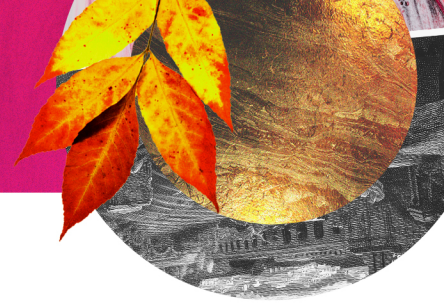




"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." (1 Peter 5:6-10, NIV)

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR THE CHURCH TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE LAMB IN OUR DAY?

"I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, 'Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, with its worshipers. But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months. And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.' They are 'the two olive trees' and the two lampstands, and 'they stand before the Lord of the earth.' If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. They have power to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want. Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city—which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt—where also their Lord was crucified. For three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth. But after the three and a half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven." (Revelation 11:1-13, NIV)



WHAT IF GOD HASN'T ABANDONED YOU IN YOUR SUFFERING? WHAT IF HE'S APPOINTED YOU IN IT?

WHAT IF GOD HASN'T GIVEN YOU A PUNISHMENT IN YOUR PAIN? WHAT IF HE'S GIVEN YOU A PLATFORM BY IT?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL IN SUFFERING?

1. We are _____ for it

2. The _____ is _____ by it

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL TO THE END...

We are _____ for it

A) The Reward of _____ (Eternal Life)

Rev 11:11 - After 3.5 days, the breath of life from God entered them and they stood on their feet.

B) The Reward of _____ (Significance)

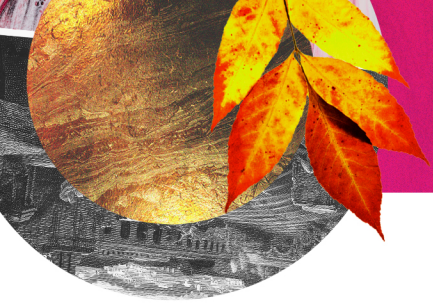
Rev 11:12 They heard a loud voice from Heaven saying "come up here."

C) The Reward of _____ (Sympathy)

Rev 11:12 And they went up to Heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked."

"The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name." (Acts 5:41, NIV)

"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead." (Philippians 3:10-11, NIV)



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL TO THE END...

The _____ is _____ by it

1. He's seen through our _____
2. He's seen through our _____
3. He's seen through our _____
4. He's seen through our _____

WHAT IF GOD HASN'T ABANDONED YOU IN YOUR SUFFERING? WHAT IF HE'S APPOINTED YOU IN IT?