



VISIONS OF HEAVEN AND EARTH: A VISION OF TWO WITNESSES

Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 11

Intro: Being a Christian is Hard

Interpretation

- 1) Temple - the people of God.
- 2) Measure - divine protection.
- 3) Two witnesses, lampstands, olive trees - The Church empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- 4) 42 months, 1,260 days, 3.5 years = an unspecified amount of time.

How should Christians live in this world?

1. Live in Repentance

Christians are called to

- 1) live in repentance
- 2) preach repentance

Matthew 4:17 "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

You cannot preach "the kingdom of heaven is at hand" without "repent".

2. Live as Witnesses

"The issue is Jesus. Not the church. Not me. Not you. We are not the ones on trial. We did not make the claims. Jesus did. He is the issue in the world. He himself makes himself the issue. And it is our great privilege and responsibility to be witnesses in the world."

- Darrell Johnson

Acts 1:8 "...you will receive power... be my witnesses..."

Anointed with the Holy Spirit, the Church has the strength that it needs to be witnesses.

3. Live by Sacrifice

Our greatest power as believers is not in the power to perform signs and wonders. Our greatest power as believers is our sacrificial love. How we suffer, not how we triumph is the witness that saves the world.

"Unbelievers are won by the sacrificial death of the witnesses. Here is the story of the cross and of the resurrection all over again. Evil must be conquered and people won, not by force, but by the acceptance of suffering for the name of Christ."

- William Barclay

Conclusion: The Kingdom of Heaven won't be Silenced

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What did you think about the sermon on Sunday? Did anything stand out to you? Challenge you?

Study & Discussion:

2. Read Revelation 11:1-13. What stands out to you? What does this passage tell us about how we should live as Christians? What spiritual realities does it make us aware of?
3. Read Matthew 4:17. Why is repentance so important to Jesus? As followers of Jesus, how can we model repentance? Why is it important to be a repentant people? How can we “preach” repentance in a loving way?
4. Read Acts 1:8. Share an example of how you have seen the power of the Holy Spirit in your life enabling you to witness. (Keep in mind, It doesn't have to be “exciting” to be the Holy Spirit). How would you like to grow as a witness? (i.e. boldness, discernment, love etc).
5. Read Philippians 3:10 and compare it to the death of the two witnesses in Revelation 11:7-13. What do you notice about the theme of sacrifice? Its effect on witness? Its effect on our relationship with Jesus? How can Christians sacrifice in a culture of comfort?

Application:

1. What area of life do you need to grow in spiritually? Repentance, Witness, or Sacrifice? Spend time in praying for each other, asking the Holy Spirit to empower you in those specific areas.

Prayer:

1. Read Revelation 11:15. Reflect on God's goodness and sovereignty and thank God that he has won.
2. Other Requests
 -
 -
 -
 -