Daybreak Gathering 9/14/23

Assignment:

The Lonely Road to the Blessed Hope – by Pete Garcia, Rev310.net

Questions:

The Ignored Watchman

"In his heart, the watchman knows that this generation will not heed the warning. They are full of eyes that cannot see and ears that cannot hear." - Pete

- 1) Read Revelation 3:8. Though we're ignored watchmen, who does know our "works"? How can that encourage even the loneliest of watchmen?
- What are some specific-to-this-age causes of cynicism that prevent people from hearing the watchman's warnings?
- 3) What modern-day distractions make prophecy seem like "white noise" to the lost and the found?
- 4) Even ten years ago, did you see a difference, a reverence or fear in others at the thought of the return of Jesus?
- 5) Would you consider yourself as walking a lonely road, or do you have a good support system within your family or friend group?
- 6) Pete: "The watchman's calling is not glamorous. Nor is it without cost." What would you say has been your greatest "cost" of being a watchman?
- 7) Have you been "abandoned" by family, friends, or coworkers?

Silent Shepherds

"Vacuous and tone-deaf church pulpits increasingly ignore the return of Christ." - Pete

- 1) What may be the reasons behind how "learn-ed clergy increasingly ignore the compounding signs that the end is racing towards them"?
- 2) "Sadly, even the watchman's own church has begun to close ranks against him." (Pete) Has this happened to you, your church or people in leadership dismissing your warnings or questioning your qualifications as a leader?
- 3) Do you think you've been whispered about, being called crazy or a prophecy nut?
- 4) Based on Hebrews 10:23-25, why is our gathering in this group so vital in this season? What does it mean to you personally to have like-minded brothers and sisters waiting to encourage you each week?

5) Read James 5:7-8. What are some practical ways we can be patient, and how might our hearts be "established" as we know the coming of the Lord is at hand?

Ruined by the Love of Christ

"This love for the return of Christ exposes the hollowness of the modern-day church with all its trappings of seeker-friendly messages and kingdom-building platforms." - Pete

- 1) How does the watchman's love for Jesus' coming expose the modern-day churches for their hollowness?
- 2) "The truth is, the watchman is ruined by the love of Christ." Can you relate to this statement? Do the trappings of this world hold less value to you?

"Nothing else on earth will quench the hunger for the true believer. Nothing else will quench the thirst. Christ has ruined his appetite for the things of this world, and he knows he is all the better for it." - Pete

- 3) Read Matthew 6:19-21. How can being consumed with "the things to come" alter not only the watchman's life, but also the lives of others in his/her midst?
- 4) Pete says, "Spiritually awakened, the watchman's inner man has become quickened and reconnected back to his Creator." Over the past few years, since you have seen the evidence of the soon return of Jesus for His church, have you noticed a sense of being quickened and connected to your Creator in a new way?
- 5) How can understanding what he was saved from compel the watchman to share this good news with others before time runs out?

6)	Read Revelation 1:7. Ord	er of His coming:]	Jesus will appear first	His bride. Then
	He will come second	His bride.		

"In the meantime, the watchman often wanders this world alone like a nomad; a stranger in a strange land alienated by his new nature and his desire to be pleasing to God. He knows that nothing in this world will satisfy him. Nothing will satiate his desire to be reconnected to his Creator. Spurred on by the boundless revelation in Scripture, he pours over every detail, every jot and tittle allowing the Holy Spirit to illuminate his understanding of things past, present, and to come." - Pete

Present World Powers

"The *present world powers* in business, academia, culture, and government, are attempting to create a world devoid of God (as if God doesn't exist), and yet, are fulfilling the Scripture exactly as it was written because it has already been foretold." - Pete

1) Read James 5:1-3. What can those who deny God now in lieu of riches and power expect during the time of the tribulation?

- 2) If there is no Author or Creator, how does that allow godless men to live?
- 3) What are some ways man believes he can control the future and its outcomes?
- 4) For those who worship the creation rather than its Creator (Romans 1:25), how does 2 Peter 3:7 set the record straight for those who believe they can "save the earth" through their green religion?

Rejoice!

Pete's final encouragement:

"So if you are a watchman, and you are feeling despondent, alone, weak, neglected, shunned, and ignored, know that you are not alone. Christ knows your struggles and your walk. He is there with us through every step of the path He gave us to walk. Knowing that we are not alone and that this journey we are on is at its end, and the finish line is in sight, Rejoice!

Rejoice for having the perseverance to endure this race until the end of all things.

Rejoice for knowing that as bad as this life is, it is the closest to hell you will ever be.

Rejoice for the things Christ has in store for those who love Him.

'But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His

<u>kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."</u>
Ephesians 2:4-7 (Pete's emphasis)

"Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!"