

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Two

Moses and Elijah Two Faithful Witnesses

The scriptures speak of two anointed ones that stand by the Lord of the whole earth: Zec. 4:11 "Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? 12 And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? 13 And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. 14 Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth."

These two anointed ones are identified for us in Rev. 11:3 "And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. 4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. 5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will."

It was Elijah who commanded that fire come down and devour the two captains and their fifties and it was Elijah who prayed that it rain not for three and a half years. It was Moses who stretched forth the rod and the rivers were turned to blood and it was Moses who stretched forth the rod and plagued Egypt with ten plagues. Thus, the two anointed ones and two faithful witnesses that stand by the Lord of all the earth are Elijah and Moses. Yet Moses and Elijah represent something beyond themselves. They represent the law and the prophets. It is the law and the prophets that empty the golden oil out of themselves and that prophesied throughout the Old Testament dispensation. It was the law and the prophets that gave testimony or witness of Jesus Christ throughout the Old Testament.

The Lord told some unbelieving Jews to "search the scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they which testify of me." The Jews had thought

the scriptures were a roadmap or plan whereby they could obtain eternal life. The Lord corrected them and told them that the scriptures did not give eternal life, but were a witness of Jesus Christ. The scriptures to which Jesus was speaking were the Old Testament scriptures for the New Testament had not been penned at that time. The Old Testament scriptures (law and the prophets) were a continual testimony of Jesus Christ.

It was Moses and Elijah that appeared with Jesus on the mount of transfiguration and spoke of his demise. While there should be no doubt that it was Moses and Elijah with Jesus, yet they were there representing the testimony of the law and the prophets testifying of Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament we find that the scriptures speak of one who would come and give his life for his people and through his death would justify his covenant people. When we read the Old Testament we should be looking for Jesus on every page for they are testifying of him and his atoning sacrifice.