

The Watchman

Watchmen are usually posted on a high place so they can warn those asleep if danger emerges on the horizon. We find in the word of God a remarkable verse, inquiring: "*Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said: "The morning comes, and also the night"*" (Isaiah 21:11-12).

In the creation chapter (Genesis 1) the first day is punctuated by the expression: *And the evening and the morning were the first day* (Genesis 1:5), and the pattern continues for the first six days. Each day starts with the evening and finishes in the morning. That's the way the Bible presents it. Psalm 30:5 follows this style: *Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning*. Everything ends in the morning. Why then does the message, above, from the watchman reverse the order?

Morning Has Come – Long-promised in the Old Testament, the Messiah is finally born at the beginning of the New Testament. "*For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour which is Christ the Lord*" (Luke 2:11). The event had the potential to signal the beginning of a new day; a morning bringing healing and hope; but soon turned gloomy, as the world's sinful darkness closed in" (John 3:19).

Night Has Come – "*He (Jesus, the Messiah) came unto His own, and His own received Him not*" (John 1:11). Rejected by His own people, they demanded, amid a great uproar, that He be crucified and the authorities submitted to their will. He who was the light of the world, was suddenly and cruelly cut off. Night has fallen.

Morning Returns – Even though the world these days is in the darkness of night; those who have put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have light shining in their hearts. All such are awaiting the bright morning when the Lord Jesus will come again, according to John 14:3: *I will come again and receive you unto myself*. But after that event of hope and faith, another dark night of judgment will fall upon the populated earth. These events are just about to actually happen.

Night Returns - The Lord has called his watchmen, His messengers, to alert their contemporaries. We, who know the Saviour, need to act faithfully in making the message we have heard and believed known to you. Our prayerful concern is that you would be among those waiting for that soon-coming morning when our eyes first see Jesus. If among that number, you will escape living through the terrible night of judgment that follows. Jesus declares, in Revelation 22:16, that He is *the bright and morning star*; indicating that His coming can be clearly seen on the horizon, and close behind that is the night of judgment. "*Jesus, which delivers us from the wrath to come*" (1 Thessalonians 1:10). Don't wait for the night.

The Eternal Day – There is yet one more morning to mention; the dawn of the Eternal Day, also called *the Day of God* (2 Peter 3:12). That will be an unending day of complete happiness for all those who have responded to God's offer of love and pardon. In that day, there will never be night again, *neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain* (Revelation 21:4). However, those who pay no attention to all the divine warnings, will see nothing but the last night of all; the endless night of darkness and torment. Without further delay, turn to the Lord Jesus and be saved. "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved*" (Acts 16:31). "*Neither is there salvation in any other*" (Acts 4:12). "*He that believes on Him is not condemned, but he that believes not is condemned already*" (John 3:18).

Michel for Vision 2020 in 2024

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