

THE TWO WITNESSES... who fulfilled God's law  
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(2 Corinthians 13: 1)

According to Mosaic law, at least two witnesses were required in the conviction of a criminal. "Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die" (Num. 35 : 30). "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall a matter be established " (Deut. 19:15). It is most interesting to note that in His relationships with the Lord Jesus Christ, God honoured His own laws.

The Two Witnesses of His Royalty (Matt. 3:16, 17)

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straight-way out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." At the commencement of the public ministry of the Saviour, the remaining two members of the divine Family witnessed concerning the third (see chapter 42, "The Voice," p. 83). The redemption of the human race was the greatest undertaking ever handled by God. Other important missions had been entrusted to angels and prophets, but none of these were equal to the new task. God alone could redeem mankind, and since the law of the kinsman-redeemer insisted that the redeemer belonged to the same family as the slave, it became necessary for the Son of God to enter into our race. The story of Bethlehem reveals how this was accomplished.

The Two Witnesses of His Redemptive Work (Luke 9 :28- 31)

"And as Jesus prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered . . . And behold there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem." God's choice of witnesses was most admirable. These two saints of a bygone age represented both the law and the prophets. Moses, whose very name suggested the written word, and Elijah, the foremost of the prophets, appeared to add their testimony concerning the value of the Son of God. While the synagogue leaders openly proclaimed their allegiance to the ancient patriarchs, Moses and Elijah appeared to speak with Christ concerning the crucifixion. Thus they confessed that Jesus would fulfil all they had believed and promised.

The Two Witnesses of His Resurrection (John 20:11 - 12)

"But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, and seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? " The memory of that wonderful morning never left Mary. She heard from the angels the glad tidings of the resurrection, and a little while later she recognized her Lord. The two angels came to speak of the resurrection, for they had witnessed the thrilling event and were able to comfort the sorrowful woman. Neither the untruths of the Jewish story nor the false statements of

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modern teaching can change the testimony of the two  
angels who witnessed His triumph.

The Two Witnesses of His Return (Acts 1: 9-11)

"While they beheld, Jesus was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." The return of the Lord Jesus is the greatest hope of the Church, and there are many students who believe the fulfilment of this great promise cannot long be delayed. In the mouth of the two witnesses the testimony has been established. The Gospel story is the most reasonable message in the world, for at each crucial point in the ministry of Jesus, God honoured His laws and through the united testimony of reliable witnesses, endorsed the teaching of the Saviour. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22 :20).

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