"A Watchman Must " <u>2 John 1: 1-13</u>



The Watchman's Battle Cry: <u>1 Corinthians 16: 13</u>

"Watch" = give attention, keep awake, be vigilant "Stand fast in the faith" = persevere, stand firm "Be brave, be strong" = act like men, increase in vigor, become stronger and stronger "Let all you do be done in love"

<u>Focus of 1 John</u> - our fellowship with God

Focus of 2 John - protect our fellowship from those who teach falsehood

<u>Verse 1 - 3</u>

A watchman must give encouragement to know the truth!

<u>A WATCHMAN MUST KNOW:</u> Jesus is the truth

"Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." John 18:37

"My sheep hear My voice and I know them and they follow Me." John 10:27

<u>A WATCHMAN MUST</u>:

Encourage everyone of the truth of God's grace, mercy and peace

<u>Verse 4 - 6</u>

A Watchman must watch and practice the truth

Many hear the Word, but few <u>heed</u> the Word

heed = regard with care, take careful attention

"It's much easier to study the truth or even argue the truth, than to practice the truth." (Warren Wiersbe) John's plea to the lady:

Love one another, even those who are mad at you

Application:

You are a watchman, you will be attacked by other Christians - DO NOT RESPOND IN KIND!!

<u>Verse 7 - 11</u>

A Watchman must watch and stand against error

A WATCHMAN MUST:

Watch out for deceivers - SPOT THEM!!

<u>Deceiver</u> = a roving tramp, a vagabond, an imposter!!

What do deceivers do? Mix truth with lies

TODAY'S DECEIVERS:

All cults, universalism, the prosperity gospel, the new age movement, legalism, hyper-grace, the emerging church, etc.

<u>WATCHMAN</u> - Your job: *"Look to yourselves"* Keep watch - Spot them, don't be fooled!

How do we respond to false teaching as it arises in the Church? - Preach Christ - Reinforce Biblical doctrine - Cling to the highest authority, THE WORD OF GOD!!

<u>WATCHMAN</u> - Finish strong and receive a full reward

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." <u>2 Timothy 4: 7-8</u>

<u>WATCHMAN</u> - Stand against false doctrine

What is true doctrine?

Something that was taught by Jesus and the Apostles

WARNING:

<u>Galatians 1: 8-9</u>

Does <u>verse 10</u> mean we should never invite a Mormon or Jehovah's Witness into our home?

In context, these were house churches - don't give them a platform in your church!!

<u>WARNING</u>: "He who greets him shares in his evil deeds" - <u>verse 11</u>

<u>Remember Syncretism</u>:

Mixing false with truth always equals FALSE!!

<u>Verse 12 - 13</u>



Keep watch and hold on until Jesus come

<u>1 Thessalonians 5:21</u>

CONCLUSION: A WATCHMAN MUST....

Allow me to close with these words from <u>Ezekiel 33: 7-11</u>

A <u>WATCHMAN</u> must take personal responsibility

A <u>WATCHMAN</u> must guard our lives, our homes and sound the alarm

CONCLUSION: A WATCHMAN MUST....

A <u>WATCHMAN</u> must tell people the truth

A <u>WATCHMAN</u> must watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong - <u>1 Corinthians 6: 13</u>

A WATCHMAN MUST WATCH!!