

Revelation 11 - Part 1 - "Witnesses of These Things"

This witness of the great power of God

- [Act 14:6-18 KJV] 6 They were ware of [it], and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and unto the region that lieth round about: 7 And there they preached the gospel. 8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: 9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, 10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked. 11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, **The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.** 12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. 13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people. 14 [Which] when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard [of], they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, 15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and **preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:** 16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. 17 **Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.** 18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

[Luk 24:46-49 KJV] 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And **ye are witnesses of these things.** 49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued with power from on high.**

- [Act 5:32 KJV] 32 And **we are his witnesses of these things;** and [so is] also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.
- [Act 10:39 KJV] 39 And **we are witnesses of all things which he did** both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:
- [2Ti 2:2 KJV] 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
- [1Jo 5:9-10 KJV] 9 If we receive the witness of men, **the witness of God is greater:** for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. 10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because **he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.**

witness of former things

witness of future things

[Isa 41:22-24 KJV] 22 Let them bring [them] forth, and shew us what shall happen: **let them shew the former**

things, what they [be], that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or **declare us things for to come**. 23 Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye [are] gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold [it] together. 24 Behold, ye [are] of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination [is he that] chooseth you.

[Rev 11:1-14 KJV]

V1-2 - Temple in Jerusalem

1 And there was given me **a reed like unto a rod**: and the angel stood, saying, **Rise, and measure the temple of God**, and **the altar**, and them **that worship** therein. 2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under **foot forty [and] two months**.

a reed like unto a rod: **Rise, and measure the temple of God**

- [Eze 40:2-3 KJV] 2 In the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me upon a very high mountain, by which [was] as the frame of a city on the south. 3 And he brought me thither, and, behold, [there was] a man, whose appearance [was] like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate.
 - the measure of a future temple - "Is this the same temple of God?"
 - no, that is the temple is the "Millennial Temple"
 - the outer court - not measured here - given unto the Gentiles - **42 months** - 3 1/2 years
- [Zec 2:1-2 KJV] 1 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man **with a measuring line in his hand**. 2 Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what [is] the breadth thereof, and what [is] the length thereof.
 - days of prophecy of vision that the temple would be rebuilt - "days of Zerubbabel and Joshua" - and it was...
- future of new Jerusalem - measured -
 - [Rev 21:15-16, 22 KJV] 15 And he that talked with me had **a golden reed to measure the city**, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. 16 And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. ... 22 **And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.**

the temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem - literally fulfilled - during the first part of tribulation period - also implies that there will be a concession by the Jews - the Gentiles will be on the same place - shared or side by side...

V3-4 - God's two witnesses

3 And I will give [power] unto **my two witnesses**, and they shall **prophesy a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days**, **clothed in sackcloth**. 4 These are **the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks** standing before the God of the earth.

my two witnesses, and they shall prophecy a **thousand two hundred [and] threescore days**

- warning of woe - prophecy announced to those who have refused to believe God and His witness of worship in the earth - sent to a "rebellious" house - Israel...
- 3 1/2 years - first half of tribulation

clothed in sackcloth

- lamentation, mourning, and woe - this is the 2nd woe - the garments of the two witnesses - consistent with the trumpet judgments - the book that makes the stomach "bitter"
- the prophecy - the witness of God - to the nations - concerning their sin, their wickedness
 - like Ezekiel
 - [Eze 2:9-10 KJV] 9 And when I looked, behold, an hand [was] sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book [was] therein; 10 And he spread it before me; and it [was] written within and without: and [there was] written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.
 - [Eze 3:17-19 KJV] 17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. 18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked [man] shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

- [Zec 4:11-14 KJV] 11 Then answered I, and said unto him, What [are] these two olive trees upon the right [side] of the candlestick and upon the left [side] thereof? 12 And I answered again, and said unto him, What [be these] two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden [oil] out of themselves? 13 And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these [be]? And I said, No, my lord. 14 Then said he, These [are] the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.
- how Satan stood to oppose the building of the temple
 - prophecy of Zecariah - Satan accusing in chapter 3
 - Zerubbabel - exhorted and prophecy that he will finish the work

V5-6 - make them stop

5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and **have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.**

the contest - the opposition - the effort to make them stop their prophecy - by hurting them...

- part of their continuance of prophecy is their power to harm those that would hurt them
- fire from their mouths...
 - Elijah - fire from heaven consuming the 50 men - twice...
 - fire from these two to kill men...

in the likeness of Elijah - power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy

- no rain in the earth for 3 1/2 years... 1 Kings 17
- culminating in the showdown between Yahweh and Baal
 - [1Ki 18:21 KJV] 21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? **if the LORD [be] God, follow him: but if Baal, [then] follow him.** And the people answered him not a word.
 - 1 Kings 18 - the 12 tribes of Israel returned to worship Yahweh

in the likeness of Moses - **have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues**

- [Exo 5:1-2 KJV] 1 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. 2 And Pharaoh said, **Who [is] the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.**

V7-8 - they lose?

7 And when they shall have **finished their testimony**, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, **and kill them.** 8 And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which **spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.**

God's witness that He is to be worshipped

- they shall have **finished their testimony**
 - their witness - their prophecy - even to those who refuse to hear and change their mind...

the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit

- the Antichrist, the son of perdition, the man of lawlessness, the Beast... Satan's man to rule the earth - from the "pit of hell"
- has **victory** over the two witnesses and kills them
- their dead bodies are left open - no burial - open proof

the great city, which **spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified**

- God's witness of judgment upon the sin of Sodom - same sin in Jerusalem... no difference
- the two angels as men - the sodomites wanted to force homosexual rape upon them - the two witnesses in that day that the wickedness of Sodom was great... **God wins...**
- the two witnesses before Pharaoh - Moses and Aaron - comes down to Pharaoh casting them out - **God wins...**
- here like at the cross of Jesus - **seemingly Satan wins...** Jesus crucified - these two witnesses killed

Where in the world? - in Jerusalem - the "city of peace" - the city of David - "Messianic Prophecy" - the place where God put His name to be worshipped

- the city wherein Jesus was crucified

V9-10 - so glad they are dead

9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. 10 And **they that dwell upon the earth** shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

a day dead, for every year of their prophecy... - the witness of world - rejoicing at the death of those who witnessed for the truth of the living God

- they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations
- this prophecy is for all nations... all peoples, all languages...
- the witness of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ

they that dwell upon the earth

- shall rejoice and make merry and send gifts
- the torment of the two witnesses is done
- now we can live how we want - now we can worship what we want - now we can live without God

V11-12 - resurrection

11 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, **Come up hither.** And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

the witness of the resurrection of the dead

- Jesus was the first one "born from the dead"
- in His likeness they are raised and ascend into heaven
- in the full view of their enemies...

V13-14 - the second woe

13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. 14 The **second woe is past;** [and], behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

earthquake when they go to heaven

- the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven
- the centurion - "surely this was the Son of God"
- **second woe is past**
 - yet no repentance

Our Application:

- 1 We witness in our Worship

1. We witness in our worship

1. having received the love and the truth that Jesus is the Son of the Living God
2. we worship the God of the Bible - in the way that He is revealed - Creator, Savior, Lord and Giver of Eternal life

2. We witness in our Witness (testimony)

1. of Jesus, His death, His resurrection, His coming Again
2. Receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit - the **power** to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8)
 1. the Holy Ghost witness...

3. We witness in our Work (serving in the gospel)

1. preach repentance and remission of sin - in Jesus name (Luke 24:48)
2. there is no other name given for salvation (Acts 4:12)
3. walking the works He has given us to do
4. finish the works

4. We witness in our Warning (the wicked)

1. to turn from their worship of sin and idols
2. repent from worshipping and serving dead idols
3. still here, still speaking, not stopping, not afraid...

5. We witness in our Waiting

1. waiting for His appearing

Until He Returns !!!