

The Last Warning

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I. Introduction. Text: Revelation 11:1-19.

II. God measures an area to demonstrate His ownership.

A. We are the Temple of God over which He marks His ownership.

B. Believers will be for all time God's dwelling place.

C. A literal temple will be restored to Israel as well, and the Gentiles will control the outer court.

III. The Olive trees.

A. God leaves Himself a witness.

B. Two prophets remain dressed in sackcloth.

C. The temple will be occupied by the Anti-Christ during this time. (II Thessalonians, Revelation 13)

1. This man claims to be a god.

2. The witnesses will prophesy for a given time during the Great Tribulation.

D. These men are lights in the midst of the world's darkness empowered by God Himself. (Zechariah 4)

1. Their witness cannot be distinguished.

2. They are protected by God Himself.

3. This is suggestive of Elijah.

4. The other prophet is likely Moses.

E. Satan will arise, possess the Anti-Christ, and put the prophets to death.

F. The prophets however are raised from the dead. God takes care of all of His witnesses this way.

IV. A great earthquake strikes Jerusalem and many die.

V. The nations set themselves against Jesus and the saints in the last day, and God answers in wrath and judgment. (Psalm 2, I Thessalonians 4)

A. The church will be raised for their reward, and the world will be judged.

B. People will be judged based on their treatment of others in their relationship to Jesus.

C. The time is coming when Jesus will reign and righteousness will be the norm.

Application questions:

1. What does the preservation of the prophets tell us of the importance of God's witness in the world?

2. How does one reconcile God's judgment here with His love elsewhere? Explain.

3. Is God's judgment a valid reminder for witnessing to nonbelievers? Defend your answer.
