

Urgency 17b

Revelation 11:3-13

How Israel turns to God

³And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the ^[a]God of the earth. ⁵And 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. ⁶These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

The Witnesses Killed

⁷When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also ^[b]our Lord was crucified. ⁹Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations ^[c]will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

The Witnesses Resurrected

¹¹Now 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. ¹²And ^[d]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. ¹³In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

1. The two witnesses: They are sent forth by God. It is God who called them, gifted them and empowered them. They will be sent forth to condemn sin and to proclaim the great salvation of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. These four things can be said about every true minister sent forth by God.

John 15:16 ¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

Acts 9:11-15 ¹¹So the Lord *said* to him, “Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for *one* called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹²And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting *his* hand on him, so that he might receive his sight.” ¹³Then Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much ^[a]harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children^[b] of Israel.

Acts 26:14-18 ¹⁴And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? *It is hard for you to kick against the goads.*' ¹⁵ So I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶ But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. ¹⁷ I will [a]deliver you from the *Jewish* people, as well as *from* the Gentiles, to whom I [b]now send you, ¹⁸ to open their eyes, *in order* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified [c] by faith in Me.'

2 Corinthians 5:19-20 ¹⁹that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not [a]imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

Isaiah 6:8 ⁸Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here *am* ! Send me."

2. The two witnesses have great power: They will have the power of Elijah. They will have the power to perform miracles. They will cause it not to rain and call down plagues. The point is that this power is given to them by God. And in the last days of this earth supernatural power will be needed to protect their lives. When God calls a minister, God empowers him. God will give him whatever power he needs to complete his or her task. What we must do is learn how to call upon God for His power to change situations. We need to believe in God for the impossible because I believe that is when He does His best work. Using your faith.

Acts 1:8 ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 4:33 ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

Ephesians 3:20 ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

1 Corinthians 2:4 ⁴ And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of [a]human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

Ephesians 3:16 ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

1 Thessalonians 1:5 ⁵ For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

2 Timothy 1:7 ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

3. The antichrist: The beast: The two witnesses are persecuted and martyred by the beast, that is the antichrist. And his desire will be to assassinate the two witnesses. But he will not be able to harm them until they have finished their testimony. God will protect them. What then happens shows how effective their message will have been. Many throughout the world, especially the leaders, will hate them. Their deaths will become an international affair. The leaders will leave their bodies in the streets of Jerusalem for three days.

Revelation 11:9-10 ⁹ Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations ^[a]will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

4. Who is the antichrist? The scripture never really uses the term antichrist to refer to the great man of sin, who is to appear in the end time. What the scripture reveals is fascinating yet horrifying, that the antichrist is described as the beast. Millions and millions will die at the hand.

He is the abomination of desolation prophesied by Christ: **Matthew 24:15** ¹⁵ “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),

He is the man of sin talked about by Paul:

2Thessalonians 2:3-4 ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of ^[a]sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits ^[b]as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

He is the little horn Prophesied by Daniel:

Daniel 7:25 ²⁵ He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High, Shall persecute^[a] the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then *the saints* shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

He is the very embodiment of satin himself.

Daniel 7:7-8 ⁷ After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that *were* before it, and it had ten horns. ⁸ I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, *were* eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking ^[a]pompous words.

Revelation 17:8 ⁸The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to ^[a]perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and ^[b]yet is.

He is the ruler that will wage war against God's people.

Daniel 7:20-21 ²⁰ and the ten horns that *were* on its head, and the other *horn* which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke ^[a]pompous words, whose appearance *was* greater than his fellows.²¹ "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,

Revelation 7:9,13-14 ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"¹⁴ And I said to him, ^[a]"Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

5. The two witnesses will be resurrected and caught up to heaven, just think this is what will happen to us.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

6. The witnesses will have great vindication: There will be great earthquakes and the bible says seven thousand will die. The rest of the Jews become fearful and give glory to God and get saved.

Go tell them about Jesus