

# *Exalting Jesus, Loving People*

## Joseph Sprowl Ministries May, 2017



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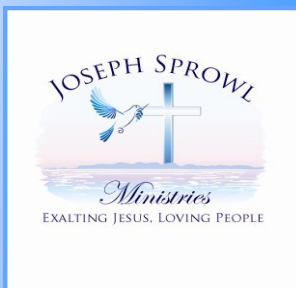
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### Watchmen on the Wall

The Word of God tells us that we are like farmers, athletes and soldiers. We are also ambassadors of Jesus Christ and watchmen. Each of these have their own peculiar attributes.

A farmer works the soil and plants seeds. When these seeds are properly cared for they will eventually produce a harvest. We are to plant the Word of God into people so that a harvest will come forth! The harvest depends on the word that is planted in the spirit of a man or woman.

An athlete trains hard in his or her particular sport and has to stay focused to be a winner. We must stay focused in this life and set our affections on things above.

A soldier is disciplined and endures hardness and is ever vigilant. A soldier never quits.. Soldiers do not wake up one day and just decide to go home. Christians must learn to endure hardness and stay disciplined in the Word of God, in love, in faith and in joy.

An ambassador represents his or her country in a foreign land. II Cor. 5:20, (NKJV), We are ambassadors of Jesus Christ. We have dual citizenship, but our first and most important priority is the Kingdom of God. Now what about the watchman?

Wikipedia says a watchman is a member of a group that provides law

enforcement and a person who watches over and protects property, assets, or people. In my own life I was a watchman (security guard) for five or six years. It was my responsibility to be constantly vigilant to protect property, assets and people. I was required to take notes and report on a log sheet the activities and events of my shift. I could not allow myself to be distracted. Constant vigilance and observation were necessary and I could not just decide during my shift to go home early or sleep for even one minute.

What about the biblical watchman? Where is this person found? What was the watchman's job? How does it relate to all believers today?

The watchman of old....

Israel has always had many enemies (then and now) and historically the city of Jerusalem had thick high walls around the entire city. In fact many great cities in ancient times had walls around them for protection. For example, we read in the bible about the walls surrounding Babylon and the great walls of Jericho. Now Israel's watchmen were guards who would stand upon the wall of Jerusalem in the towers and look out upon the land. The Hebrew word for watchman is "tsaphah" and it has the meaning, to

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peer into the distance; by implication means to observe, behold, spy out, wait for, keep the watch. So they would be in their towers and upon the walls and would literally be peering forward, looking out into the distance, on the watch for messengers, unusual activity, or most importantly, any sign of an enemy or approaching army. This was an extremely important job! Let's take a look at God's assessment of Israel's watchmen in the days of Isaiah.

In Isaiah 56:10-12, "Israel's watchmen are blind, they all lack knowledge, they are all mute dogs, they cannot bark, they lie around and dream, they love to sleep. They are dogs with mighty appetites; they never have enough. They are shepherds who lack understanding; they all turn to their own way, each seeks his own gain. Come, each one cries, "let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better." This is definitely not a good situation and they are not good watchmen.

Blind-the person sitting up in the city's watchtower was supposed to keep an eye out for enemy armies. If the guy in the tower is blind, the people are in big trouble. How much more if God's leaders are blind spiritually?

Ignorant-(lack knowledge) The Hebrew word for knowledge is "yada" meaning to know; to see and perceive; discern; distinguish. God was saying that Israel's leaders were unable to perceive what was going

on, they couldn't understand God's will, the people's needs or discern when trouble was brewing on the horizon.

Mute-the job was two-fold, see the enemy and then warn the people. These people said nothing. They were in it for their own pleasure, not for the Lord and not for the people. People were straying from God and they said nothing.

So what about today?

When you arrive at the New Testament you don't actually read about watchmen anymore but the frequency of the command to "watch" is actually increased. All church leaders in general are given this responsibility, but it is no longer just the few that have this responsibility but it is now commanded that all of God's people be watchmen. Let's look at the leader's part first.

Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

I Timothy 4:16 "Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both

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The imagery here is straight from the “watchmen” of the Old Testament who through faithful observation and watching with discernment could save both himself and those within the city. So the watching of the New Testament definitely applies in this way to the leaders. But not only the leaders. The command to “watch” in the New Testament is not just the responsibility of a few. It is now commanded of all God’s people!



*JSM Special Meeting in April in Ashland, OH*  
*Reviewed*

*Right from the start of worship those present entered into the anointing. With each song, the hungry worshippers went deeper into the Lord.*

*It was very easy to minister and Helen was anointed to minister strength and fresh oil to those present. The Word of Knowledge and prophecy were in manifestation as the Holy Spirit ministered to the congregation.*

*God’s word instructs believers to desire spiritual gifts and to covet earnestly the best gifts.*

*Joe was strongly impressed of the Lord to deliver a message on the God kind of faith from Mark 11:22-24. We must never think we have exhausted the revelation that can be gleaned from these verses or allow them to become common place. In this life it is vital that we keep our faith strong, energized and vibrant!*

*Helen and I have never compromised the Word of God. For nearly 70 combined years we have stood and declared God’s Word wherever He has opened a door for us.*

*God’s Word never changes!!*

*Radio Broadcast—God’s Unchanging Word—Listen to it over & over again.*

- ♦ *Check our web-site—[www.josephsprowlministries.com](http://www.josephsprowlministries.com)—If you are not able to tune in to “God’s Unchanging Word” broadcast on Sunday mornings on one of the stations listed on the back of this newsletter or you want to hear it over again, you can now go to our web-site, and click on media/broadcast and listen to “God’s Unchanging Word” broadcasts that have been archived since May 15, 2016. Get the Word of God down on the inside of you!*

# Rise Up Higher Church

## *Scripture for Praying for the Nation*

I Tim. 2:1-4 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men., for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.



Father, in the name of Jesus, we pray for the rain from heaven, (Zech. 10:1) a great outpouring of your Spirit, (Joel 2:28). We pray that you would soften the hearts and minds of the lost and give your people utterance (anointed words) and boldness as they preach the gospel. We hunger for and desire all nine gifts of the Holy Spirit to be in prolific manifestation. We ask for freshly anointed, fully equipped, prepared laborers to be sent into the harvest. Mt. 9:38  
In Jesus name, Amen!

## **RADIO**

**“God’s Unchanging Word” Broadcast is on Four Stations!**

**WMAN 1400 AM, & 98.3 FM, Mansfield, OH**

Each Sunday morning, 8:15 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. The program also streams on the internet at WMANFM

**WLRD 96.9 FM, Willard, OH**

Each Sunday Morning, 9:00 a.m.– 9:15 a.m.-Streams on the internet [WLRD.net](http://WLRD.net)

**WGGN FM 97.7, Castalia, (Sandusky, OH)**

Each Sunday morning, 9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
The program also streams on the internet at [fm977.net](http://fm977.net).



**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE PARTNERING WITH US THROUGH PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT! WE APPRECIATE YOU SO MUCH!**

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAISE AND THANK THE LORD WITH US!**

1. That our partner base will continue to grow and expand.
2. That doors for ministry would continue to open for both of us. Favor with pastors/church leaders.
3. Boldness/and manifestations and demonstrations of the Holy Spirit.
4. Finances for the radio outreach .

To those who would like to **begin** to partner with us financially, checks may be made out to: Joseph Sprowl Ministries and mailed to 1228 King Road, Ashland, OH 44805.

You can also give through PAYPAL over our internet web site which accepts all major credit or bank cards at [www.JosephSprowlMinistries.com](http://www.JosephSprowlMinistries.com).