

The Ultimate Witness Protection Program

Revelation 11

Big Idea: During the tribulation, two witnesses will call the world to repentance for 1,260 days. They'll be killed, rise again, and ascend to heaven as the world watches. God does this so people will know He is Lord. Are you bearing witness to Christ's truth today?

Main Points

- 1. God's Word is Reliable:** The specific details in Revelation (like the temple being rebuilt and the 1,260 days) show us that God's prophecies will be fulfilled literally, just as they always have been.
- 2. We Are Called to Witness Now:** Just as the two witnesses will proclaim truth during the tribulation, we are called to bear witness to Christ in our time.
- 3. Truth Can Feel Like Torment:** The two witnesses "tormented" people not by being cruel, but by speaking truth that people didn't want to hear.
- 4. It's Not About Us:** Like Joni Eareckson Tada realized, the focus isn't on our relief or comfort—it's about Jesus' kingdom and His glory.
- 5. God's Purpose in Judgment:** Throughout Scripture, God says "that they may know that I am the Lord"—His actions are designed to open people's eyes to truth.

Scriptures:

- Revelation 1
- Daniel 9:27
- Deut. 18:15-22
- Matthew 18:16
- Zechariah 4:11-14
- Isaiah 49:6
- Ezekiel 36:22-38
- Malachi 4:4-5
- Jude 1:9
- Psalm 2

Opening Question:

Share about a "bittersweet" experience in your life—something that had both joy and pain mixed together. How did that experience shape you?

Discussion Questions:

What stood out to you most from this passage in Revelation 11? What questions does it raise for you?

Why do you think God chose to have two witnesses rather than just one? What does this tell us about how God establishes truth?

The witnesses will be clothed in sackcloth (a sign of mourning). What does this reveal about their attitude toward the people they're warning?

Pastor Tim mentioned that we often talk to ourselves more than anyone else, usually about "poor, pitiful me." When do you find yourself most caught up in self-focused thinking? How can you redirect your attention to God's kingdom?

"I'm just a beggar telling other beggars where to find the bread." How does this perspective change the way you think about evangelism or sharing your faith?

Have you ever felt like speaking biblical truth made you unpopular or caused people to push back? How did you handle it?

The sermon emphasized that we should be witnesses now, not waiting for some future time. Who in your life needs to hear about Jesus? What's holding you back from sharing with them?

The passage says people will "rage" against God's truth (Psalm 2). Why do you think people react so strongly against the message of repentance and faith in Christ?

How can we share difficult truths with people in a way that shows we genuinely love them and mourn over their lostness?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, write down the names of 3–5 people who don't know Jesus, pray for them daily, and ask God to give you an opportunity to share truth with at least one of them.
2. Honestly reflect on whether someone would know you're a Christian by watching your life, identify one area where you could be a clearer witness to Christ, and take one concrete step to improve in that area.
3. Following the example of the elders in heaven who said, "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty," start each day this week by listing three specific things you're thankful to God for, and end each day by acknowledging one way God showed His power or presence.
4. Read Zechariah 4:11–14 and compare it to Revelation 11:4, then study one other Old Testament passage mentioned in the sermon (Malachi 4:4–6, Ezekiel 36:22–38, or Psalm 2), and journal about how seeing God's consistency throughout Scripture strengthens your faith.

Closing Thought/Prayer:

Lord, help us live as faithful witnesses this week—grateful for your coming kingdom and bold to share your truth with those who need you.