

Two Witnesses Bear Witness to the Whole World

“And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three score days, clothed in sackcloth.” Revelation 11,3;

True testimony and witnesses are inseparable from God’s justice. Many examples recorded in the Bible show that God does not render a judgment without hearing witnesses (Deut. 17:6; 19:15; Rev. 8:17¹). And because He is just, He does everything so that the testimony may be heard by all whom it concerns. The Book of Revelation, like the entire Bible, proves that God judges righteously and upholds His own laws.

Like the sixth seal, the sixth trumpet is decisive in this series of seven for the completion of God’s plan, which He carries out through the trumpets. The disasters of the previous trumpets are meant to awaken and warn God’s people first and foremost, to warn humanity of the coming judgment, and to humble human pride. The previous events serve to prepare God’s watchful people for the coming events, to awaken that portion of God’s people (who are still hesitating), and to serve as a warning to all people on earth. This follows from the very name of this series—the trumpets. The trumpet was an instrument for issuing commands to a large group, for addressing a large number of people over a long distance at the same moment. Trumpets were used to issue commands to the army, to summon people to an event, or to warn of

¹ *“And it is written in your Law that the testimony of two people is valid”*

impending danger. The trumpeter himself, who blows the trumpet, is important. The signal must be sufficiently clear and strong: *“For if the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself for the battle?”* (1 Cor. 14:8) The trumpeter is not usually the commander of the army or the king of the people, but a servant serving a higher authority. The events described in the trumpets will in fact serve as signals, intended—just like the sound of the trumpet—to warn people to turn away from their evil deeds and intentions², for God does not wish to judge the earth without warning. This is also confirmed by the text in Revelation chapter 10: *“And the angel whom I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that are therein, and the earth, and the things that are therein, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he has declared to his servants the prophets. ... And he said unto me, you must prophesy again about many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”* (Rev 10:5–7, 11)

The events described in the trumpets are by no means random occurrences, even though they may appear so to those who do not know God, nor His Son, nor the Scriptures, or who do not take them seriously. God allows the events described in the trumpets to occur so that people may fully taste the fruit of

² *“And the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, and silver, and bronze, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.”* Revelation 9,20-21;

their own willful actions. The sixth trumpet culminates in the public appearance of the two witnesses, described in chapter 11 of Revelation.