

CHRISTIANITY

FOR
SCEPTICS, ENQUIRERS & BELIEVERS

A very warm welcome

Our speaker today is Tom Barnardo

Our passage is Revelation 11.1-13

Notices:

- 1. Christianity Explored.** It's not too late to join our short course looking into the claims of Christianity. Who is Jesus? Why did he come? What does it mean for me? Mondays 19 & 26 April from 6-7 pm on Zoom. Sign up [here](#).
- 2. New?** Please fill in a [contact card](#) to receive a weekly reminder email from the St Nick's Talks.
- 3. Spotify.** Enjoyed today's talk? Want to share it with others? Recordings of our talks are now posted on [Spotify](#) each Friday. Visit our [website](#) for our full library.
- 4. Covid-19.** Please wear a face covering whilst inside, maintain social distancing of at least 1m, and limit interaction with anyone not in your household.

11 Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, "Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, **2** but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. **3** And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. **5** And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. **6** They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire. **7** And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, **8** and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified. **9** For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, **10** and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth. **11** But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12** Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them. **13** And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

What are we to do in these last days?

i. We must witness (v1-6)

"The seven lampstands are the seven churches" (1:20)

ii. We will suffer (v7-10)

iii. We won't regret it (v11-13)

Questions:

Which of these three lessons do we most need to remember as we consider coming back to the office?

How were you converted? And how does that encourage you to persevere in personal evangelism?

When might we be tempted to downplay the need for repentance? Is this always front and centre of our message?