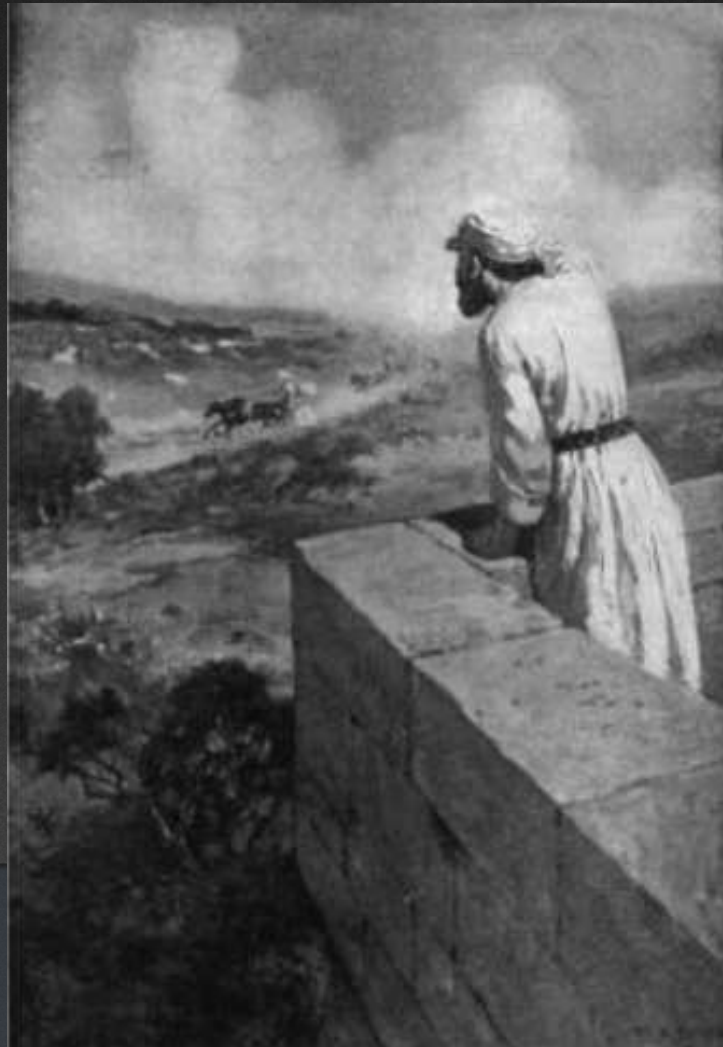


November 2–8
Ezekiel 1–3; 33–34; 36–37; 47
“A New Spirit Will I Put Within You”



The Watchman on the Tower

Ezk 3:11,17

What was a watchman expected to do when he saw danger, and what does this teach us about Ezekiel's responsibility to Israel?

“The analogy of the watchman referred to the military watchman who had to stay awake and who faced execution if he failed to warn the city when the enemy appeared. Such a watchman was in jeopardy always: the enemy sought to destroy him to keep him from raising the warning and, if he did not raise the warning when it was needed, his life was in jeopardy at the hands of those he was responsible to warn.” (Old Testament Student Manual: Kings-Malachi, pg. 267)

The Watchman on the Tower

Ezk 33:1-6

What do these verses teach us about the responsibility of a watchman to warn the people and the consequences of failing to do so?

Joseph Smith

“If the master of that house give consent, the Elder may preach to his family, his wife, his children and his servants, his man-servants, or his maid-servants, or his slaves; then it should be the duty of the Elder to stand up boldly for the cause of Christ, and warn that people with one accord to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins, and for the Holy Ghost.” (TPJS, pg. 88)

The Watchman on the Tower

Ezk 33:7-9

What responsibility did the Lord place on Ezekiel as a watchman, and what would happen if he failed to warn the people?

Whom has the Lord called to be spiritual watchmen for His people, and what can we learn from Ezekiel's calling about their responsibilities?

Spencer W. Kimball

"I am sure that Peter and James and Paul found it unpleasant business to constantly be calling people to repentance and warning them of dangers, but they continued unflinchingly, and so we, your leaders today, must be everlastingly at it; if young people do not understand, then the fault may be partly ours. But if we make the true way clear to them, then we are blameless.... That, of course, is why we, the watchmen, your leaders, are so interested and so intent upon letting the warning be trumpeted loud and long—so that no young person can trip himself and not be warned or wonder why we strive so hard to point the way." (BYU Speeches of the Year, Jan 5, 1965)

Jacob 1:17-19

17) Wherefore I, Jacob, gave unto them these words as I taught them in the temple, having first obtained mine errand from the Lord.

18) For I, Jacob, and my brother Joseph had been consecrated priests and teachers of this people, by the hand of Nephi.

19) And we did magnify our office unto the Lord, taking upon us the responsibility, answering the sins of the people upon our own heads if we did not teach them the word of God with all diligence; wherefore, by laboring with our might their blood might not come upon our garments; otherwise their blood would come upon our garments, and we would not be found spotless at the last day.

Ezra Taft Benson

As watchmen on the tower of Zion, it is our obligation and right as leaders to speak out against current evils—evils that strike at the very foundation of all we hold dear as the true church of Christ and as members of Christian nations....

Speaking out against immoral or unjust actions has been the burden of prophets and disciples of God from time immemorial. It was for this very reason that many of them were persecuted. Nevertheless, it was their God-given task, as watchmen on the tower, to warn the people.” (CR, Apr, 1973)

David A. Bednar

“I bear witness that parents... who invite children as gospel learners to act and not merely be acted upon will be blessed with eyes that can see afar off and with ears that can hear the sound of the trumpet. The spiritual discernment and inspiration you will receive... will enable you to stand as watchmen on the tower for your families—'watching ... with all perseverance' (Ephesians 6:18) to the blessing of your immediate family and your future posterity.” (CR, April 2010)

D&C 88:81-82

81) Behold, I sent you out to testify and warn the people, and it becometh every man who hath been warned to warn his neighbor.

82) Therefore, they are left without excuse, and their sins are upon their own heads.

The Watchman on the Tower

Ezk 13:1-3,10,22

How do the teachings of false prophets affect both the righteous and the wicked?

Temples at the Time of the Gathering

Ezk 36:24-28

What spiritual blessings does the Lord promise to give His people as He gathers them in the latter days?

What do these verses teach us about what we must do to allow the Lord to cleanse us, change our hearts, and place His Spirit within us?

D. Todd Christofferson

“In all the ordinances, especially those of the temple, we are endowed with power from on high. This ‘power of godliness’ comes in the person and by the influence of the Holy Ghost. The gift of the Holy Ghost is part of the new and everlasting covenant.... It is the messenger of grace by which the blood of Christ is applied to take away our sins and sanctify us.” (CR, April 2009)

Temples at the Time of the Gathering

Ezk 37:26-28

What does the Lord promise will be in the midst of His people in the latter days, and what will this reveal to the world?

What do these verses teach us about the relationship between the gathering of Israel and the building of temples?

Bruce R. McConkie

“My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.’ How sweet and lovely is this thought! When the Lord's true tabernacle is with men; when they assemble therein to worship the Father, in the name of the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit; when their lives at long last conform to the divine will and pattern-then they are his people and he is their God.” (The Millennial Messiah: The Second Coming of the Son of Man, pg. 608)

Joseph Smith

"What was the object of gathering the Jews, or the people of God in any age of the world?...

"The main object was to build unto the Lord a house whereby He could reveal unto His people the ordinances of His house and the glories of His kingdom, and teach the people the way of salvation; for there are certain ordinances and principles that, when they are taught and practiced, must be done in a place or house built for that purpose." (HC, 5:422-423)

The Millennial Temple in Jerusalem

Ezk 40:3-4

Why was Ezekiel shown this vision, and what was he instructed to do with what he saw?

The Millennial Temple in Jerusalem

Ezk 40:10-12

Temple Size Comparisons



What did the Lord hope Israel would understand and do as they learned about the future temple?

Standard for Latter-Day Temples

Ezk 43:4-7

What do these verses teach us about the Lord's presence in His temples and how we should treat these sacred places?

Standard for Latter-Day Temples

Ezk 44:4-5

What are Church leaders commanded to do before allowing individuals to participate in temple ordinances?

Boyd K. Packer

“You must possess a current recommend to be admitted to the temple. This recommend must be signed by the proper officers of the Church. Only those who are worthy should go to the temple. Your local bishop or branch president has the responsibility of making inquiries into your personal worthiness. This interview is of great importance, for it is an occasion to explore with an ordained servant of the Lord the pattern of your life. If anything is amiss in your life, the bishop will be able to help you resolve it. Through this procedure, as you counsel with the common judge in Israel, you can declare or can be helped to establish your worthiness to enter the temple with the Lord’s approval.” (“The Holy Temple,” Ensign, Feb. 1995)

D&C 97:15-16

15) And inasmuch as my people build a house unto me in the name of the Lord, and do not suffer any unclean thing to come into it, that it be not defiled, my glory shall rest upon it;

16) Yea, and my presence shall be there, for I will come into it, and all the pure in heart that shall come into it shall see God.

Standard for Latter-Day Temples

Ezk 44:17-19

What do the priests' garments teach us about the purity associated with temple service and the sacred nature of clothing worn in the temple?

Standard for Latter-Day Temples

Ezk 44:23-24

What do these verses teach us that we can learn and discern through the teachings of the temple?

Waters Issue from the Temple

Ezk 47:1-5



What can we learn from the way the river flowing from the temple becomes deeper and wider as it moves farther from the temple?

Dale G. Renlund

“Ezekiel sees a river that increases as it flows from the house. The water that's moving forth from the temple represents blessings which flow from the temples to heal families and give them life. The growth of the river is similar to the exponential growth of our family through the generations. The blessings of the temple are available to everything and everyone....

“The river will grow as you continue to perform this work and teach others to do the same. You'll find not only protection from the temptation and ills of this world, but you'll also find personal power, power to change, power to repent, power to learn, power to be sanctified, and power to turn the hearts of your family together and heal that which needs healing.” (“Family History and Temple Blessings”, Ensign, Feb 2017)

Waters Issue from the Temple

Ezk 47:6-9,12

What happens to the land, the water, and everything the river touches as it flows from the temple?

Dale G. Renlund

“The river renewed everything that it touched. The blessings of the temple likewise have a stunning capacity to heal. Temple blessings can heal hearts and lives and families” (CR, April 2018)

Revelation 22:1-2

1) And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2) In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Joseph Smith

“Judah must return, Jerusalem must be rebuilt, and the temple, and water come out from under the temple, and the waters of the Dead Sea be healed. It will take some time to rebuild the walls of the city and the temple, ... and all this must be done before the Son of Man will make His appearance” (TPJS, pg. 286)

Next Week:

November 9–15

Daniel 1–7

“There is No Other God that Can Deliver”

