

# **The Kingdom of God, Then**

## **5) Watchful Leaders**

***'Watch therefore, for you do not  
know what hour your Lord is  
coming'  
(Matt.24:42)***

***'Watch therefore, for you know  
neither the day nor the hour in  
which the Son of Man is  
coming'  
(Matt.25:13)***

***'Be sober, be vigilant; because  
your adversary the devil walks  
about like a roaring lion,  
seeking whom he may devour'  
(1 Pet.5:8)***

***'Be watchful, and strengthen  
the things which remain, that  
are ready to die'  
(Rev.3:2)***

***'Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods'***

**(Matt.24:45-47)**

***'And Moses indeed was faithful  
in all His house as a servant,  
for a testimony of those things  
which would be spoken  
afterward, but Christ as a Son  
over His own house, whose  
house we are if we hold fast  
the confidence and the  
rejoicing of the hope firm to  
the end'***

**(Heb.3:5-6)**

***'Remember those who rule over  
you, who have spoken the word  
of God to you, whose faith  
follow, considering the outcome  
of their conduct'***

**(Heb.13:7)**



***'Obey those who rule over you,  
and be submissive, for they  
watch out for your souls, as  
those who must give account. Let  
them do so with joy and not with  
grief, for that would be  
unprofitable for you'***

**(Heb.13:17)**

***'...how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house...For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God'***

**(Acts 20:20)**

***'With many parables He spoke  
the Word to them as they were  
able to hear it'  
(Mk.4:33)***

***'I still have many things to say  
to you, but you cannot bear  
them now'  
(John 16:12)***

***. '...and when the Chief Shepherd  
appears, you will receive the  
crown of glory that does not  
fade away'  
(1 Pet.5:4)***

***'But if that evil servant says in his heart, "My master is delaying his coming", and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of...'***

**(Matt.24:48-49)**

***'...our authority, which the Lord  
gave us for edification and not  
for your destruction'  
(2 Cor.10:8)***

***'Not that we have dominion over  
your faith'  
(2 Cor.1:24)***



***'Now, I Paul, myself am pleading  
with you by the meekness and  
gentleness of Christ'***

**(2 Cor.10:1&2)**

***'Preach the Word! Be ready in  
season and out of season.  
Convince, rebuke, exhort, with  
all longsuffering and teaching'  
(2 Tim.4:2)***

***'It is for freedom that Christ has  
set us free. Stand firm, then, and  
do not let yourselves be  
burdened again by a yoke of  
slavery'***

**(Gal.5:1)**

***'Only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, "Go," and he goes; and to another, "Come," and he comes; and to my servant, "Do this," and he does it'***

**(Matt.8:8-9)**

True spiritual authority is characterized by:

**1) A servant heart**

***'But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant" (Matt.20:25-26)***

## 2) A gentle spirit

***'We were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children'***

**(1 Thes.2:7)**

### **3) And an exemplary life**

***'Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity' (1 Tim.4:12)***

***'Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by constraint but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock' (1 Pet.5:2-3)***

***'... and will cut him in two and  
appoint him his portion with the  
hypocrites. There shall be weeping  
and gnashing of teeth'  
(Matt.24:51)***