**Sermon Notes August 7, 2022**

**Series**: Revelation

**Sermon**: Your Testimony Matters

**Scripture**: Revelation 11:11-18, 20:11, Matthew 4:10, 27:51-53, Psalm 2:1-2, Ezekiel: 9:4, Romans 14:12, Jeremiah 29:11, Luke 1:68, Hebrews 1:13

**Summary**: The two witnesses are miraculously resurrected by God after lying in the streets for 3 ½ days. God’s resurrection power is unbelievable. Is our worship following the pattern set by the 24 elders? As we trust and follow Jesus we are redeemed and gain the promised rewards. The second woe has passed and now the world will experience the third woe.

**Read**: Revelation 11:11-18

Each of us ought to have a testimony… and when asked by others… you ought to be able to tell what God has done for you immediately. It’s because of the witness’s testimony, that God uses them to proclaim Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world.

1. **The Two Witnesses Resurrected**
	1. Revelation 11:11-14
		1. The witnesses lay dead for 3 ½ days before God resurrects them.
		2. The entire world is has seen and is celebrating their deaths.
		3. The “breath of life” is breathed into them by God.
		4. The resurrection of the two witnesses will be as public as their deaths.
	2. Matthew 27:51-53
		1. In the same way the dead were raised at the crucifixion of Christ, 7000 people die as a result of the witness’s resurrection.
		2. God gives a number here to validate the prophecy.
2. The Third and Final Woe
	1. Revelation 11:15-18
		1. The 6th trumpet released 200 million horsemen for Satan’s army, who were responsible for the death of 1/3rd of the world’s population.
		2. The 7th trumpet sounds.
		3. It’s at this moment God’s patience runs out and we begin the second half of the Tribulation.
		4. The sounding of the 7th trumpet is similar to the 7 priests who blew their trumpets on the seventh day of circling Jericho.
	2. The world has become Jesus’
		1. In Matthew 4 Satan tempts Jesus by offering him something he couldn’t.
		2. Satan is the father of lies and deception
		3. Jesus calls Satan on it in Matthew 4:10 “Be gone, Satan!”
	3. The 24 Elders
		1. Again, they fall down, continuing to worship Jesus.
		2. The worship because:
			1. He has taken power.
			2. He Reigns.
			3. The nations will be angry.
			4. His wrath has come.
			5. The time has come for the dead.
			6. God gives rewards.
		3. Rewards
			1. Eternal life
			2. 5 different crowns represent Life, Righteousness, Glory, Incorruptibility and Rejoicing.
			3. Rewards are given to three different groups.
				1. Prophets
				2. Saints
				3. Those who fear His name.
		4. Accountability
			1. Ezekiel 9:4
				1. A mark is placed on those who sigh and groan over the abominations.
		5. God is about to destroy the remaining disobedient stewards’
			1. Man was given responsibility over the earth,
			2. The earth is God’s possession.
			3. Because of man’s sin God brings about the destruction of the earth.

**Application / Next Steps**

This message is summed up in three small phrases:

* Resurrection of life
* Focus on worship
* Promise to redeem

What does this say about us today?

* We’re resurrected when we surrender to Christ’s calling on our lives.
* We focus on worship, intent on looking to the cross and to Jesus for guidance and leadership.
* We have a hope.
	+ **Jeremiah 29:11** tells us, “**For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future**.”
* We shall be redeemed.
	+ **Luke 1:68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people.**”
* We shall be glorified. This happens through the salvation that comes from Jesus. We will see a glorified Heaven and the enemies of God shall be destroyed.
	+ **Hebrews 1:13 “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”.**

All of this confirms why the Two Witnesses should be heroes of ours and we have hope.

What’s your testimony?

What does it say about you?

Who are you trusting in and where is your heart of worship?