

**Revelation 11:1-19 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the worshipers there.

<sup>2</sup> **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.

<sup>3</sup> **And I** will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

<sup>4</sup> **These are** the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> **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.

<sup>6</sup> **These men** have power to shut up the sky 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.

<sup>7</sup> **Now when** they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them.

<sup>8</sup> **Their** bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

<sup>9</sup> **For three** and a half days men from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial.

<sup>10</sup> **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.

<sup>11</sup> **But after** the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them.

<sup>12</sup> **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.

<sup>13</sup> **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.

<sup>14</sup> **The** second woe has passed; the third woe is coming soon.

<sup>15</sup> **The** seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

<sup>16</sup> **And the** twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

<sup>17</sup> **saying:** "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

<sup>18</sup> **The nations** were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great-- and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

<sup>19</sup> **Then God's** temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

## THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL, THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL & THE COMING KINGDOM OF GOD

**Revelation 11:1-19 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the worshipers there. <sup>2</sup> 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.

Chapters 10-14 include a series of interludes between the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet judgments. When the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds, it will unleash the 7 bowl judgments.

During this interlude, an angel gives John a reed like a rod...a measuring rod the size of a shepherd's staff. He's to measure the temple—the sanctuary containing the Holy Place & the Most Holy Place...

**IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS INDICATES THAT THE TEMPLE...DESTROYED IN 70AD (25 years before Revelation given)... WILL BE REBUILT! (Daniel 9:26-27; Jesus, in Mt. 24:15-26).**

Yet, John is NOT to measure the court of the Gentiles



(PIC—whole tabernacle including court of Gentiles).

In addition, in Scripture the rod was often a symbol of preparation—of either destruction or preservation.

While God will ultimately preserve the Jews, He will also judge. Here Gentiles are not preserved/protected.

**EXCLUDE** means to cast out. Why would the Gentile court and the city of Jerusalem not be measured for judgment? Because they will already be under the antichrist and his government—a one world government.

**Interesting**—there's 2 Greek words for temple—one refers to the whole structure. The other speaks specifically of the Holy of Holies, where the presence of God dwelt.

Here the Gk word is the 2<sup>nd</sup>—the angel wants John to focus on the Holy of Holies.

This is the same word used in 1 Cor. 6:19-20 where Paul says, "**Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body**" 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV).

God's focus is our body—His Temple...our body is the Holy of Holies!

**The Greek tense changes to future.**

<sup>3</sup> **And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.** <sup>4</sup> **These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.**

**Some have suggested these 2 are Moses & Elijah—because of the similar judgments they inflicted.**

**Others have suggested they could be Enoch & Elijah, since neither tasted death.**

**IT DOESN'T MATTER! These 2 witnesses will prophesy** (speak under divine inspiration...possibly foretell events)

- They're raised up specifically for the 1<sup>st</sup> ½ of the Great Tribulation – 1260 days/3 ½ years.
- True prophets—condemning sin...proclaiming salvation through Jesus
- Sackcloth—the dress of OT prophets and those who are humbling themselves before God. They, with humility, deliver a straightforward/pull no punches message.



- Two olive trees = offering peace?
- Two candlesticks = holding out the fullness of the light of God

<sup>5</sup> **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.**

It's probable that they can just speak the word against those who try to harm them...and they will die!

Peter—Ananias & Sapphira **THEY WILL** HAVE DIVINE POWER AND DIVINE PROTECTION.

THE WORLD WILL KNOW JESUS IS THE CHRIST! HIS NAME WILL BE EXALTED!

<sup>6</sup> **These men have power to shut up the sky 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.**

Like the plagues of Egypt and beyond, they have a power over nature unseen on the earth.

**Jeremiah 5:14 (NIV)** "Therefore this is what the LORD God Almighty says: "Because the people have spoken these words, I will make my words in your mouth a fire and these people the wood it consumes.

**The power,** the authority, and ability of these two is unprecedented upon the earth until they've completed what the Lord empowered them for.

**7 Now when** they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. **8 Their bodies** will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. **9 For three** and a half days men from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial.

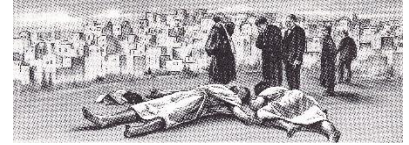
**They will** ultimately die (be killed/assassinated) only when their work is done/completed their assignment.

<https://walklikejesus.net/2020/04/20/the-end-cant-keep-silent/>

**The beast** (wild animal) – Antichrist – will arise from the Abyss to kill them.

**Their bodies** will lie in the street of the great city (probably Jerusalem)...spiritually called Sodom & Egypt, 3½ days.

**YOU CAN HEAR THE NEWS REPORTERS...SEE THE IMAGES...EXPERIENCE THE GLOATING BY THE ANTICHRIST AND HIS FOLLOWERS.**



**10 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.

**This happens** now...by Palestinians... Hamas... when an Israeli is killed, raped, beheaded, they celebrate,

A member of the Al-Quds Brigades distributes candies in celebration of the deadly Hamas terror assault on Israel, October 7, 2023. (Fathi Al-Masri/AFP)

**11 But after** the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, ooooh, this is gonna be good! After 3 ½ days... a finger twitches...an arm moves...a foot ... then the breath of God enters them ANY VICTORY THE DEVIL HAS IS TEMPORARY! And the latter part of that verse says "...**and they** stood on their feet, and terror struck 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, while their enemies looked on.

Haha...this is going to be so fun! BEAM ME UP JESUS!

If Psalm 23 says that "**He prepares** a table for me in the presence of my enemies..." then this is awesome!

**13 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.

**Those who** refuse/reject Jesus won't know what hit them. Time after time things won't go their way.

THE CITY? Probably Jerusalem. 7000 were killed—others terrified! GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED!

**14 The second** woe has passed; the third woe is coming soon.

**15 The seventh** angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

Oh, I can hear the Hallelujah chorus here!

And...when worship begins in heaven, as we've seen before here goes the 24 elders...

**16 And the** twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, **17 saying:** "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, and who is to come, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

**THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THINKING OF THE FUTURE...HEAVEN...FINAL VICTORY THAT LEADS TO PRAISE!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWkq7PLmGtQ> 1:50-2:45

It was prophesied and will now come to pass, **Luke 1:32-33** "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end."

**1 Timothy 1:15-17** (NLT2) "This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. **16 But God** had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. **17 All honor** and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen.

**18 The nations** were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great-- and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

**THE TIME** HAS COME...

FOR THE DEAD TO BE JUDGED

FOR THE SERVANTS OF GOD TO BE REWARDED

**There isn't** a day on earth you should NOT keep in mind and live for this moment!

**John 5:28-29** (NLT2) Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, **29 and they** will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.

**19 Then God's** temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

**William Barclay** states it well:

*"The Temple is opened; but there is more than that. The Ark of the Covenant is seen. Now the Ark of the Covenant was in the Holy of Holies, the inside of which no ordinary person had ever seen, and into which even the High Priest went only on the Day of Atonement. **This vision** involves the opening up of the Temple and even the opening up of the Holy of Holies. This can have only one meaning; it must mean that now the glory of God is going to be fully displayed. **That which** was secret is going to be revealed; that which no man has seen is going to be opened to the sight of men. The full glory of God is going to burst upon men.*

***Originally** that covenant had been with the people Israel; but the new covenant is the covenant in Jesus Christ with all of every nation who love and who believe in Jesus. **This means** that in the full display of God's glory, in the destruction of God's enemies, God will remember His covenant and God will be true to His own. **Whatever** the terror and whatever the destruction to come, God will not break the covenant that He made with His people and will not be false to His promises.*

***"So this** picture is a picture of the coming of the full glory of God, which is a terrifying threat to the enemies of God, but an uplifting promise to the people of God's covenant" (The Revelation of John, Vol.2, p.89f).*