

HOME GROUPS

Home Group Questions for January 10 - January 16

Read Revelation 11:1-7

1. (vs. 1) **"... and was told, 'Rise and measure the temple of God and the alter and those who worship there...'"** Throughout Revelation, the Lord engages John's physical senses: John saw, heard, and even tasted (10:9). Now he is told by an authoritative voice, to *Rise* (to wake up) and *measure the temple of God*, the *alter* and the *worshippers*. What insight does this "hands-on" task give us about John's revelatory experience? How is this similar to the way Jesus revealed himself to his disciples after his resurrection?
2. (vs. 1) **"I was given a measuring rod..."** When reading the Book of Revelation, it is important to consider Old Testament / Jewish references to gain insight. Like the prophet Ezekiel, John was given a scroll to eat, and a reed to measure (Ez. 1-3; 40:3). Old Testament parallels imply that "measuring" indicates either God's preservation (Zechariah 2:1-5) or destruction (Amos 7:7-9). If this is true, what do you see as the possible meaning of the command to measure the temple, alter, and worshippers? How might this be encouraging considering what is to come upon the earth?
3. (vs. 3-6) **"I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."** A great word, a great power and a great humility will be *granted* to these two individuals to testify to a rebellious world. How is their end-time ministry similar to Noah's (2 Peter 2:5) and Moses' (Exodus 7-9)? What can we learn about the heart of God in the prophetic ministry of these *two olive trees* and *two lampstands* (vs.4)?
4. (vs. 5) **"...fire pours forth from their mouths and consumes their foes."** How is the ministry of the two witnesses different and/or similar to the ministry God has called us to today? What kind of "mouth" is given to the followers of Christ (Luke 21:15)? Would you say that you are committed to be an enduring witness even if it meant loss of respect, income and possibly even martyrdom (vs.7)?