

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

BIBLE STUDY Theme:

"We Are Responsible for the Lost"

SCRIPTURE – Ezekiel 3:17-21 (NIV)

¹⁷ "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me.

¹⁸ When I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood.

¹⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself.

²⁰ "Again, when a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before them, they will die. Since you did not warn them, they will die for their sin. The righteous things that person did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for their blood.

²¹ But if you do warn the righteous person not to sin and they do not sin, they will surely live because they took warning, and you will have saved yourself."

I. Key Words:

- Responsible
- Lost
- Warn

II. People, Places & Times:

- Ezekiel
- Watchman

III. Background:

- Few people have ever been ushered into God's service with such a vision of the Almighty as Ezekiel experienced. While still a young lad, the one who became a great prophet was carried to Babylon in 597 BC during the second invasion of Jerusalem. When he became thirty years of age, he had a vision of God, recorded in chapter 1.
- The point of the vision was that God is everywhere, even in Babylon where the people were captive. He stands in the shadows and keeps watch over his own even when they are in difficult and dangerous places. What a blessing this must have been to the young man being called into God's prophetic ministry.
- So overwhelmed was Ezekiel after the vision of divine glory that he fell on his face. The Spirit of God entered him, however, and set him on his feet. A voice informed him that he was being sent to the rebellious children of Israel. Whether they heeded him or not, they would know that a prophet had been among them. The events that follow point out some basic considerations for those who feel called into God's service either full time in a paid position such as pastor, evangelist, missionary, or church staff, or for those who remain laypersons and serve the Lord on a nonpaid basis. The works may vary somewhat, but the basic attributes needed at the outset remain the same.

IV. Make it happen:

1. Who are the lost?

2. What was Ezekiel's prophetic assignment?

3. What is our responsibility for those who are lost?

4. What biblical mandate do Christians have to warn the lost?

5. Is there a difference between winning the lost and warning them?

6. What happens if we fail to share the gospel story?

7. What is the impact for the Christian if we fail to warn the lost?

8. Are there any benefits for warning the lost or sharing the gospel?

V. Follow the Spirit:

What will you do as a result of this lesson?
