



The question comes to me, What is church? Just a social gathering place, a building like the community centers where you can have some place to have "fun and fellowship" in the world? Oh, the word "fellowship" as used today is not the Biblical understanding of "fellowship of the followers of Jesus Christ." Paul understood fellowship in the Lord.

Yea doubtless, and I count all things *[but]* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *[but]* dung, that I may win Christ,

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

**That I may know him, and**

**the power of his resurrection, and  
the fellowship of his sufferings,**

**being made conformable unto his death;**

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead (Phi 3:8-11).

**Are you watching and praying,  
seeking the soon coming return of the Lord Jesus Christ?**

**What do you and I know about the fellowship of His sufferings?**

Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. (Mar 13:33)  
Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these  
things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. (Luk 21:36)

Mrs. Bettie L. Lowery, M.R.E., Deaconess    The Rev. Mrs. Dr. C. S. Cole, Pastor, Ret.  
*Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ*

*Come apart and rest (Mark 6:31)*

## Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;  
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:10-16)  
The Wise Still Seek Him*

*of the  
Lord  
Jesus Christ*

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## Watch and Pray!

**L**ow long has it been since you prayed the whole night through?

How often do we walk in our own willful way, and then find ourselves in the snare of the enemy, walking deep into the wilderness with him – not knowing how to separate from him. He knows how to keep people under his control. He has ways of – uh, do I call it blackmailing you, threatening you, making you glad to follow on with him – if he will ensure no one knows the depth of sin in which you are walking with him.

The Word of the Lord God, the Holy Bible gives to us the **command** to "Watch and pray." Oh, yes, how often do we recall we are to watch and pray, but, all too often, – we pray after we are deeply in the mire. We slough off the words to "Watch **and** pray" – before we find ourselves walking in the deeply of the mire of sin.

There is something embedded within us today from the top down, that we should walk with the crowd. After all, Can so many be so wrong? Oh Yes! they can and are. Are not studies and everything done in group settings so that you will grow accustom to listening to those in your group, and so that you will not turn away from them and their teachings? So that you will grow deaf to the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ? After all if everyone in your group is walking down the broad road that leads to hell, it must be right. Is this not the teaching today? You are not to think any differently than all of those in your group. The group setting is used to intimidate you, to make you feel less than, to make you feel something is wrong with you if you 1) Think for yourself, think differently than "everyone" else 2) Turn from the group to walk with the Lord Jesus Christ. After all how many have convinced you they are walking with Him when they are following the gods of this world? So you can do that also. You can? 3) How many joke about "Watch and pray," saying they watch as they walk in sin, then laugh about it?

First, this is no laughing matter. You alone are accountable for your walking away from the Lord. If you walk away from the Lord, no one has made you do it. You have chosen that road, that broad road.

Take heed to "Watch and pray" all day and every day.

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *[is]* willing, but the flesh *[is]* weak. (Mat 26:41)

Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly *[is]* ready, but the flesh *[is]* weak. (Mar 14:38)

There are other reasons to "watch and pray;" however, they are a part of watching and praying lest ye enter into temptation. It is only as we are on the narrow road with the Lord Jesus Christ endeavoring that we not enter into temptation, that we can have ears to hear what the Lord is saying to us in the times in which we live.

Read the following passage carefully as we also live in these times.

But it came to pass, *[that]* when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, *[and]* that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, And conspired all of them together to come *[and]* to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

**Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night**, because of them (Neh 4.7-9).

Jer 51:12 Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.

Hab 2:1 I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

How many times does the Lord command us to watch and pray "that ye enter not into temptation"? We are careless and care not that the world is leading us into temptation to walk with them - all to often. There is a chorus that guides in this. I believe it is a vow we of which we need to be reminded daily.

I have decided to follow Jesus. I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus, No turning back, No turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow. Though none go with me, still I will follow.

Though none go with me, still I will follow. No turning back. No turning back.

The Cross before me, the world behind me. The Cross before me, the World behind me.

The Cross before me, the world behind me. No turning back. No turning back.

Oh, is the Cross of Christ your standard?

Mat 26:36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

Mat 26:37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

Mat 26:38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

Mat 26:39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *[wilt]*.

Mat 26:40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

Mat 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *[is]* willing, but the flesh *[is]* weak.

There are other reasons to "Watch and pray." The Lord Jesus Christ is returning, and we need to be shouting, Alleluia. Oh, there are many shouting, but I tell you, it is not real when there are not tears with it. Shouting Alleluia, Yes! For the Lord is returning

for His own. But, oh, weeping for those who will be left behind. But, there is a deeper pain for me when I see how many care not who is left behind. They will tell you, "I've got it made. I do not care for others; it is up to them to do *whatever*."

I say to you, there is something wrong with this. If we know the peace and joy of the Lord, our hearts will be over flowing with a love that goes forth giving forth the Word of the Lord and His salvation for them, pleading with them to come to Jesus.

Something seems so wrong when I read and hear people say they died, went to heaven, then come back and tell how they saw Uncle Joe and Aunt Jane or whomever, but they have not changed. They continue in their own self-righteous bliss – not caring that people are going out into eternity without Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. You do not see them eager to talk about Jesus, and His great love for them, for the lost and dying.

In fact, how long since you heard a sermon or a teaching on Matthew 28.19, 20? Oh, the attitude today is, "God's got me covered, and I'm okay." Got them covered with what? Oh, the sad world in which we live today. Few there be that know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and those few are out and sharing the love of Jesus, inviting others to repent of their sins and give their lives, their hearts, their souls, their whole being to Jesus Christ, to serve Him, to walk with Him daily.

I wrote there are many reasons to "Watch and Pray," with one of the reasons being that the Lord Jesus Christ is returning. We know not the day nor the hour of His return. But when we see so much going on in the world and in this nation that is not of the Lord, that is so ungodly, we need to draw nigh unto the Lord.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *[your]* hands, *[ye]* sinners; and purify *[your]* hearts, *[ye]* double minded (James 4.8).

Prepare to meet thy God, the Prophet Amos wrote. Our nation has sold out to the enemy, to Satan; we are being mocked by Satan and his followers, and what do we do? Oh, we have joined forces with them by all the group work done in schools and other places making sure all are lining up and believing the same vile teachings.

I have overthrown *[some]* of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: *[and]* because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel (Amos 4.11, 12).

I even have to weep in my spirit when I see the churches shut down for the virus which will lead to complacency, I fear. **What "church" opened their doors for all night prayer meetings, for families to come on bended knee, seeking the Lord Jesus Christ?** Oh, there are some who have had special meetings - but not watchnight meetings (all night prayer meetings), for that would be boring and . . . *And, yet, what do we do, or how do we "come together to pray" in the midst of what is going on in the world today. I have questions also.*

How many "church-goers" and those standing on the pulpits where they go are on their knees in their own homes "watching and praying" for this nation in the midst of the enemy's powerful presence? *How many of us are on our knees praying?* I need to hear from the Lord in the midst of the enemy's attack that is **not** over.