Sound the Alarm Ezekiel 3:16-21

In Ancient cities walls were built around the city to fortify it.

Watchmen or sentries were posted along the walls to warn of any approaching enemy.

If watchmen observed signs of trouble, it was their duty to sound the alarm.

The gates could be closed, and the city could be defended.

The very lives of the people in the city were in the watchmen's hands.

It is with this in mind that God declares that Ezekiel was a watchman to Israel.

Ezekiel 3:16, 17

Ezekiel was accountable to God for sounding the warning of God's judgment of sin.

We have been assigned the responsibility of being watchmen for our generation.

As watchmen, we are called upon to see the need and to sound the warning.

As a caring church, we must share Christ with a lost world.

Be The Church by Sharing Christ

I. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE AND OBLIGATED TO FAITHFULLY SOUND THE ALARM

A. The necessity is clearly established in the Scripture.

Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12; Romans 6:23

B. Do you realize over 65 million people in America are UN CHURCHED?

An estimated 190 to 200 million Americans are not born again.

C. Without Christ, they will die and spend an eternity in hell. Ezekiel 18:20

II. REGARDLESS OF HOW WE ARE RECEIVED, OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO SOUND THE ALARM.

Ezekiel 33:4-5

A. Every individual is on a direct collision course with God's judgment.

God has provided a haven in Christ

B. Every individual is accountable to God for what they do with the Gospel.

It doesn't matter how well our message is received,

- C. It is our responsibility and obligation to declare the good news of the Gospel.
- D. We must earnestly proclaim the word of God, whether or not the situation or time is favorable.

III. WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE FOR OUR FAITHFULNESS IN SOUNDING THE ALARM.

A. The day is coming when we will be face to face with our Creator!

And have to account for what we <u>have done</u> or <u>neglected to do</u> as watchmen.

Ezekiel 3:18, 19

Paul would reiterate this when he said,

Acts 20:26, 27

Isaiah describes and censures unfaithful watchmen.

Isaiah 56:10

James tells us,

James 4:17

Paul states,

Romans 14:11-12

IV. WE MUST FAITHFULLY SOUND THE ALARM.

A. Not only faithfully, but CLEARLY.

Romans 3:23; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 10:13