Chapter 28
Significance of Times and Seasons in waging Asymmetrical Spiritual Warfare Part 2

> Philippians 3:1 (KJV) 1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

In the previous chapter, we saw how the Jews employed the principles of watches in prayers. We will proceed to examine in detail, the watches of the night season and how the sessions can be strategically deployed in asymmetrical spiritual warfare. Satan and his demonic forces have an old-fashioned way of thinking. Based on what they know of humans, they expect us to go to bed at night, often between 9-11.00pm. When we face critical challenges that seem huge or persistent, it is needful in asymmetrical spiritual warfare to spring an unexpected surprise: change our known habits, such as going to sleep at fixed times! An individual may choose any of the four watches of the night to engage with the Lord in worship, consecration to His Kingdom purpose, supplication, and spiritual warfare.

Harnessing power of the Body through Chain prayers

Because we are a Body – an organism of mutually related and connected body parts, it makes sense from a spiritual point of view to engage in a chain prayer programme until the manifestation of satanic attacks or hindrances against any is decisively broken. These scriptures are worthy of consideration in this regard:

> Galatians 6:2 (KJV) 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

> 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (KJV) 12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body,

whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Whatever any member of the Body is going through in terms of spiritual attacks or hindrances should be seen as an attack on all. There is no reason why any wounded soldier should be left behind in the battlefield by the Household of Faith which unbelievers dare not do.

Ephesians 4:27 (KJV) 27 Neither give place to the devil.

As saints, we should not give place to the Devil, by covering every moment of each day in prayer and warfare.

> Ephesians 6:18 (KJV) 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

We need to develop the holy habit of praying all kinds of prayer and supplication in the Spirit as well as watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

As outlined in the previous chapter, the best way to achieve the objectives in all four scriptures is to institute 24/7 chain prayers in every unit of the Body! Brethren who have greater spiritual strength should be encouraged to make sacrifices of taking an hour each in the night seasons. Those with less strength can cover the day times. It is noteworthy that being on a prayer watch should not preclude one from working. All one needs to do is bear up others in the heart while at work and detaching from all distractions.

Let us note that Elohim counts time from Sunset

> Genesis 1:5 (KJV) 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day

> Genesis 1:8 (KJV) 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day

> Genesis 1:13 (KJV) 13 And the evening and the morning were the third day

> Genesis 1:19 (KJV) 19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day

> Genesis 1:23 (KJV) 23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

What it means is that contrary to our normal pattern of thought, Elohim has consecrated the night hours as the beginning of each day. This is why the Jewish Feasts and Sabbath start on the eve of the due date.

Application of the Four Watches

What we outline below is suggestive and application should be as you are led by Holy Spirit.

- 1st Watch: 6pm-9pm. Since The Lord counts time from sunset, this watch may be strategic for unlocking destinies, opening closed doors, and pressing through challenges.
- 2nd Watch: 9pm-12am (Midnight). The reality is that most people retire for the night about this watch. Those assigned to cover these three hours should seal the brethren in the blood of Yeshua against bad dreams, spiritual attacks, demonic visitations such as spiritual harlotry/defilement. Prayers for the Lord to give His saints sweet sleep from the daily labours are appropriate. thankGodforJesus.org says that this is considered a Time of Divine Visitations and Acts of Change.
- 3rd Watch: 12am-3am There is strong anecdotal evidence that this is the most active period for witches, wizards, and denizens to worship Satan, consult, plot and plan attacks in their covens. Through the power of the Name of Yeshua and declaration of the Blood of Yeshua saints can nullify all negative vibrations from such gatherings.

An objective of asymmetrical spiritual warfare in this regard should be to proactively nullify the works of darkness before they are done. As the kingdom of darkness is in strong consultation under the cover of darkness, their gathering can be scattered through warfare prayer. Their meeting places can be invaded by release of Blood of the Lamb which they cannot stand. Angels can also be deployed to give effect to same. (ThankGodforJesus.org rightly identifies this as a period of much spiritual activity). These scriptures should be declared by those on duty:

Isaiah 8:9-10 (KJV) 9 Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces. 10 Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us.

Isaiah 54:15-17 (KJV) 15 Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.
16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.
17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

- 4th Watch: 3am-6am We believe, with a high degree of confidence that this is the time when the witches, wizards and demons who spent the previous three hours in consultation and worship of Satan spread out to execute their wicked enterprises against those who are enjoying the sweetest segment of sleep! Most bad dreams, death in sleep cases, paralysis, and all manner of crises encounters people have with the powers of darkness seem to happen at this time. (ThankGodforJesus.org calls this a period of Angelic Release, Encounters, e.g., Jacob) Matt 14:25, Matt 14:26, Gen 28:12; Gen 32:21).

This is a time when intercessors should deploy the full measure of the Blood with these declarations and decrees:

> Revelation 12:11 (KJV) 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.
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> Philippians 2:9-12 (KJV) 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

In this watch, there should be time to not just defend saints but to also lay hold of the power of the finished work of Yeshua at the Cross to make intercession and decrees designed to positively impact the hours of daylight. This should be a time for the most creative of prayers and decrees concerning wholeness, wellness, financial and material blessing for the saints. These are times to speak into the land, air (first and second heavens) and waters (the marine world generally). Scriptures such as these are powerful for the season.

> Job 38:12-16 (KJV) 12 Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place; 13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? 14 It is turned as clay to the seal; and they stand as a garment. 15 And from the wicked their light is withholden, and the high arm shall be broken. 16 Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?
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> John 16: 23-26 (KJV) 23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. 25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. 26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

Let us note that our Head and King, Yeshua prayed early in the morning to transact affairs of the earth realm with the Father. We should emulate Him and sort out each day with heaven, a great while before daybreak.

> Mark 1:35 (KJV) 35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Brethren on Day break with the King who awake for duty at 4.00am CT and 5.00am ET are on a serious assignment on behalf of the Body worldwide.

A notable miracle tied to the fourth watch of the day

> Mark 6:46-51 (KJV) 46 And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray. 47 And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. 48 And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about

the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them. 49 But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: 50 For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid. 51 And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

Yeshua asked His disciples to watch and pray

Matthew 26:41 (KJV) 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Mark 13:33 (KJV) 33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

Luke 21:36 (KJV) 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Matthew 26:36-41 (KJV) 36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. 37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. 40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that

ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Commentary: Note the question in verse 40: Could you not watch with me for one hour? Can we rise up to this challenge in intercession and spiritual warfare?

Matthew 26:36-46 (KJV) 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

The Principle and practice of Midnight Prayers within the watches

Notwithstanding the 8 watches of the day, a case can be made for a special Midnight Prayer session between 11.00-11.15am or 11.30-12.30am for as many brethren as can participate. This is a time of closing the gate of the outgoing day and opening the gates of the next day. There is anecdotal evidence that it the midnight hour is a special time of exchange of power, deliverance and loosing of captivity.

Exodus 11:4-7 (KJV) 4 And Moses said, Thus saith the Lord, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: 5 And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the first born of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. 6 And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more. 7 But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast:

that ye may know how that the Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

Exodus 12:29 (KJV) 29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

Judges 16:2-3 (KJV) 2 And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him all night in the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him. 3 And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that is before Hebron

Ruth 3:7-9 (KJV) 7 And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of corn: and she came softly, and uncovered his feet, and laid her down. 8 And it came to pass at midnight, that the man was afraid, and turned himself: and, behold, a woman lay at his feet. 9 And he said, Who art thou? And she answered, I am Ruth thine handmaid: spread therefore thy skirt over thine handmaid; for thou art a near kinsman.

It can also be a time of switching blessings, life for death!

1 Kings 3: 19-21 (KJV) 19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it. 20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom. 21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but

> when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear.

David was a man of prayer and revealed a secret!

> Psalm 119:62 (KJV) 62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.

The midnight was also a metaphor for end of all things

> Matthew 25:6 (KJV) 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

> Mark 13:35 (KJV) 35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

The midnight imagery is applicable in Yeshua's school of prayer.

> Luke 11:5-13 (KJV) 5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. 8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a

scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

It was at midnight that Paul and Silas got deliverance from Prison

Acts 16:23-30 (KJV) 23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: 24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. 25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. 26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. 27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. 29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, 30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Paul experienced the midnight miracle in his ministry

Acts 20:7-12 (KJV) 7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. 8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. 9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. 10 And Paul went down,

and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. 11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. 12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

These revelations and expositions are not exhaustive. We invite you therefore to posture in humility before the Lord, asking for illumination of Holy Spirit which will make the Word to come alive with liberating truth. That is how we can be empowered to live above all wiles and devices of Satan, turning all challenges into opportunities for growth and victory.

Assignment:1. Please outline what you learnt from this chapter about chain prayers 2. Please outline the key things you learnt about the Night watches 3. Kindly explain 2 things you will start doing from now going forward based on this chapter