



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

The 'Holy, Holy, Holy' One Says, "Watch, Watch, Watch – and Declare!"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 21:1-10; Isaiah 6:1-10; Rev. 18:1-5; Daniel 5; Genesis 11

When we walk through Isaiah, we're not rushing. Isaiah is a book you *sit with*—a book that carries both the weight of God's correction and the beauty of His hope. Yes, there are burdens in this book—"the burden of Babylon," "the burden of Moab," "the burden of Egypt"—but behind every heavy word stands a God whose final word is **restoration**, not destruction. The best parts are still ahead, but even in the early chapters, the Holy Spirit is already shaping us: teaching us not to trust in the powers of this world, and not to cling to the systems of Babylon.

Isaiah 21 begins a second cycle of messages to the nations, but these aren't just geopolitical commentaries. These are prophetic revelations—visions that express not just facts, but *the atmosphere* of what God sees. Isaiah receives a harsh, painful vision—a vision that doubles him over like a woman in labor. Meanwhile, the people who should be listening are setting tables, clinking glasses, gearing up for battle, and planning their next move. Where Isaiah is trembling, they are feasting. Where Isaiah is watchful, they are distracted. And into this moment, the **Holy, Holy, Holy One** says: *Watch. Watch. Watch. Declare only what I reveal. Come out of Babylon and trust in Me alone.*

1. WATCH WHAT GOD SHOWS: THE PAINFUL VISION AND THE DISTRACTED PEOPLE

Isaiah opens with a whirlwind—a storm rolling across the desert. Something is coming. Something terrifying. Something that shakes the prophet to his core. Isaiah says the vision is *harsh*—*qashah*—severe, weighty, wrenching. He feels it physically. He's twisted up, doubled over, heart racing, almost staggering at what he's seeing. This is the sensitivity of the prophet: the same heart that hears God's voice is the heart that feels the pain of human devastation.

But while Isaiah is shaking, God's people are prepping dinner and polishing shields. They are making alliances, signing treaties, scanning political landscapes, and trusting in everything except the Lord. Babylon seems like a helpful partner. Assyria seems unstoppable. Egypt seems promising. And God says, "None of these alliances will save you. None of these systems will hold you. All of them are doomed." But the people keep identifying with Babylon—the world system, the self-sufficient system, the "we'll fix this ourselves" system.

This is our world today. Surrounded by brokenness, we still run to Babylon's solutions. We reach for political power, military strength, national identities, cultural strategies—hoping they'll rescue us. But Babylon is doomed. The Lord says, "Come out of her, My people." Don't look to the weapons of the world to accomplish the work of the Spirit. Look to Me.

2. WATCH LIKE A LION: STAY AT YOUR POST, LISTENING AND DECLARING ONLY WHAT GOD SAYS

Starting in verse 6, the scene shifts. God speaks: "*Go, post a watchman. Let him declare what he sees.*" The word "declare"—*nigged*—means reveal, disclose, speak only what is shown. No more. No less. This is a call to prophetic integrity.

Then God tells the watchman: "**Pay attention. Pay attention. Pay great attention.**" —*kashav, kashav, kashav*— Just like *Holy, Holy, Holy*, the repetition isn't accidental. When the Holy One speaks three times, everything in the prophet must come to attention.

Most commentators agree this watchman is Isaiah himself—a man called to listen day and night, faithfully, patiently, like a lion on the wall. He’s not watching for entertainment. He’s not looking to produce content. He’s not making up words to stay relevant. He is standing in faithfulness, listening for God’s voice, waiting for the real word of the Lord, refusing to add to it or subtract from it.

This is what the prophetic calling requires—then and now: Reliability – Integrity – Perseverance – Sensitivity to God’s heart – and a commitment to repeat only what the Holy One says. In a generation filled with noise—false prophecies, political predictions, spiritual confusion—the Lord still calls His people to stand on the wall, to watch, to wait, to listen, and then to say only what He has revealed.

3. WATCH FOR GOD’S VICTORY: BABYLON FALLS, AND GOD’S PEOPLE MUST COME OUT

Finally—after long waiting—the sign appears. A chariot. Horsemen. Messengers of victory. The watchman suddenly sees what he has waited for, and the cry bursts forth:

“Fallen, fallen is Babylon!”

The idols are shattered. The gods are nothing. The system collapses. This isn’t just ancient Babylon. This is the Babylon of Revelation 18—the spiritual ideology behind every human empire that trusts in technology, wealth, power, nationalism, and self-made security. From Genesis 11 to the end of the age, Babylon represents humanity’s attempt to live without God.

But God’s people—His “crushed ones,” His “sons of the threshing floor”—must not identify with Babylon’s system. The threshing floor is painful, but it is holy ground. It is where God separates what is worthless from what is wheat. It is where He forms His people into a pure, prophetic community who trust in Him alone.

This is the call for us today:

Not to place our hope in political alliances.

Not to anchor our faith in nations or leaders.

Not to repeat the errors of false prophets pointing people to men.

But to look to the Lord of Hosts—the God of Israel—and hold fast with lion-like resolve to the One whose kingdom cannot be shaken.

CONCLUSION

This passage opens with terror, moves through trembling, rises to attentiveness, and ends in hope. Babylon will fall. Every earthly system will collapse. Every idol will shatter. But the Lord remains faithful, and He calls His people to stand as watchmen—listening to His voice, declaring His word, and refusing to be swept into the world’s solutions.

Isaiah stood faithfully, even in anguish. And now the Holy, Holy, Holy One calls us to stand. To watch. To pay attention. To declare His truth. And to come out of Babylon—out of compromise, out of misplaced trust, out of worldly alliances—and rest our hope in Him alone.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Isaiah’s physical reaction to the vision teach us about how seriously God’s people should feel the brokenness of the world?
2. Where do you see God’s people today identifying with Babylon—trusting in worldly systems instead of the Lord?
3. What does it mean to be a watchman in our generation? How do we “declare only what we see”?

4. Why is the triple command “pay attention, pay attention, pay attention” essential for disciples today?
5. How can we practically “come out of Babylon” in our daily decisions, priorities, and loyalties?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Father, Holy, Holy, Holy are You, Adonai Tzva’ot. You alone are our King, our Helper, our Refuge. Forgive us for the ways we have looked to Babylon for our hope. Forgive us for trusting in men, systems, movements, and alliances instead of trusting in You. Make us Your watchmen—faithful, attentive, lion-hearted, declaring only what You reveal. Keep us steady day and night, until the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our God and His Messiah. Teach us to watch. Teach us to wait. Teach us to hope in You alone.

In Yeshua’s name—Amen.