

# Be Watchful

## Introduction

1. **Christ on many occasions has asked us to be “watchful.”**  
**Luke 12:35-39**
2. **The apostles also told us to keep “watch.”**

1 Corinthians 16:13 Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.

1 Thessalonians 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

- A. **There would not have been so much said concerning “watchfulness” if there was not some reason for it.**

## Why Should We Watch

1. **Because the devil has the “power” to tempt.**  
**Matthew 4:1-11**

Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

2. **Because Satan is active.**

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

2 Timothy 2:26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

3. **Because Satan is a minister of light.**  
**2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

**4. Because of our ignorance of the second coming of Christ.**  
**Mark 13:32-37**

## **What Should We Watch?**

**1. Watch our Words.**

**A. We should be careful not to offend in word**  
**James 3:1-12**

**B. Words should be fitly spoken.**

Proverbs 25:11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

1) **“Gossip is a little insect; it has neither legs nor wings; it is wholly made of tales, and most of them have stings”**

**C. We must give account for idle words.**

Matthew 12:36-37 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

1) **“The only person that has the right to run another person down is an elevator operator”**

**D. We should not engage in filthy conversation.**

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart **grace to the hearers.**

Ephesians 5:4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, **but rather giving of thanks.**

**E. Vain babbling will eat like a canker.**  
**2 Timothy 2:16-18**

**2. Watch our Actions.**

**A. The Lord weighs our actions.**

1 Samuel 2:3 Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the LORD is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.

- 1) **"Your talk talks and your walk talks, but your walk talks more than your talk talks."**

**B. We will be judged by our actions in this life.**  
**Revelation 20:11-12**

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

**C. Therefore our actions will determine our destiny.**  
**Hebrews 10:28-29**

- 1) **Hypocritical acts hurt the cause of Christ.**
- 2) **Acts of Love are evidence of discipleship.**

John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

- a. **To be watchful requires "action."**

**3. Watch our Thoughts.**

- A. The wicked should forsake his thoughts.**  
**Isaiah 55:7-9**
- B. We should be brought to obedience of Christ.**  
**2 Corinthians 10:4-5**
- C. Here are the things we should think upon:**  
**Philippians 4:8 (SEE CHART)**

**4. Watch our Company.**

- A. We can easily become like those we associate with the most.**

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

- B. Solomon warned his son against bad company.**  
**Proverbs 1:10-15**
- C. They may soon become a snare to our souls.**

Proverbs 22:24-25 Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, Lest you **learn his ways** And set a snare for your soul.

- 1) We become more like those we're around.**

## **5. Watch our Heart.**

### **A. All issues of life begin from our heart.**

Proverbs 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

#### **1) Our words.**

Matthew 12:34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

#### **2) Our actions and company.**

Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

Jeremiah 10:23 O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

#### **3) Our thoughts.**

Matthew 15:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.

---

## Conclusion

**1. We should keep watch over all things to ensure that our soul is ready each day to be with our Lord.**

**A. Paul said to Timothy:**

2 Timothy 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

**1) We can and should make full proof of our ministry for Jesus.**

**2. If we fail to keep watch over our soul - the results are sad:**

Revelation 3:3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore **if you will not watch**, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

# Invitation

**Place**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Be Watchful.wpd  
 Richie Thetford, November 1994 - Reworked September 2023