

# Sentinels Keep the Saints Informed

In 1987, as I was reading the book of Ezekiel, I received the following verse as a *rhema*.

**Ezekiel 33:7-9** (ISV) - "Now as for you, Son of Man, I've established you as a sentinel for the house of Israel. So whenever you hear a message from me<sup>1</sup>, you are to warn the people from me. If I should say to a certain wicked person, 'You wicked man, you're certainly about to die,' but you don't warn him to turn from his wicked behavior, he'll die in his guilt, but I'll seek retribution for his bloodshed from you.<sup>2</sup> However, if you warn the wicked to turn from his behavior and he does not do so, he will die in his guilt, and you will have saved yourself."<sup>3</sup>

The understanding the Spirit dropped into my spirit was that I was set aside to become a sentinel. A sentinel is a watchman who guards a community of people to warn them of approaching danger.

My sentinel task was to be a spiritual role, so I waited for the function to manifest in the circumstances where I was mixing with Christians at that time. Nothing developed. I had to go through a process that would change me into the person who would steward the task as Father would have me. He had to give me a prophetic and an apostolic mantle to go with my teaching ability, as well as refinement to bring out *agape* love and graciousness. I also needed the elimination of any desire for control from my character and my mode of operation. Only now am I in that role. I didn't realise that I would take over 25 years to be readied for the assignment.

Today, my sentinel warnings are manifesting in 4 key ways. Through:

- Prophecy
- Revelatory teaching
- Apostolic directives
- Mentoring

To help understand how my revelatory teaching is a sentinel activity, I received and recorded the following download which gives an understand of what's happening in that facet of my activity.

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(*Transcript: This teaching message was received as a download from the Spirit and recorded while walking*)

"As one called to be a sentinel, my job is to bring warning<sup>4</sup>. No one likes to hear warnings. That is evidenced by what happened with Noah who spent 100 years building the ark (approximately), and according to the New Testament, he preached to them about that, but everybody went about their business until the rain came. But by that time, it was too late.

My warnings are in my teachings. They are covert warnings to those who will listen. It's covert. But the teachings that I give are from revelation and therefore they are what's on Father's heart at the moment. They are his intent that we should know at the moment. If we follow the people of Noah's time, we will miss the favour that God has planned for the future, and we will be subject to any judgement that takes place because we will not be ready, because we won't be ready in heart, mind or spirit.

The people in Noah's time probably thought Noah was a looney because there wasn't such a thing as rain in those days, so building a boat on dry land was ridiculous. And so the messages that I give, both prophetic and teaching, to many sound ridiculous or have no point to them. But inside them, there is a warning, and the warning is: 'Take this on board or you won't be able to handle what's coming and you'll miss out on the benefits of the Kingdom that will be released to those who align themselves'.

This sounds harsh, but sentinels are called to speak what they're given, even if the people reject it, even if the people laugh at them, scorn them, stone them. Paul laboured for hours of the day and days and days of the year with various church groups around Asia Minor, warning them, warning them, teaching them,

1 - Literally: 'from my mouth'

2 - Literally: 'from your hand'; i.e. as if the sentinel were responsible for the death

3 - Literally: 'have rescued your soul'

4 - Ezekiel 33:7-9

imparting sound doctrine. But even while he was yet finishing his talks, there were Judaisers and pagans who were wanting to deviate the churches from purity, the purity that he was teaching them.

Imagine sitting all day long, day after day, listening to Paul speak as he taught. Would anyone dare to say to Paul, 'We've got too much teaching'? No. We would listen respectfully, we would take it in, we would hear with our spirit and inculcate what he taught into our lives.

So, I will continue as a sentinel to speak what I am given. That's my responsibility. Even if everybody abandons me, I will still speak what I've been given. But, I will continue to look for those who are like-minded that I can share with. And I will look for those who are hungry to be fed and to grow in the things of the Spirit and the things of the Kingdom.

Listen to what I teach. In it are warnings, covert warnings that basically sit inside the tenet: 'Agree with this. Make it part of who you are and what you believe'".

Laurence

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