

*The Preparation and Responsibility of the "Watchman"*  
Ezekiel 3:4-21

*"God being who and what He is, and we being who and what we are, the only thinkable relation between us is one of **full Lordship** on His part and **complete submission** on ours." (A.W. Tozer)*

*"Thus says the LORD: 'Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and **find rest for your souls**. But they said, '**We will not walk in it**'. I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Pay attention to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, '**We will not pay attention**.' Therefore hear, O nations, and know, O congregation, what will happen to them. Hear, O earth; behold, I am bringing disaster upon this people, the fruit of their devices, because **they have not paid attention to My words**; and as for My law, **they have rejected it**.'" (Jeremiah 6:16-19; cf. 2 Samuel 18:24-27)*

*"Say to them, 'As I live, declares the Lord God, **I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked**, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?'" (Ezekiel 33:11)*

- The Preparation of the "Watchman": (Ezekiel 3:4-15)
  - The problem is not an informational problem, it is a defiance problem (Ezekiel 3:4-7; cf. Ezekiel 2:1-4).
  - God will provide what is needful to Ezekiel, so that he can do the task he has been given by God (Ezekiel 3:8-11; cf. Ezekiel 2:5-10)
    - **Receive** the Word into your heart (Ezekiel 2:8-3:3).
    - **Proclaim** the Word to the people (Ezekiel 3:4).
    - **Persevere** despite the reaction of the people (Ezekiel 3:8-11).
    - **Be burdened** for the people (Ezekiel 3:14-15).
    - **Remember** God's glory, power, and providence (Ezekiel 3:12-13).
- The Responsibility of the "Watchman" (Ezekiel 3:16-21)
  - **God is both the threat and the solution for the threat!**
  - "But his blood I will require at your hand."
    - **"...testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.** And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, '**Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent.**'" (Acts 18:5-6)
    - "Therefore I testify to you this day that **I am innocent of the blood of all**, for **I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.**" (Acts 20:26-27)
  - "But if you warn the wicked...."; "But if you warn the righteous...."
  - "Whenever you hear a word from My mouth you shall give them warning from Me."
  - "He shall die for his iniquity."
  - "In order to save his life."
  - "You will have delivered your soul."

**Announcements:**

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of September we are collecting monetary donations for the Christian Union Co-op. This is the general fund out of which the denomination aids individual churches within the denomination, as well as paying for repairs and upkeep of the State Home Office. The money we are collecting will go directly towards repairs that need to be done to the grounds and to the kitchen. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for Christian Union.

★**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We have two different ministries that are in need of some volunteers:

- The Maintenance Ministry** is looking for two to three people to join the ministry to help with the set-up and teardown for services and fellowship meals. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please see Hunter Ardrey.
- The Children's Ministry** is also looking for some volunteers. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please see Kalen or Courtney Dees.