**768\_Rumination for 27 Oct. 2019**

The **T**heme: **Watch** [[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: [Jesus] *cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter,*

 *What, could ye not* ***watch*** *with Me one hour?* ***Watch*** *and pray…* Mt. 26:40, 41

The **T**hots:

Intro. Jesus asked His close disciples (Peter, James and John) to ***watch*** *and pray*, while He went further in

in the Garden of Gethsemane to pray to His Father. He did this three times. Each time He returned,

He found them sleeping. Note: *watch* [from *egeiro* = to keep awake],is torefrain from sleep;

but they did not, not once but thrice! In our Christian life and living, we need to ***Watch***!

1. **Watch Our Walk – our Conduct**
2. We are **S**aved to *walk by* ***F****aith, not by* ***S****ight.* II Cor. 5:7
3. God the **F**ather has raised us up to walk in newness of life. Rom. 6:4

*Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up*

*from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

1. Our **F**ocus in Life is on Him above Whom we do not **S**ee but of Whom we are **S**ure – II Cor. 5:8

*We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.*

1. We are **S**anctified by the **S**pirit not to walk in the **F**lesh. Rom. 8:1
2. *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,*

*who walk not after the* ***F****lesh, but after the Spirit.*

1. *That the righteousness of the law might be* ***F****ulfilled in us, who walk not after the* ***F****lesh,*

*but after the Spirit.* 8:4

1. We are therefore to **S**how **F**orth the **F**ruit of the Spirit in our life. Gal. 5:22, 23

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

*Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

1. We have been made **S**ober and Wise, not to Walk in **F**oolishness – Rom. 13:13
2. *Let us* ***W****alk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness,*

 *not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.*

1. *See then that ye* ***W****alk circumspectly, not as fools, but as* ***W****ise…****W****herefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the* ***W****ill of the Lord is.*

 *And be not drunk with* ***W****ine…but be filled with the Spirit;* Eph. 5:15-18

1. We are to be **S**trong, to **S**tand **F**ast in the **F**aith and never to quit. ICor. 16:13

***Watch*** *ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.*

1. We are not to be **F**oolhardy – not aware of the **D**evil and the **D**angers around. Rom. 13:13, HCSB
2. *Let us walk with* ***D****ecency, as in the* ***D****aylight: not in carousing and* ***D****runkenness;*

 *not in sexual impurity and promiscuity; not in quarrelling and jealousy.*

1. *Be sober, be vigilant [watchful]; because your adversary the* ***D****evil, as a roaring lion,*

 *walketh about, seeking whom he may* ***D****evour:* I Pet. 5:8

1. **Watch Your Flock – the Shepherd should Care for his Sheep.**
2. The **W**ord to the **S**hepherd to **W**atch –
3. Watch your sheep Vigilant**ly** – *Be sober-minded; be* ***watchful*** *(vigilant, KJV).* I Pet. 5:8, ESV

 *Your adversary the* ***D****evil prowls around…seeking someone to* ***D****evour*.

1. Shepherd your Sheep Willing**ly**. I Pet. 5:2-4 , NKJV

 *Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers,*

 *not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;*

 *Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.*

 *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

1. **W**atch Your**S**elves as **S**hepherds of the **S**heep.- Acts 20:28
 *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you*

 *overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.*

1. **Watch for the Lord – He is Coming soon.** Mk. 13:33, 35
2. Let us Watch for His **C**oming: *Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.*
3. Let us **C**ontinue to Watch and Pray: ***C****ontinue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.* Col. 4:2

*Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.* I Thes. 5:6, 10

*Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.*

1. Let us **C**ommemorate His death, burial and resurrection until He **C**omes. I Cor. 11:26

*For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.*

*Watch and pray, the Lord commandeth; Watch and pray, ’twill not be long:
Soon He’ll gather home His loved ones, To the happy vale of song.*

 Fanny Crosby

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 768**

1. [Jesus] *cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter,*

 *What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray…* Mt. 26:40, 41

 Study how Jesus in His last hours before the cross, carefully chose His friends to accompany Him as He proceeded to the Garden of Gethsemane to agonise with the Father.

He knew the hour for which He came to this world was now drawing ever nearer.

First, He observed the Passover Feast with His disciples and instituted the Lord’s Supper for them to remember Him (Lk. 22:15-20) when He would return to His Father after His mission on the cross. He also intimated to them of His coming betrayal by one of them (Mt. 26:21-25) and how they would forsake Him in spite of Peter’s boast that he would never do so, strongly supported by the rest with the exception of Judas who had left the group earlier.

(Mt. 26:33-35; Jn. 13:30)

After this, Jesus took His disciples with Him and went into the Garden of Gethsemane to prepare Himself for the mission that He was to fulfil (Mt. 26:31, 32). On arrival there, He left the other eight disciples in a place and took with Him Peter, James and John (Mt. 26:37) further in into the Garden…*and began to be sorrowful and very heavy*. *Then saith He unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with Me.* (Mt. 26:37, 38). But the poor disciples, were so tired that they fell asleep. This happened three times and on the third occasion, [Jesus] *cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray.*

Could the Lord be sarcastic here, as one Bible commentator pointed out?

First, He addressed Peter particularly and personally? – *What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray.* Did not he profess earlier: *Though all men shall be offended because of Thee, yet will I never be offended.* (Mt. 26:33)

It could be that the Lord could be addressing the other disciples too. They were nearby. They too earlier had professed with Peter that they would not forsake their Lord: *Peter said unto Him, Though I should die with Thee, yet will I not deny Thee. Likewise also said all the disciples*. (Mt. 26:35)

And yet at the end of it all, this sad and tragic statement was recorded of the disciples –

*Then all the disciples forsook Him, and fled* (Mt. 26:56) and Peter even denied Him three times! (Mt. 26:34, 75)

Today, this statement is so relevant –*And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.* (Rom. 13:11)

Are we awake and watching in our Christian walk? If not, what would our answer be if we hear once again, the voice of Jesus, asking us: *What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray.* Are you watching and praying, waiting for His return?**REFLECT**

1. In the Scriptures, we are exhorted to **Watch** [1] our **W**ord (**C**onversation), [2] our **W**alk (**C**onduct) and **W**atch [3] for our **Lord** (He is **C**oming soon).

[1] **W**atch our **W**ord – it takes only one word wrongly **U**ttered, wrongly **U**sed or **U**nkindly written and the world around us may collapse, the friends we have may forsake us and we may lose what we possess.

[2] Watch our **W**alk – the Way we behave, the way we act and the way we relate to others in the community will show the kind of person we are, beware!

[3] Watch for our **Lord** – The Way we treat the World around us (our Earth, the Ecosystem, the Environment) and the Way the World treats us (the Typhoons, Tsunamis, Tropical storms and earthquakes, etc.) all point to the soon coming upheavals of Nature that will dawn upon us leading to the Coming of our Lord.

Are you Watching for His Coming? It is sooner than what we expect! **REFLECT**

**Points to Ponder:** *Watch your Word; Watch your Walk and Watch Your Ways*

*– a Lion is walking around!* [I Pet. 5:8]