



“The Tale of Two Temples.”

August 17, 2025

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Revelation 11

¹ 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 ^[b] 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.

¹⁴ The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.” ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying,

“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
who is and who was,
for you have taken your great power
and begun to reign.

¹⁸ The nations raged,
but your wrath came,
and the time for the dead to be judged,
and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints,
and those who fear your name,
both small and great,
and for the destroying the destroyers of the earth.”

¹⁹ Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, [\[c\]](#) peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

SUMMARY

Revelation 11 opens and closes with a vision of two temples. The first is a Jewish temple in Jerusalem, and the second is a holy temple in Heaven. The first is a temple where the Messiah is hoped for. The second is a temple where the Messiah reigns over all things. In the midst of the temple in Jerusalem, two witnesses proclaim Jesus Christ as the Messiah. These Jewish worshipers will become the 144,000 witnesses for Christ through the Great Tribulation. These temples represent the truth that, left to themselves, people turn to what is false and empty. Salvation and full hope comes from God to man in the person of Jesus Christ.

OUR PERSPECTIVE OF THE END

Rapture of the Church

The Great Tribulation

Second Coming/Millennial Reign

New Heaven & New Earth

THE GREAT TRIBULATION (7YRS)

- 1st 3.5 Years (1,260 days)
- Jewish Worship in a Rebuilt Temple
- Jewish Remnant Turns to Christ
- Global Judgment Intensifies
- 2nd 3.5 Years (1,260 days)
- Antichrist Revealed & Worshiped
- Severe Persecution of Believers
- Global Judgment Intensifies

WHO ARE THE TWO WITNESSES?

- Two Prophets who Proclaim Christ
- Resemble Prophets of the Past (Zech 4:3-14)
- Deliver Signs to God's People of His Plan

WHO IS THE BEAST FROM THE BOTTOMLESS PIT?

- The Antichrist: A Wicked, Global Leader
- Abomination of Desolation (Dan 9:26-27; Matt 24:15-16)
- Desecrates the Temple (2 Thess 2:3-4)

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

³ Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

WHO IS THIS CHRIST?

Christ is the Coming King Who Brings Reward and Destruction.

- Trust Christ and Receive Eternal Life
- To Reject Christ is to Face Eternal Destruction

FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN CHRIST, OUR COMING KING:

Live a Witnessing Life to a Looking World.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever visited a place that looked impressive on the outside but didn't live up to its appearance inside? How did that experience change your perspective?
2. In verses 1-2, John is told to measure the temple but not include the outer court. What might this act of measuring symbolize, and how does it connect to God's protection and judgment?
3. Verses 3-6 describe the two witnesses who prophesy for 1,260 days. How do their powers and ministry echo the ministries of earlier prophets like Moses and Elijah?
4. The witnesses are resurrected and taken up to heaven (vv. 11-12). What purpose might this miraculous event serve in God's plan?
5. The two witnesses boldly declare the truth in a hostile world so that some may turn to Christ. What is one way you can be a faithful witness this week in a culture that often resists biblical truth?
6. What was your takeaway from this week's passage?

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