

The portion of Scripture about the “*two witnesses*” and measuring the temple in the Book of Revelation is one of those prophecies many have laboured to explain.

As to the work of these two witnesses, we are told they are to prophesy for a precise period of time, and that they will be empowered by the Holy Spirit to produce miracles reminiscent of Elijah and Moses.

We are also told the inhabitants of the Earth will be tormented by their testimony and rejoice over their death. From this we can be sure the message is about repentance!

And concerning the various interpretations we mentioned, they centre around the period in which these prophecies come to pass. Some commentators teach most of the Book of Revelation has already been fulfilled over history, while others interpret most of the Book to be yet in the future.

In addition to these views, other Bible teachers point out that much of prophecy actually has both a historical and futuristic fulfilment. I favour this view because it makes God’s Word relevant to Christians of all generations. And nowhere is this more important than the portion of Scripture under examination.

Perhaps what adds more weight to this interpretation is the use of the two different names John uses in his description. In the Bible, the term “*witness*” is a word used to describe any born-again, Spirit-filled believer, but the term “*prophet*” is not!