

Life after Death Part 12

Revelation Chapter 11

Christ Second Coming - the Tribulation

We will continue in this message our discussion about life after death and the events at the second coming of Christ from the book of Revelation.

Revelation 11, speaks about witnesses of Christ during the period of tribulation. Let us read and meditate.

“1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. (The messenger angel, the same that we spoke in ***Revelation 10***, who gave to John the little book, Jesus Christ, came and told John to rise to measure the Temple of God. He asked him to measure the altar in the temple, and those who worship Him who were with God in Heaven as we read about this temple in Heaven in verse 19, ***“And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”*** The Temple of God was the church, and the altar was those who were with God. John was given a reed by the same angel, Our God and Creator Jesus Christ, who commissioned John to measure with reed the temple of God, His altar and them that worship there in the inner court. Those are described elsewhere as the 24 elders; they are the Church of God that will be gathered together with Christ in the air when Christ will be descended from the Heavens when the angel shall blow trumpet of God to summon the dead and the living in Christ before the tribulation, and as we read here: ***“15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”*** (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 KJV) Listen church; to measure the temple with reed is not to get the size, but rather the reed is designated for the Holy Scriptures that sometimes called a rule, line, or rod. So John was called to measure how much the church is moving and abiding with God’s Word. ***Therefore, and in the same way, the warning message now is for you to check yourself and to see how much you are abiding with God’s Word and with His will and purpose and how much the Word of God is alive in your daily walk with God.)*** ***2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.*** (Here the messenger angel told John not to include in his measure the outer court because it is given for the non believers, the gentiles, who are those on earth during the period of tribulations who will be going to defile the temple and the holy city for three and half years, forty two months, which will constitute the first half of the tribulation period, when Christ will be defamed on earth as is said here, ***“for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot”***.) ***3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.*** Here the messenger angel, Jesus Christ, announced to John that He will give

power to two witnesses to reveal Christ during the worst part of the tribulation, the second three and half years, for the main point of the tribulation is the revelation of Jesus Christ and who He is. No matter how great the evil the non believers will do and no matter how much the judgment of God will be, but Christ shall be revealed through all of the great and terrible things that will happen. To guarantee that this point is made, there will be those two witnesses who will continually reveal Christ. ***Therefore, we are inspired here, is how great our responsibility to reveal Christ to the people who are around us and even to the whole world.*** Here the angel who is Christ Himself, will support those two witnesses with His Word to continue to deliver the message. The main point is not the suffering, death, transgressions and evil, but Christ is the main point and to reveal Him is the main purpose that is why He gave the two witnesses His Word. Notice when it says ***“my two witnesses”***, then ***“my”*** denotes this messenger angel the one whom the message is about, is the Christ. Put in your mind that the two witnesses are not Enoch or Elijah as some think that they will return. But being two is the minimum sufficient number to establish a witness as we read here, ***“At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.”*** (Deuteronomy 17:6 KJV) ***“This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.”*** (2 Corinthians 13:1 KJV) ***4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.*** (The two witnesses represented by ***“the two olive trees”***, is the indication that they are anointed by God, and also represented by ***“the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth”***, is the indication that they are giving the Word of God. They will be giving the Word of life that will reflect the light of God into the lives of the people. Therefore their witnessing will be powerful and effective since they are empowered with the anointing of the Holy Spirit and God’s Word that will bring light, salvation and true life.) ***5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.*** (Those that will hurt them will themselves be devoured and killed by the message proceeding from their mouths. The Word of God is powerful. It will bring life to those who believe and follow, and it will bring God’s judgment and death on those who rebel; that those who will try to hurt them, they will be in the same manner be killed. ***Therefore, let us have courage for we need to continue to preach the Word of God and to proclaim it that those who believe and obey will be saved and those who rebel will be destroyed.***) ***6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.*** (The witnesses will have power to fulfill their message of Christ; they will be powerful to hold back the rain from Heaven during the time of their prophesying and preaching, the same as Elijah did. They will have power to turn the water to blood, and to smite the earth with plagues as Moses did, that will be causing torments and sicknesses as Moses did as manifestation of God’s judgment; and such be will be more immediate and imminent at the time of tribulation.) ***7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.*** (After the message of the two witnesses is preached and is completed, after their testimonies are established and reckoned, with all the judgments of God that will bring, then the beast that had come out of hell will make war against them and kills them. That beast went out of the bottomless pit as it was opened by the fifth angel as we read here: ***“1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great***

furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.” (Revelation 9:1-2 KJV) 8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. (Those two witnesses will be killed in Jerusalem because it is mentioned in the same city that Jesus died, *“where also our Lord was crucified.”* Here Jerusalem is also called Sodom and Egypt because the people of God who dwells in Jerusalem, the people of the church today, had corrupted their lives and ways and become similar in their perversion and immoralities to Sodom who were homosexual, and similar to the worldly and idolatrous Egypt in loving the world and the worldly things that are against God.) *9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.* (They will despise their bodies because they were hurt by the Word of Jesus that through these two witnesses was preached and proclaimed the judgment of God on them. Therefore they will refuse to bury them, but that will be turn also for their good because ultimately they will be resurrected.) *10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.* (People will celebrate over their dead carcasses because they were hurt by the Word of God that proceeded from their mouths and caused God’s judgment to be brought on them. *God’s Word is painful, and disturbs those who are not willing to repent. Therefore we need to be ready for persecution when we are preaching the gospel.*) *11 And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.* (After three and half days revival will come, through the spirit of life that will come from God to give them life, and the witnesses will be resurrected after the pattern of Christ’s resurrection as an ultimate witness of Christ.) *12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.* (Their resurrection will come after a voice from Heaven, and the enemies of the two witnesses will see them arise. After they were resurrected, they went up to Heaven as they were called to ascend to Heaven with a great voice, *“Come up hither”*. Their ascension was an announcement to bring the attention of all the people around them. Possibly that such pattern of ascension for the two witnesses, God would allow to take place as a way to evangelize and to show His promises are true and give hope even to the worse sinners, that might repent and come to God during the period of tribulation. In that way even their enemies who were against those two witnesses might even converted when they would see the pattern of their ascension to Heaven. Perhaps that pattern of resurrection and ascension, the same that of Christ, to those who will die as saints during this period of tribulation; most probably would be followed because already the rapture had taken place and the saints are gathered with the Lord.) *13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. 14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.* (At the ascension of the two witnesses a great earthquake will occur bringing destruction and death for the tenth part of the city, and due to it seven thousands men will die, prompting fear and the worship of Christ by some who will be converted to Christ. That event was the second woe and will be signaling swifter judgment to come towards the end of the tribulation, as we read, *“The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly”*. The ascension of the two witnesses with great voice announcement declares also the reward of God to those who serve Him. While the

earthquake and the death of the seven thousands declares the judgment of God against those who hate God and hate those who serve Him. But still the combination of these two events, the public ascension of the two witnesses and the earthquake are a profound message to ready people to come to God in repentance. The combination of these two events is non forgettable experience that will not be easily erased from the mind of the people, and that would prepare many people to be coming to God. *Even for us today, we need to understand that even when we are ill treated and persecuted still the Lord wants us to forgive people, and to still have the heart to minister to them and tell them about Jesus. We need to persevere in times of trials and tribulations and allow God to work through our sufferings to bring His salvation to the whole mankind. And that is why Jesus had called these two witnesses as such in verse 4: These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.* The two witnesses are life giving and anointed represented by *“the two olive trees”*; is the indication that they are anointed by God. They are reflecting God as light, represented by *“the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth”*, in giving the Word of God, the Word of life and in reflecting the light of God into the lives of the people. They are as the candlesticks in the Old Testament, and as Jesus said in the New Testament, *“Ye are the light of the world.”* Therefore their witness will be powerful and effective. *Our witness to the world, to the lost, to those who oppose us, to those who hate us will be a non forgettable memory for them. This will be true when we will be willing to give the message fully, the life giving message, and reflecting the light of God by our perseverance to preach and testify about Him, and when we are willing to pass through the hard persecution that God would allow taking place in our lives.*) *15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.* (Here the seventh messenger angel sounded the trumpet, the same He is our Lord Jesus that we read in *Revelation 10*, *“1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:”* Here the final stage of the tribulation will begin. In this stage the Kingdom of Christ will reign as declares in such *“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever”*, and will ultimately cause the downfall of all the kingdoms of the earth in preparation to transition to the New Heaven and New Earth, as we will read in *Revelation 21 and 22*. The deeds of the two witnesses, by preaching fearlessly the Word of God, in making it clear as it should be, and their willingness to pass the will of God on the nations of the world on what God’s Word is declaring, and finally their willingness to be persecuted will pave the way for the Kingdom of God to be advancing forward even in the most dangerous period at the time of tribulation. Similar to what those will do, is what Paul and Silas did; they turned the world upside down, in their ministry of preaching the Gospel as we read here: *“1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: 2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, 3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. 4 And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. 5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of*

the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.” (Acts 17:1-6 KJV) Paul and Silas went to the city of Thessalonica and preached the good news to them. Their mission in that city was fruitful and they won souls for Christ. With the harvest they had in the city, also Satan stirred up the envious Jewish against them. **Evangelism is to hit the stronghold of the devil and invade its territory and bring people out from its hand into the Kingdom of light.** When the Lord appeared Himself to Saul, He commissioned him in this way. **“16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; 17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, 18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.” (Acts 26:16-18 KJV)** The mission of Paul as he was commissioned by Jesus was, **“to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God.”** We too needs to do the same, God wants us to turn the world upside down, Our mission as a Church of God is the same, to turn the world upside down as these two witnesses did in the book of the Revelation. To turn the world upside down is to expose the sin and to tell the truth in the way it should be said. To turn the world upside down is to stop flattering people and stop putting make up over worldliness and corruption. To turn the world upside down is to preach the Word up to the extent that there must be people got upset with us; up to the point that they will plot against us. To turn the world upside down is to stop compromises and aim to please God and not man. To turn the world upside down is that we need to be marked as notorious and trouble makers by the lewd people of this world. To turn the world upside down is to mark an event that we need to be sent away to other places after we are done with that particular place or that group of people. To turn the world upside down is to move to new areas where Jesus is not preached and where God’s Word has not yet taught. To turn the world upside down is to start from the beginning to stir up and disturb the foundation of Satan, to set people free and to open their eyes and to turn them from darkness unto the light. If we want to see Pentecost with miraculous healing, tumors vanished, blind can see, paralytic would walk, people raised from death, then we need to have people hate us and stir up authorities against us because we had said the truth, exposed sins, and disturbed the foundation of Satan, for that is the way to turn the world upside down. To turn the world upside down is the way and the method to preach the gospel and let the truth heard by all.) **16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,** (The 24 elders, the Church of God, in Heaven before God will worship Him at the declaration that the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever.) **17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.** (They worshipped Him by giving thanks and declaring the truth about Him and His great power and rule over the whole nations. **In the same way, giving thanks to God and declaring the truth about Him and His great power in the mid of the trials and tribulations means we are willing to suffer for God and we are able to see the coming victory through Christ Jesus our Lord and His great power that will make Him reign over all the nations and the kingdoms of the earth.) 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and**

great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. The church here will declare the following: *First*, declaring thanksgiving in **“Saying, We give thee thanks”**. *Second*, declaring God’s great power in saying. **“O LORD God Almighty which art”**, the same as Jesus said to His disciples, that all power on Heaven and on earth had been given to Him as we read here, **“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matthew 28:18 KJV)** *Third*, declaring He is the beginning and the end in saying, **“and wast, and art to come”**. *Fourth*, declaring He has all authority in saying, **“because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned”**. *Fifth*, declaring the anger of the nations is of no comparison to His wrath in saying, **“And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come”**. *Sixth*, declaring He will bring all of humanity to judgment in saying, **“and the time of the dead, that they should be judged”**. *Seventh*, declaring He rewards His servants in saying, **“and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great”**. *Eighth*, declaring He will destroy the destroyers who do not serve Him in saying, **“and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.”** Note: Gods’ servants are those who are good steward for the resources of the earth, while those who are not good steward for the resources of the earth and the waster of them are not servants of the earth but are the destroyers of the earth.) **19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”** (The temple in Heaven, the church, first seen in verse 1 is opened here to reveal the ark of His Testament, the covenant of God with His servants, the saints, by His Word that He put in the Bible. The power and might of this Testament is reflected by lightnings, thunders, an earthquake and great hail declaring the judgments of God upon those who rebel.) **(Revelation 11:1-19 KJV)** It is like what happened when the Lord descended on Mount Sinai, and the church here is singing, rejoicing and decaling all what discussed above that we today apply and follow in our lives, in our worship and service unto God.

My dear and beloved: The time now come to give thanks to God through this empowerment that we received from His Word, and all the good directions that His Word gives to us to live victoriously away from sins, and to serve Him boldly and without fear, trusting Him that he will aid us, support us and strengthen us against all the power of darkness that may come against us in opposing our service and ministry unto God.

Let us declare by faith His Word, let us turn the world upside down, by declaring the truth and renouncing all the compromises and the fear of men, in full trust on Him that He will fulfill His Word and all His promises as we lift up His name on high.

Let us pray ...

My prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for the empowerment that I received today from your Word and all the great promises that I received from you in this message.*

Lord I hate and renounce to live in sin. I renounce the fear of man, doubt, laziness, corruption, and compromises. I renounce worldliness, the bad stewardship and the wasting of resources. I renounce lies, dishonesty, stealing, immoralities, gossips, and wasting time on Media, games and news. I renounce lack of service and non willingness to evangelize and

preach your Word and suffer for your name sake. Lord forgive me all the following sins
_____.

Repent and renounce all your sins.

Lord I commit myself to live according to the Word that I received in this message. Lord I commit myself to be a good witness to you in life and in deeds. Lord refill me with your Holy Spirit and give me the spiritual gifts that I need to go forward, to preach your Word and to make disciples. Lord I trust you that you will protect me and will provide all my needs. Lord lead me with your Holy Spirit to the good plan that you have for me in order to fulfill your will in my life.

Lord thank you for my Brethren and Sisters who repented and committed their lives to live victoriously in you. Lord use them mightily to proclaim your Word and your will. Lord protect them from all persecution and provide for them so they will continue to serve you.

Lord we commit to you as a church to turn the world upside down with non compromising message and in proclaiming your Word and your will to the nations around us.

We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

Lord enables us as a church to reach to new people with the gospel of Jesus and to make new disciples. Lord leads us to train new workers and to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. The grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Life after Death Part 12. Revelation Chapters 11. Christ Second Coming - the Tribulation. Revelation 11:1-19. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18. Deuteronomy 17:6. 2 Corinthians 13:1. Revelation 9:1-2. Revelation 10:1. Acts 17:1-6. Acts 26:16-18. Matthew 28:18.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:
First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)
ACCOUNT NAME:
RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF
ACCOUNT NO.:
1576003753162014
IBAN:
AE380351576003753162014
SWIFT CODE:
NBADAEACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.