S.O.H.L. <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u>

Pronounced "Soul"

July 23, 2012

The Two Witnesses

REVELATION 11:3-13 NASB – (3) And I will grant *authority* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." (4) These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. (5) And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. (6) These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. (7) When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. (8) And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. (9) Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. (10) And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. (11) But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. (12) And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them. (13) And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Jesus commanded us in Matthew 28:19 to go and make disciples and in Acts 1:8 He also tells us that upon receiving the Holy Spirit, we will be *witnesses* for Him. Telling people about the good news of the gospel. Witnessing has been taking place for years! In the Old Testament, the prophets were doing most of the witnessing for God. In the New Testament, we find the disciples witnessing about Christ. During the tribulation period, the 144,000 will be witnessing for Christ. There is no popularity in witnessing. As a matter of fact, many were killed witnessing for God. Many were hated, but we must remember that when the people hate you for witnessing about Christ, they hated Him first.

From verse (7) above to verse (13), we see the results for these two men witnessing. After they completed their mission, they were killed by the people and the people hated them so much, that they would not even bury them! Instead the people celebrated (partied). Verse (11) tells us that after three and a half days, they were raised from the dead right in front of these same people who killed them. Great fear came upon the people and after destruction took place, they worship God. Witnessing God sounds scary especially when it can sometimes mean losing your life, but the Bible tells us in Matthew 10:28 not to fear what one can do to the body and not the soul.

We have simply been called to tell "<u>What Thus Says The Lord</u>." These two witnesses were fire and brimstone! Meaning they were straight to the point about God. Do not sugar coat what His word says. Be straight to the point, but do it in love. Remember, He is watching and listening. We will either represent those who are witnessing or those who will not listen.

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 119:1-8

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK Regardless where we go, He is there.