Revelation 66 - Christ's Two Witnesses

Dr. Leon L. Sanders Revelation 11:4-6



The Two Witnesses

- Why Two Witnesses? (De 17:2-6)
 - Christ corroborates testimony of the Spirit by *independent* witnesses confirming judgment (He 10:28-31)
- Abraham trained in the *mind of Christ* pleading for mercy any righteous in Sodom while Christ sent two witnesses {angels} to Sodom confirm their sinfulness (Ge 16:22-33; Ph 2:5-8)
 - Christ spared *righteous* {Lot} while punishing unbelievers; separating wheat from tares (Ge 19:1-29; Mt 13:24-30)
- Two Witnesses' Mission: Two-fold
 - Call the righteous out from the unclean World: Hermetic-Gnostic-Dialecticism (2Co 6:14-18; Re 18:4-5)
 - Warn the world to repent of coming judgment; rejection <u>demonstrates</u> their unrepentance
 - Signs are for unbelievers authenticating the message; signs are not the message (1Ki 19:9-18; 1Co 14:22)
 - Prophecy (Truth) for believers guiding them to/in Christ; foolishness to unbelievers (1Co 1:18-25; 2:12-14)

Similitude of Moses and Elijah

- Two Witnesses never named
 - Thus, these are not resurrected people from earlier history: Enoch; Moses; Elijah; etc. (15a 28:3-19)
 - The descriptions of their ministry show they come in the likeness of: Moses and Elijah (Jn 1:19-21)
 - Mirrors reality of John Baptist who came in the similitude of Elijah but was not Elijah (Mt 11:13-15)
- Moses' Ministry
 - Moses's first mission was to call Hebrew people out of Egypt {Hermetic World system} (Ex 3:7-20)
 - Moses' signs authenticated his message and demonstrated Egypt's asebeia; no Bible-Spirit yet
 - Moses performed three sets of three signs; then came the judgment Death {First Born}
- Elijah's Ministry
 - Elijah's mission as a mirror asking people whom they serve: God or Sin {Hermeticism-Idolatry}
 - Elijah's sign was fire {Judgment-Sodom}: no complete Bible or indwelling Spirit (1Ki 18:22-24, 30-39)
 - Elijah stated he stood before the Lord; i.e., message came directly from Christ (1Ki 18:15)

Purpose of Their Ministry

- Believe these two will be representative of their time, set apart from society: John (2Ki 1:8; Ze 13:4-5; Mt 3:4; Lk 1:67-80)
- Period of Two Witnesses Ministry, 3.5 years, during rise and reign of Antichrist (Re 11:3)
 - Calls believers, or elect believers, out from Antichrist's Hermetic socialism (15 52:11-12; 2Co 6:14-18)
 - Mirrors Moses' ministry; God selecting the weakest to display His glory (De 7:6-10; 1Co 1:26-31)
 - To already occurring calamities, they can add drought, contaminated waters and other calamities needed to expose The Delusion Lie by Truth {Signs to Unbelievers} (2Th 2:3-12)
- Two Witnesses <u>publicly</u> contrast God's power to Antichrist's impotence; Moses-Pharaoh
 - Many who do believe will probably be murdered, First Death, but escape Second Death (Re 20:6)
 - Those who reject the message will be spared First Death but will face the Second Death (Re 20:11-15)
 - Their ministry precedes Christ's return and Antichrist's defeat
 - End of Second Age ushering in Third Age: Millennial Kingdom

Source of Two Witnesses Ministry

- Prophetic imagery of the Witnesses
 - Olive Trees Planted by the Lord producing oil of Truth (Je 11:16-17)
 - Lamp Stands Used oil giving Light shining into the Darkness (Mt 5:14-16; 6:22-23)
 - Imagery harkens back to Zechariah's prophetic imagery pointing to Christ and the Spirit as <u>true</u> source of prophetic message against man's empty imaginings {False prophets} (Ze 4:12-14; 2Pe 1:20-21)
 - Even Elijah had to learn this lesson: Christ's Truth and Power are in His Word (1Ki 19:9-18; He 4:12)
- Fire from the mouth to kill their enemies; what does that mean?
 - Fire metaphor for spirit {All spirit beings Controlled fire is Holy Spirit, angels} (Ac 2:1-4)
 - Jeremiah describes God's words <u>as</u> a fire consuming unbelievers <u>as</u> wood (Je 5:14)
 - Spirit has killed sinners through prophet's words; Peter Ananias and Sapphira (Ac 5:1-11)
 - Actual Fire never emanated from Elijah but from Heaven; prophets protected by Spirit during their prescribed ministry {I doubt empirical fire flows from their mouths} (2Ki 1:9-16)

Christians Come Out of the World!

- Call of Hebrews <u>presaged</u> call of Jews, and believing Gentiles {Mixed multitude} (Ex 12:37-38)
 - Call of Hebrews, elect people, from Egypt presaged this call of primarily Jewish converts from Antichrist's empire
 - Zerubbabel and Joshua witness presaged preparing for Christ guided by Holy Spirit (Ze 3)
 - This our time to call people out of the World to Christ; not to blend into the World System
- People mesmerized, deluded, by signs and worldly wisdom {Scientism}: Jews and Gentiles
 - Signs do not convert but harden hearts as they cling to Worldview {Delusion} (1Co 1:20-25; 2Th 2:3-12)
 - Worldly wisdom's intricate lies <u>appear</u> wise falsifying God's witnesses: Antichrist-False Prophet {Star Wars ** Two Witnesses -Dark Sith Lords destroy Light Jedi} {Never a Jedi} (Is 44:24-26)
- Let us focus on our witness: Savor of Death and Life (2Co 2:14-17)
 - Call people <u>out</u> of the World's Hermetic-Gnostic-Dialectic-Socialism to His Gospel (2Co 6:17-18)
 - Not by signs or wisdom but the still small voice of Christ and the Bible (1Co 1:18-25; He 1:1-2)