



The Two Witnesses

By Ken Terry on November 8, 2021

READING: Revelation 11

There are many opinions and theories on the book of Revelation. What should we follow? In my research, I tend to follow the dispensationalist theory as to the separation of Israel and the Church. The text leans towards this theory as to Israel rebuilding their temple in the Holy Land. New Covenant followers of Christ Jesus understand they are the temple of God.

This is summarized best by the words of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, *“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are”* (NKJV).

I also think the time frame indicated in the passage covers the first half of the Great Tribulation when it speaks to the 1260 days. Looking at it with a 30-day month cycle, that would extend to three and a half years, of the seven years of the Great Tribulation. This will be the time of the two witnesses. *“And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth”* (Revelation 11:3 NKJV).

Therefore, the people that worship and praise God in the temple will not be followers of Christ Jesus. They will be at odds with Him and reject Him just as they did in the past. They will also work contrary to the two witnesses. However, there will be a different outcome as to the consequences of their efforts, *“And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner”* (Revelation 11:5 NKJV).

The two witnesses will not have the meekness and humble manner of Christ. They are in position for purpose, to enact God’s power in proclaiming God’s faithfulness to the people. They will have their hands full dealing with more than the unsaved and ungodly, they will have to contend with the antichrist. This has all been prophesied and must now come to fruition. *“When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them”* (Revelation 11:7 NKJV).

The witnesses will be killed, but this is not the end of the story! Just as our Lord and Savior was killed by the hands of wicked and evil men, then rose by the almighty power of God, so too will these two witnesses that died for the sake of Christ Jesus, *“Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, ‘Come up here.’ And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them”* (Revelation 11:11-12 NKJV).

This passage of scripture is an excellent example for us today to be faithful in our walk with Christ. It matters not the scoffers, ridiculers or demons that put us down. It matters not the people who rejects us, ostracize, and belittle us. What matters is Christ Jesus being preached boldly and courageously! Our main focus is to share His life saving message as the two witnesses in our passage. Even if we lose our lives in the process, we know that there are much richer rewards awaiting us. We will have proven ourselves worthy in hearing these faithful words, "COME UP HERE" then we will ascend to Heaven!

PRAYER: Jehovah God, our Father in the Heavens, we thank You for Your word. We thank You for caring and thinking enough of us to share Your thoughts with us. Father, please fill us with Your Holy Spirit. Father, enable us to be the bold witnesses for Christ we are called to be. Help us, Father, in our efforts to make Jesus known through our actions and behaviors as well as through words and deeds. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Revelation 12

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