayer and prophetic ministry. May it encourage faithful service, deepen prayer life, and strengthen the assembly for seasons of harvest and spiritual conflict.

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Introduction: What Is a Watchman?

A watchman is God's appointed sentinel placed upon the walls of Zion and in the body of Christ to observe, discern, intercede, warn, and proclaim. The watchman sees by revelation, stands in the gap through prayer, and sounds the alarm so that people may heed and be saved from impending spiritual danger. In Apostolic Pentecostal practice, the ministry of the watchman is exercised in dependence on the Holy Ghost, in obedience to Scripture, and under pastoral authority.

Biblical Foundation

Key biblical passages define and authorize the ministry of the watchman. Principal texts include:

- Ezekiel 3:17–21 — God commissions Ezekiel: “I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel...”
- Ezekiel 33:1–20 — Expanded charge and responsibility for warning the wicked and the merciful opportunity of repentance.
- Isaiah 62:6–7 — “I have set watchmen upon thy walls... give him no rest...”
- Isaiah 21:6–12; Isaiah 52:8; Isaiah 56:10–12 — The watchman’s voice, warning, and rebuke of negligent watchmen.
- Habakkuk 2:1 — “I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower...”
- Jeremiah 6:17 — “Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet.”

New Testament parallels emphasize watchfulness and readiness: Mark 13:33–37; Luke 12:35–40; 1 Thessalonians 5:6–8. Together these texts define the charge (warn, intercede, observe) and the context (spiritual warfare, impending judgment, evangelistic opportunity).

The Spiritual Nature and Gifts of the Watchman

The watchman functions where prayer, prophecy, and pastoral care intersect. Essential elements:

- Sensitivity to the Holy Ghost: promptings, impressions, revelation to warn or intercede.
- Prophetic discernment: speaking God's warning and comfort, not merely predicting.
- Intercessory burden: standing in the gap for individuals, families, the congregation, and the city.
- Evangelistic alertness: discernment of souls ready to receive the gospel and openings for outreach.
- Spiritual warfare competency: knowledge of Scripture on binding and loosing, deliverance, and authority in Christ — always under pastoral guidance.

Duties and Practices

Primary duties:

- Observe: keep spiritual watch over people and territory, noting doctrinal, moral, and territorial threats.
- Intercede: persistent prayer for protection, revival, repentance, and salvation.
- Warn: proclaim biblical warnings and calls to repentance as revealed by the Holy Ghost.

- Proclaim: announce God’s purposes, direction, and times of visitation.
- Counsel and refer: bring needs and concerns to pastoral leadership for action.
- Record: keep a prayer log; document visions, warnings, answers, and prophetic words for verification.

Practical practices:

- Daily personal devotions grounded in Scripture and Pentecostal practice (prayer language, praise, worship).
- Regular corporate prayer watches — appointed times where teams watch through the night or scheduled hours.
- Fasting seasons with focused watchfulness for strategic breakthroughs.
- Deliverance and pastoral intervention when warranted and authorized.

Characteristics of a Faithful Watchman

A faithful watchman exhibits:

- Humility and submission to church authority.
- Perseverance and faithfulness — Spirit-empowered vigilance.
- Holiness and personal separation in lifestyle.

- Scriptural grounding — testing every word against Scripture and pastoral leadership.
- Accountability and teachability.
- Discernment and restraint — speaking with grace and truth, avoiding sensationalism.

Structure, Accountability, and Pastoral Oversight

A healthy watchman ministry functions under local leadership:

- Appointment: watchmen are recognized and appointed by the pastor/elders, not self-appointed.
- Reporting: revelations, warnings, and major burdens are reported to leadership for testing and corporate response.
- Screening: night-watch personnel must be spiritually mature, teachable, and of tested character.
- Team ministry: teams balance intercessors, prophetic voices, worship, deliverance ministers (if necessary), and administrative support.
- Submission: no prophetic or watchman word is acted upon without pastoral consideration and alignment with the church's vision.

Practical Guides: Prayer Watches, Schedules, and Order

Principles:

- Define purpose: corporate protection, revival, evangelism, spiritual warfare, or a mix.
- Keep order: assign a lead intercessor, Scripture reader, worship leader, and note taker.
- Rotate schedules: prevent burnout with teams of 2–4 persons per hour for overnight watches.
- Maintain sanctity: watches focus on prayer and worship; minimize socializing.
- Scripture-centered: begin with Scripture readings (Ezekiel 33, Habakkuk 2:1, Psalm 91).
- Include praise and testimony to invite God’s presence and confirm answers.
- Close with pastoral prayer and a report to leadership.

Appendix B — Sample Nightly Watch Outline (2 hours)

- Opening hymn and scripture reading (5 min)
- Silent confession and consecration (5 min)
- Praise & worship (15 min)
- Intercession cycle 1: family & church (20 min)
- Intercession cycle 2: city & government (20 min)
- Intercession cycle 3: evangelism & missions (20 min)
- Listening prayer/prophetic waiting (15 min)
- Closing thanksgiving and report to pastor (10 min)

Warnings, Safeguards, and Discernment

- Test all things: “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thess 5:21). Prophetic impressions and visions must be weighed by Scripture and leadership.
- Guard against pride, manipulation, or undue authority. A watchman’s authority is derivative and pastoral, not domineering.
- Avoid isolation: lone prophetic voices without accountability can err. Work in teams and under oversight.
- Correct misuse of spiritual warfare: deliverance must align with Scripture and be conducted with pastoral consent and competence.
- Beware of fear-based ministry: the watchman’s aim is to call people to Christ and repentance, not to promote fear.

Training and Discipleship

Equip watchmen through:

- Sound doctrinal teaching (Apostolic distinctives: oneness theology, baptism in Jesus’ name, holiness, infilling of the Holy Ghost).
- Workshops on intercession, prophetic ministry, discernment, deliverance principles, and pastoral referral.

- Mentorship under experienced intercessors and prophets within the church.
- Accountability groups for confession, encouragement, and spiritual growth.
- Regular review of watch logs and outcomes with pastoral leadership.

Conclusion and Charge

The ministry of the watchman is a holy trust requiring Scripture, prayer, accountability, and the Holy Ghost. As Apostolic Pentecostals, our watchmen must be people of prayer, people of the Word, and people of the Spirit — committed to purity, to the name of Jesus, and to seeing the church stand firm in the day of visitation. Let every watchman labor faithfully, sounding the alarm in love, guiding souls to repentance, and standing in the gap until Zion is established.

Tales and Fables for the Watchman

Use these stories as teaching illustrations in prayer watches, training sessions, or sermons.

The Lantern on the Tower

A small village sat inside a valley. One night the lamp at the tower faltered. The village watchman noticed and set his own lantern in the tower window, tending

it all night though no one thanked him. At dawn the villagers saw smoke on the distant ridge and were able to flee because the lamp had warned them.

Moral: watchmen serve without applause; their work is counted where life is saved.

The Shepherd and the Sentinel

A shepherd and a sentinel served the same flock: the shepherd fed and healed; the sentinel listened and warned. One storm the sheep scattered. The sentinel sounded the horn; the shepherd gathered the lost. Together the flock lived. Moral: the watchman's warning and the shepherd's care are both needed — prophecy and pastoral care complement each other.

The Two Mirrors

Two towers each had a mirror reflecting the stars. One mirror was polished nightly; the other left to dust. When an enemy came by night, only the polished mirror sent the beam that signaled the city guard. Moral: watchmen keep themselves clean (holy) so revelation and discernment reflect God's light accurately.

Poetic Prophecy, Metaphor and Spiritual Insight

Short prophetic poem (use in worship or as a meditative intercession):

Stand upon the ridge, O sentry of the dawn; Lift thy voice where sleepers dream and danger lies. Let thine eye pierce the fog, let thy prayer be drawn Like cords of fire to bind the plans of night. Speak mercy, speak warning; sound the trumpet clear—That hearts may turn, and walls be guarded near.

Metaphorical insights:

- Tower: position of prayer and vision — elevation for perspective.
- Lantern/Light: revelation, the Holy Ghost illuminating truth.
- Horn/Alarm: prophetic proclamation — audible call to action and repentance.
- Wall: the church's boundary — what must be protected (doctrine, holiness, families, mission).
- Sleep: spiritual slumber — the reason watchmen must watch, exhort, and awaken.

Jewish Rabbinic Perspectives (Midrash, Talmud, Rashi) on the Watchman and Seer

Overview

Classical Jewish literature treats the watchman (Hebrew *shomer*) and the seer (*ro'eh/chozeh*) with themes that echo the biblical charge: communal responsibility, legal/ethical duty, prophetic humility,

and rigorous testing/accountability.

Themes and Applications Useful to Apostolic Practice:

- Communal responsibility: Rabbinic writings underscore that prophets/watchmen owe a duty to warn the community. Ezekiel’s “if you do not warn” is amplified in ethical reflection on accountability.
- Legal analogy: Talmudic discussions of shomer (guardian/watchman) in civil law highlight responsibility and liability — a moral logic that can be applied to prophetic duty in the church.
- Prophetic humility and testing: Rabbinic sources insist true prophecy is humble, submitted to law and tradition, and subject to testing—paralleling New Testament calls for testing prophecy (1 Corinthians 14).
- Oversight and community: Midrash and commentators emphasize that prophetic utterances should not be untested; teachers and leaders must evaluate and guide prophetic voices.

Suggested Rabbinic Starting Points (for study and quotation)

- Rashi’s commentary on Ezekiel 3 & 33 (commentary draws out the prophet’s duty to warn).
- Midrash Rabbah (Prophets sections) and Midrash Tanchuma for homiletical treatments of prophetic

warnings.

- Talmudic passages in tractates like Bava Kamma for the ethics of guardianship and responsibility.
- Medieval commentators (Radak, Ibn Ezra) on the roles of ro'eh/chozeh vs. navi (seer vs. prophet).

If you would like verbatim rabbinic citations or translated passages (Rashi, Midrash Rabbah, Talmud), I can provide precise citations and English translations. These are helpful for historical/theological perspective but should be used with pastoral discernment in a Christian context.

The New Testament Watchman in the Fivefold Ministry (Apostolic-Pentecostal Emphasis)

Biblical Basis

Ephesians 4:11 names apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers — gifts to equip the saints. The watchman in the New Testament is primarily a function that integrates prophetic sight, pastoral care, evangelistic alertness, and persistent intercession.

Mapping to the Fivefold Offices

- Prophet: primary affinity — discerning times, warning the church, providing direction.
- Pastor/Elder: pastoral oversight vets words,

provides care, and offers remedies.

- Evangelist: watchmen identify open hearts and strategic evangelistic opportunities.
- Apostle: apostolic vision gives the watchman mission horizons and territorial insight.
- Teacher: conveys biblical grounding so warnings lead to growth, not fear.

Distinctive Apostolic-Pentecostal Emphases

- Holy Ghost dependency: prophecy, tongues, and revelation are expected but ordered and tested (1 Cor. 14 principles).
- Oneness doctrinal guard: watchmen protect baptismal and holiness distinctives.
- Evangelistic urgency: alarms call people to repentance and new birth.
- Deliverance and authority in Christ: spiritual warfare is practiced with pastoral authorization and scriptural restraint.

Practical Fivefold Structure for Watchman Ministry

- Team composition: at least one prophetic voice, a pastor/elder liaison, an evangelist or outreach coordinator, and a teacher for doctrine.
- Reporting/testing: prophetic impressions go first to pastor/elders; public delivery only after testing.
- Training modules: Ephesians study, 1 Corinthians

on gifts, pastoral care, deliverance principles, evangelistic follow-up.

- Mission orientation: coordinate watch findings with apostolic mission strategies (outreach, church planting, targeted prayer).

Practical Examples in Apostolic Pentecostal Context

- Pre-meeting watch: prophetic intercessors pray and advise the pastor of impressions impacting services.
- City watch: rotating teams cover the city for revival prayer, civic needs, schools, and strongholds.
- Evangelistic alert system: watchmen report imminent opportunities for outreach so evangelists can respond.
- Pastoral referral: prophetic warnings about families are referred to counseling and deliverance teams.

Appendices

Appendix A — Key Scriptures for the Watchman (KJV)

Ezekiel 3:17–21; Ezekiel 33:1–20; Isaiah 62:6–7; Isaiah 21:6–12; Isaiah 52:8; Isaiah 56:10–12; Habakkuk 2:1; Jeremiah 6:17; Mark 13:33–37; Luke 12:35–40; 1 Thessalonians 5:6–8; 1 Samuel 9:9; Proverbs 29:18 (KJV).

Appendix B — Sample Nightly Watch Outline (2

hours)

(See section 7 for a ready outline.)

Appendix C — Watchman Prayers and Intercessions

Consecration

Lord Jesus, I consecrate my life and service to Thee. Fill me with Thy Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues . Make me a faithful watchman to warn and to intercede.

Protection

Almighty God, set a hedge of protection around Thy church. Bind the plans of the enemy and send Thy angels to encamp about us.

Repentance & Revival

Heavenly Father, revive us. Bring conviction of sin and grant true repentance and new birth of water and spirit according to Acts 2.38 to our city.

Discernment

Holy Spirit, give us eyes to see and ears to hear, and give us wisdom how and when to speak the words Thou hast given.

Thanksgiving

We thank Thee, Lord, for answered prayer and for Thy faithfulness. Let our watch be fruitful for Thy

glory.

Appendix D — Recommended Reading and Resources

- The Bible (KJV recommended for Apostolic usage)
- Classic Apostolic Pentecostal writings on prayer and revival
- Manuals on intercession, prophetic ministry, and spiritual warfare (test for Apostolic alignment)
- Local church leaders and established intercessory ministries for mentorship

Appendix E — Suggested Rabbinic and Classical Sources

For study and comparative insight:

- Rashi's commentary on Ezekiel (esp. chs. 3 & 33)
 - Midrash Rabbah (Prophets sections)
 - Midrash Tanchuma (prophetic call narratives)
 - Talmud Bavli (e.g., Bava Kamma — duties of a shomer)
 - Radak and Ibn Ezra on prophetic office distinctions
- If desired, I can supply English translations and exact citations.

Appendix F — Short Illustrations & Poems

- The Lantern on the Tower (full text included)

earlier)

- The Shepherd and the Sentinel
- The Two Mirrors
- Short hymn stanza and call-and-response lines for corporate watches

Final Exhortation

Arise, watchman. Stand upon the tower. Pray without ceasing, speak when God speaks, and submit every revelation to the oversight of the pastor and the Word of God. The Lord is calling watchmen who will labor in holiness, who will not be silenced, and who will bring souls to the feet of Jesus. The harvest is great; the time is short. Be watchful, be faithful, and be full of the Holy Ghost.

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker