

**These Perilous Times**  
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**Light-Bearing Watchman**

When one is enlisted in the military service, especially during a time of declared war, there is a good chance that you will be called upon to serve as a night watchman, or as the military calls it, “guard duty.”

The standard protocol for guard duty demands that one keep a “watchful eye” so the enemy doesn’t infiltrate the encampment or post perimeter unaware. The guard on duty is required to remain alert at his or her post at all times, until otherwise relieved. Falling asleep on the job is not an option, and may have detrimental results; perhaps even being court-martialed, and charged with derelict of duty.

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

Having never served in any branch of military, I can’t even begin to imagine the eminent danger of being posted as a century/lookout in an active war zone. However friends, the war we Christians are engaged in, {though real bullets

aren't being shot, and bombs being dropped} is far more dangerous, and will claim many more lives, unless we take our assigned post's seriously.

Notice the following passage of Scripture.

Again the word of the Lord came to me again, saying, "Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and say to them, When I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from their territory and make him their watchman, when he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet, and warns the people, then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head. But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand." Ezekiel 33:1-6

"This places on us a heavy responsibility. God expects us to impart to others the knowledge that He has given us. It is His purpose that divine and human instrumentalities shall unite in the proclamation of the warning message.

So far as His opportunities extend, everyone who has received the light of truth is under the same responsibility as was the prophet of Israel to whom came the word: '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...' <sup>12</sup>

According to the prophet Ezekiel, failure to warn the people, {giving them the light of truth} of the impending danger that is coming, we put our own lives at risk.

The light which we have acquired from the study, and practice of God's Word, that we offer to the world is to be the trumpet that resonates a clear distinct warning.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house." Matthew 4:14&16

How are you using the light that God has entrusted you with? "Mum," {saying nothing especially about a sensitive piece of information} is not the word, nor is protocol for Gods "Light-Bearing Watchman;" Sounding the trumpet alarm is!

Notice the following words of one of my favorite Hymns. <sup>3</sup>

### Verse 1

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<sup>1</sup> E. G. White. Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 9. pp. 19 & 20.

<sup>2</sup> Ezekiel 33:7-9

<sup>3</sup> Seventh-day Adventist Church Hymnal, # 614.

“Sound the battle cry, See! The foe is nigh; Raise the standard high For the Lord; Gird your armor on, Stand firm everyone, Rest your cause upon His Holy Word.”

### Refrain

“Rouse, then, soldiers! Rally round the banner, Ready, steady, pass the word along, Onward, forward, shout aloud hosanna! Christ is Captain of the mighty throng.”

“True love seeks first the honor of God and the salvation of souls. Those who have had this love will not evade the truth to save themselves from the unpleasant results of plain speaking. When souls are in peril, God’s ministers will not consider self, but will speak the word given them to speak, refusing to excuse or palliate truth.” <sup>4</sup>

**Is your trumpet resonating God’s warnings of light and truth, or are you playing a silent trumpet?**

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<sup>4</sup> E. G. White, Prophets and Kings, pp. 141, 142