

## A WATCHMAN

In **Ezekiel 33**, God uses the metaphor of a watchman for the prophet of God. It was his responsibility to warn the Israelites of God's coming judgment and command them what to do to avert the Lord's wrath, just as a sentry is to warn the city of an approaching army (**v.2-7**).

It is the **responsibility** of each person to **respond** to the warning. If a wicked man hears and refuses to repent, then he will die in his wickedness (**v.9**). If the wicked man is not warned, he will still die because of his own wickedness (**v.8**). If the wicked man heeds the warning and repents of his wickedness, he will be saved from God's punishment (**v.14-16**).

The watchman would be guilty for the lives of those that were not warned (**v.8**). He would be innocent of those who died but were warned (**v.9**).

The righteous are also to be warned not to trust in their own righteousness and feel that their past behavior is good enough to save them (**v.11-13**). This should be a warning to us to remain faithful and obedient.

The gospel has been given to us, and we are commanded to take it to others. We should not have to be told to tell others because of the nature of our faith (**Romans 10:5-13**). But Jesus did command His disciples to teach all nations, and then told them to tell the disciples to do everything He told them (**Matthew 28:18-20**). Let us be free from the blood of all men (**Acts 20:27**).