



Daily Reflections

November 19, 2016

Scripture

Revelation 11:4-12

I, John, heard a voice from heaven speak to me:

Here are my two witnesses:

These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands
that stand before the Lord of the earth.

If anyone wants to harm them, fire comes out of their mouths
and devours their enemies.

In this way, anyone wanting to harm them is sure to be slain.

They have the power to close up the sky

so that no rain can fall during the time of their prophesying.

They also have power to turn water into blood

and to afflict the earth with any plague as often as they wish.

When they have finished their testimony,

the beast that comes up from the abyss

will wage war against them and conquer them and kill them.

Their corpses will lie in the main street of the great city,
which has the symbolic names "Sodom" and "Egypt,"

where indeed their Lord was crucified.
Those from every people, tribe, tongue, and nation
will gaze on their corpses for three and a half days,
and they will not allow their corpses to be buried.
The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them
and be glad and exchange gifts
because these two prophets tormented the inhabitants of the earth.
But after the three and a half days,
a breath of life from God entered them.
When they stood on their feet, great fear fell on those who saw them.
Then they heard a loud voice from heaven say to them, "Come up here."
So they went up to heaven in a cloud as their enemies looked on.

Our Scripture Reflection

God's witnesses, the prophets, all suffered because they faithfully spoke His word, the Truth. And even though they suffered humiliation, torture and death, they were vindicated by God and raised up to Heaven. We must remain faithful and courageous as we witness to the Lord Our God.

Food for your Journey

"Our command tells us that we are to be witnesses. We are not reporters. What is the difference? A reporter and a witness differ in their relationship to their information: A reporter has no personal relationship to the facts he is working with; a witness must have personal experience with them. The reporter knows nothing firsthand, but no witness is called to the stand unless he has personal involvement with the information (He saw the accident; he knows the defendant or plaintiff, and so forth.). The Christian has experienced the new birth; he or she knows the Savior, and this will inevitably be an important inference in the mind of the receptor. It is a part of the message."

--T.W. Hunt, *Music in Missions: Discipling Through Music* (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1987), 48-49.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, In the midst of a world that does not know You, help me to be Your witness through my words and actions. Amen.