

**A DIALOGUE BETWEEN A  
WATCHMAN  
AND THE TRAVELLER,  
BOUND FOR ZION**

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A dialogue between a watchman and the traveller, bound for Zion by John Darby

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**JOHN DARBY**

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JUST PUBLISHED,  
A NEW AND MOST INTERESTING WORK,  
AS EVER WAS PUBLISHED,

By JOHN DARBY, the Author.

Written in One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-Seven.

## A DIALOGUE,

BETWEEN A

### WATCHMAN AND THE TRAVELLER, BOUND FOR ZION.

The Traveller is benighted, and he is enquiring of the Watchman, a Minister of Christ, the cause of it, as he was in distress; he said, Watchman, what of the night, Watchman, what of the night? The Watchman informeth him the morning cometh and also the night; and at the end of the Dialogue, their parting Song.

#### THE TRAVELLER HATH LOST HIS WAY.

*Traveller.*

Watchman, on the walls I ask you,  
Am I wrong or am I right;  
I am bound for Zion's City,  
But with me it now is night.

*Watchman.*

Keep on straight, the path is narrow,  
Turn not on the left I pray;  
For 'twill end at last in sorrow,  
To destruction broad's the way.

*Traveller.*

Sir, I thank you for your kindness,  
And instructions on the way;  
But I see the day-star's dawning,  
So I can no longer stay.

*Watchman.*

Night expect and also morning,  
As for Canaan travelling on;  
But no storms above in glory,  
With the ransom'd blood-bought throng.

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ENTERED AT STATIONERS'-HALL.

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677.



## Poem.

*There remaineth a rest to the people of God.*

Above the world Mount Zion stands,  
Emmanuel's blessed, happy lands,  
A rest there now remains ;  
No sorrow there nor pain nor death,  
Nor sighs, nor groans, nor praying breath,  
But everlasting praise.

2

Fear not ye timorous feeble saints,  
To join above the shining ranks,  
To cross old Jordan's flood ;  
'Tis but a shadow called death,  
A chill to stop your mortal breath,  
Then victory sing through blood.

3

O, had I but a Seraph's wings,  
I'd soar above all earthly things,  
To heaven with Christ above ;  
Nor would I rest till home with him,  
That died on Calvary for sin,  
That sits in smiles of love.

4

O, Jesus, be our constant guide,  
Our shelter in thy wounded side,  
Until the signal's given ;  
Then waft us safe o'er Jordan's flood,  
To sing of victory through thy blood,  
And land us safe in heaven.

## A DIALOGUE,

BETWEEN A

### *Watchman and the Traveller.*

---

*The Traveller.*—Mr. Watchman, I am a traveller and also a pilgrim, bound for Zion, but night hath overtaken me and I have lost sight of my way; but, I read in my pocket companion, a treasure that I have, the Bible, that the Lord hath set on the walls of Jerusalem, Watchmen, and he hath given unto them this charge, that they are not to hold their peace day nor night; ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence; my Lord hath compassion on the ignorant and those that are out of the way, and I have had instruction of him, and he hath informed me, the way of life is above to the wise, to depart from hell beneath; but, sir, I have lost sight of the Sun, and at present I am benighted, and my Lord hath informed me, sir, and I have it also in my pocket companion, that he that walketh in darkness and hath no light, knoweth not whither he goeth. I tell you, sir, I am but a young man, and I have not had scarce a cloud on my journey, and now I find it unpleasant to have lost the sweet cheering rays of the sun of righteousness; but, I have to inform you, that the Holy Ghost hath taught me a little, that I stand in the lot with my fellow-travellers, that you who were sometimes darkness, are now light in the Lord. Now, Mr. Watchman, I am come to you for to advise me

how I am to go on, I can assure you, sir, I do not like to travel alone in the night, for my journey seems long and tedious without company, and a traveller cannot pursue his journey on so brisk by night as he can by day, for when the day-star arises, the clouds are removed and then the dawning of the day appears, and then the traveller pursues on his journey towards his home, I am sir, bound for Zion, moving forward, faint, yet pursuing; I have already made it a matter of prayer to the Lord, to inform me the cause of this distress, I consider sir, the cause is in me, I am come sir, for your advice, as you are a Minister of Christ, and I believe a Watchman the Lord hath sat over a Church of his at Ephesus.

A watchman is for to look out,  
To see whatever he can spy,  
To tell poor travellers on the way,  
When that the enemy is nigh.

*Watchman to Traveller.*—Traveller, I am certainly a Watchman, and you say young man, that you are come to me for advice, but you have informed me that you asked of my master's advice already, for if you had not been taught by the Holy Ghost to ask wisdom first of him who giveth wisdom liberally and upbraideth not, I should have advised you to ask wisdom first of God; but, as I find you have done it already, I am indeed ready to give you any instructions as far as I am taught by the Holy Ghost, for your help on your way to Zion. I have, young man, first to inform you, that unless the Lord keepeth the city the Watchman waketh but in vain; I shall endeavour by divine teaching, for to give you instructions. The Lord hath sat Watchmen on the walls, that are not to



hold their peace day nor night, and they have this charge given unto them, ye that make mention of the Lord keep not silence. But we are informed in the Word of God, that there are also dumb dogs, greedy dogs, and I persuade you my young friend to beware of them, for they mislead travellers; for the Lord informeth us that they can never have enough, every one looking for gain from their own quarter, they show much love, but their hearts go after their covetousness, I have seen enough of them in my time I can assure you, but I am aware of them, and I am on the look out for them. My young fellow traveller, I have to inform you, that every steward of the manifold wisdom of God, have at times as well as yourself night seasons. The great Apostle of the Gentiles was not a stranger to it, for he was a night and a day in the deep, he certainly was in deep distress of soul; at another time we hear, with him night came on and all hopes of sailing was lost, nor sun; moon, nor stars appeared for many days; there was clouds that obscured Christ the Sun of Righteousness, the root and offspring of David, the bright and morning star, so that you are not the first young man, neither will you be the last that will have to travel in the night, for the morning cometh and also the night. I suppose you want sunshine all the way, if you do, I can promise you that you will be disappointed, until you are home where the sun shall no more go down; that refers, that you will live eternal in the sweet rays of it in Heaven, Christ is the sun, he is risen there to set no more for ever; I have found it for myself, the surest and safest way in the night to stand still and see the salvation of God, heaviness may endure for a

night, but joy cometh in the morning; for when the cloud was over the tabernacle, the children of Israel could not pursue their journey on, but when the Lord removed it, they went forward. The children of Israel my young friend was in a sad murmuring way when they were about to cross the Red Sea, for they were as you and myself are, sometimes looking the dark side, they saw no way of deliverance, they were full of rebellion against their leader and commander Moses, they told him, it would have been better for them if they had died in the wilderness, there was the sea before them and they were inclosed each side by the rocks, and their enemies behind them pursuing on, and they afraid to go forward on account of the mighty waters; the Lord said unto Moses, command the children of Israel to go forward, they then approached near to the sea, they could not go any further; Moses said unto them, stand still and see the salvation of God, for the enemies that you have seen to day you shall see no more for ever; the Lord commanded his servant Moses, to stretch out his rod over the sea and it divided, and Israel went over as on dry land; Pharaoh and his host pursued them, the sea returned and they were drowned all in the sea, even in the Red Sea, and a great victory was gained that day, but the victory was the Lord's and they gave him the glory. You and I, my friend, want our faith kept alive by the Holy Ghost, otherwise we shall be full of unbelief as Israel was, and we shall murmur as they did in their tents, but the Lord remaineth faithful that hath promised, and he hath said, that for all these things he will be inquired for by his own children to do it for them; and if we have darkness here

and clouds, the time is fast approaching for us, and nigher than you and I might imagine, when it will be to us a morning without clouds, nothing more to obscure the bright rays of the sun, farewell then to noise and war, tumult and strife, farewell to an insnaring world, the flesh and the devil abstent from the body and present with the Lord, and it will be a morning without clouds; our covenant God and Father in Christ Jesus hath also said, it shall be light at evening time; so 'tis well, and the promise is, it shall be well with the righteous; every Minister of Christ or Watchman, is commanded to be instant in season and out of season, but 'tis almost out of date, for most of them love to slumber; I think our brother Paul came nigh to the mark, and it was my friend at the time when the young man by the Apostle's long preaching was asleep and fell down from the third loft dead. The wise man my brother, informeth us that there is a season for all things, and he certainly is right, for one event happeneth to all; for there is a time to be born and a time to die, there is a time to be born a natural birth, and there is a time to be born of the spirit a spiritual birth, there is a time to die in the Lord, and there is a time to die the death of all men; for it is appointed for all men once to die, and in this there is no exception, for in Adam all die, but the people of God by their union in Christ, living and believing in him, he saith shall never die; they also said the Apostle that sleep in Jesus shall God bring with him; the Lord also sendeth his rain on the just and also on the unjust, every thing to produce in his season, but there is a blessing comes with a word spoken my brother in due season to the people of God, and they know when it is, it comes not in word only but in