

Heeding The Warning (pt. 1)

Pastor Jerry Lewis [Sunday, Sep. 13, 2026]

Sermon Summary: Drawing from Ezekiel 33:7-11, where God appoints Ezekiel as a watchman over Israel with the responsibility to warn the wicked and turn them from their ways, this sermon issues an urgent call for believers to recognize and respond to the warning signs of the prophetic hour. Pastor Jerry challenges us to examine the condition of their spiritual walk, warning against the dangers of negligence, compromise, and the cultural pressure to prioritize personal happiness over obedience to God. Rooted in the conviction that spiritual authority is not passively granted but actively pursued, the message calls believers to sell out completely to God, heed the convictions of the Holy Spirit, remain faithful to the assembly of believers, and live with an awareness that eternity is drawing near.

Scripture Reference:

- Ezekiel 33:7-11, in which God commissions Ezekiel as a watchman over Israel, warning that the prophet bears responsibility for those he fails to warn, and declaring that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked but desires their repentance and life
- Colossians 3:1-2, which calls believers who have been raised with Christ to pursue the things above and to set their affections on heavenly rather than earthly things
- 2 Thessalonians 2:3, which warns that the day of the Lord will not come until there is first a great falling away, a deliberate defection from the faith
- Hebrews 9:27, which states that it is appointed for man to die once and after that to face judgment
- Hebrews 10:24-25, which calls believers to stir one another toward love and good works and not to forsake gathering together, all the more as the day of Christ's return approaches
- Hebrews 2:3, which poses the sobering question of how anyone can escape judgment if they neglect so great a salvation
- James 2:14, which challenges the notion of a faith that produces no works
- Matthew 6:21, in which Jesus teaches that the heart will always pursue what it treasures most
- Matthew 21:19, in which Jesus curses the fig tree for representing itself as fruitful while bearing no fruit
- Romans 15:13, which speaks of the God of hope filling believers with joy and peace through the power of the Holy Spirit
- Hebrews 11:24-25, which recounts Moses choosing to suffer with the people of God rather than enjoy the temporary pleasures of sin

Key Points:

- God has appointed believers as watchmen in this hour, carrying a responsibility to warn others and live in a manner consistent with that calling
- Spiritual authority is not solely determined by God but is shaped by the individual choices and level of commitment each believer makes
- The cultural narrative of doing whatever makes you happy has crept into the church and produced compromise, negligence, and a weakened spiritual walk
- Colossians 3:1-2 instructs believers to set their minds and affections on heavenly things, not earthly ones, and the Greek word used implies a deliberate, chosen direction of thought
- Apostasy, as described in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, represents an intentional turning away from previously held truth and is one of the defining signs of the last days
- Negligence in one's relationship with God can become a seared pattern that gradually becomes normalized, making it increasingly difficult to recognize
- Hebrews 10:24-25 commands believers not to forsake assembling together, especially as the return of Christ draws closer
- True happiness is not found in the pleasures of sin or the approval of the world but in a sold-out relationship with Jesus Christ
- Parents and leaders are being watched by those around them, and their level of commitment to God directly influences the spiritual direction of their families and communities
- Each believer holds a key to someone else's release, and the choices made in this season carry consequences that extend beyond the individual

QUOTES:

The enemy does not control you. I'll say it again. The enemy does not control you. You control you.

I am convinced that our spiritual walk must be backed by a holy walk. Our spiritual talk must be backed by a holy walk, or it's nothing more than idle, wasted, unproductive words.

My suggestion to all is don't waste your time on the trivial. Devote your life to the Trinity.

True and lasting fulfillment doesn't come from a denomination. It comes from God's demonstration.

Negligence can become a seared pattern that develops over time that eventually becomes a part of everyday life. You can get to the point that you get so comfortable being negligent that you don't even recognize it's negligence anymore.

There's a reason why this is called a pulpit. It's because a shepherd is trying to pull as many as he can from the pit.

I don't want to be guilty of misrepresenting his kingdom. I don't want to be guilty of not lifting up his name. I don't want to be guilty of getting caught up in my life and forgetting the call that he placed upon my life.

I'm not looking for seasonal happiness. I'm looking for eternal happiness.

If we don't want someone to get the wrong perception about us, let's don't say something, ask something, go somewhere and do something that's going to cause them to draw that conclusion.

You can listen to anointed preaching and never respond and die and go to hell. You can listen to worship that creates an atmosphere that summons the presence of God. But if it's all about what you like and what you want and what your flavor of the week is and how you like things you think church ought to be, it's not about how I think church ought to be and how he wants church to be.

