

Common Ground Café

Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday, February 16, 2020



All Rise!

Revelation 11:7-19

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Get to Know You

What is the most dramatic sports come-from-behind victory that you've ever watched?

Study the Book

Lesson Summary

It is better to temporarily fail at a cause that will ultimately succeed than to temporarily succeed at a cause that will ultimately fail.

Point One:

Don't let setbacks make you set back your faith

Read Revelation 11:3 and then 11:7-10.

In last week's message, Pastor Tom said the vision of the two witnesses was a symbolic way to speak of the entire people of God in the closing years of human history. How might the following comparisons lead to that conclusion?

- ❖ Read Revelation 12:17. How does that compare with what the beast does to the two witnesses in 11:7? (It may help to read these verses in more than one translation. Try the English Standard Version, or look at 11:7 on the sermon outline.)
- ❖ Read Revelation 1:20. How does this compare with what the two witnesses are called in 11:4?

In Revelation 11:8-10, what actions demonstrate how deeply the nonbelievers despised the believers?

Revelation 11:10 says that the nonbelievers rejoiced when the two witnesses were no longer around to “torment” them. How might the words and the life of a faithful Christian “torment” a nonbeliever? (Hint, see 1 Kings 18:16-17 and Acts 24:24-25.)

In Revelation 11:8, the two witnesses are killed “where their Lord was crucified.” What was the city where Jesus was crucified? John called this Jewish city Sodom, Egypt and Babylon. (In Revelation, “the great city” is always Babylon.) What is John trying to say about Jerusalem by comparing it to these 3 powers?

The witnesses are killed “where their Lord was crucified.” How could John 15:20 help you understand what John was trying to get us to see?

**Point Two:
You Can't Keep a Good Man Down!**

Read Revelation 11:11-12

Pastor Tom said the following passages were describing the same event. What details in the following passages sound similar to the event described in Revelation 11:11-12? (The following passages are in your sermon outline.)

- ❖ Daniel 12:1-2
- ❖ Matthew 24:29-31
- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

In Revelation 11:11, “terror struck” the nonbelievers and 11:13, the nonbelievers “were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.” Does this mean they were converted? Why or why not?

In Revelation 11:15, the “seventh angel sounded his trumpet.” Where do we read about the previous six trumpets?

Group Application Discussion

The most popular heresy around the world today is “prosperity theology” (also known as “the health-and-wealth gospel”).

- ❖ What is “prosperity theology”? Use a web search if you need help.
- ❖ What have we learned from today’s study that would argue against prosperity theology?

Personal Reflection and Application

Woodrow Wilson said, "I would rather temporarily fail at a cause that will ultimately succeed than temporarily succeed at a cause that will ultimately fail." Based on what you hope and dream about, and based on the way you spend your time and money, are you committed to priorities that will ultimately succeed or ultimately fail?

Ask Anything: Revelation Edition

In the MPC next Sunday during the Life Group hour, Pastor Tom will answer your questions about the book of Revelation. Submit your questions to tom@hillcrest.church.