

Revelation 11

I. Measuring the Temple of God.

- Measuring rod: (6 cubits) 9-10 ½ feet long bamboo sticks.

1. Temple is to be rebuilt.

A. The Antichrist may help the Jews to rebuild their temple.

1. Dan 9:27 He shall confirm a covenant with Israel.
 - a. He has Great interest in the Temple.
 - i. 2Thes. 2:4 Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so *that he sits as God in the temple of God*, showing himself that he is God.

B. Jesus Indicated that the temple would be standing in the Tribulation Period.

1. Matt. 24:15-16 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.
2. We could see the beginning of the rebuilding process.

2. Leave out the court which is outside...for it has been given to the gentiles.

A. Anti Christ may bring about a political solution to the problem of the temple mount area.

B. Today the "Dome of the Rock" mosque stand where the Jews need to put their temple.

1. The "Dome of the Rock" mosque is considered the 3rd holiest place on earth to the Muslims.
 - a. They believe that it was there that Mohammad ascended to heaven to receive instructions to take back to the faithful on Earth about the number of times to pray each day.

C. John is told "leave out the court which is outside the temple"

1. There could be a possible solution to the dilemma...
2. Just north of the dome of the rock on the temple mount there is 12 acres of land that may have actually been the original site of the Jewish Temple.
3. Just north of the dome of the rock put wall.
 - a. Leaves 12 Acres of land to build.
 - b. There would be no room for the outer court.
 - i. In OT times this would be the court of the gentiles.

II. The Ministry of the Two Witnesses.

1. Timeframe: The establishing of the Temple at the beginning of the Tribulation period, and the ministry of the Two Witnesses are along the same time period.
 - A. Both are said to be for 3 ½ years.
 1. These prophecies are based on the 360 day Babylonian calendar.
 2. The power of their ministry is by the power of the holy Spirit.
 - A. "I will give them Power."
 1. Two olive trees and two lampstands.
 - B. If you and I are to have a witness for the Lord it will be done the same way!
 - a. Acts 1:8 You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (just like the two witnesses)
3. The identity of the Two Witnesses?
 - A. One is probably Elijah.
 1. Malachi 4:5-6 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."
 - a. Matthew 17 His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.
 - i. So, Elijah *is to come* before the return of Christ.
 2. A further insight to Elijah's identity here: His enemies are to be killed with fire.
 - a. 2 Kings 1: So Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.
 3. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy
 - a. Elijah prayed and it did not rain in Israel for three years
 - B. The second Witness is probably Moses.
 1. Notice the miracles Rev. 11:6 "and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire."
 - a. This describes Moses in Egypt.
 2. Moses and Elijah appeared at the transfiguration.
 3. The OT is divided between the Law and the Prophets.
 - a. The two representatives of the OT are now coming to give witness to Jesus.

- Other possibilities as to the identity of the one witness.
 - Enoch, he never saw death. It is appointed once for man to die.

III. The Death of the Two Witnesses.

1. When? When they finish their testimony.
2. "The Beast": This is the first mention of "the Beast" in Revelation.
 - A. It will be used many times now in the book of Revelation to speak of the Antichrist, and the Revived Roman Empire.
3. Their bodies will lie in the streets of Jerusalem.
 - A. Jerusalem: called Sodom, and Egypt. (sinful & worldly)
 1. The City that is *called by God is not glorifying Him*.
 - a. Psalm 48:2 Beautiful in elevation, The joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, The city of the great King.
 - b. Psalm 50:2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth.
 2. How sad it is when God's people don't not fulfill their destiny.
 - a. Jeremiah 13:11 For as the sash clings to the waist of a man, so I have caused the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah to cling to Me,' says the Lord, 'that they may become My people, *for renown, for praise, and for glory*; but they would not hear.'
 - i. We need to purpose in our heart to be the Lords people.
 - ii. We need to purpose in our heart to serve the Lord.
 1. Does your life have this aim?
4. The death of the Two Witnesses will seem like a great victory to the world.

IV. The Resurrection of their Witness.

1. Their resurrection and ascension.
 - A. We win!
2. The earthquake and the dead.
 - A. You loose!
3. Witness Resurrection Application.
 1. Maybe you feel like your witness for the lord has been dead three and a half days?
 2. Maybe your witness for the Lord is in the gutter?

- B. The answer is found in verse 11, The *breath* (pneuma) of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet.
1. Genesis 2:7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the *breath of life*; and man became a living being.
 2. John 20:22 Jesus *breathed on them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit (pneuma).
 - a. pneuma, , a current of air, i.e. breath or a breeze; or spirit
 3. Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit (pneuma) has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- C. The rest were afraid...
1. Psalm 9:19-20 Arise, O Lord, Do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight. Put them in fear, O Lord, that the nations may know themselves to be but men.

V. Seventh Trumpet.

1. The parenthetical portion between the sixth trumpet and seventh trumpet is now over.
2. With the sounding of the seventh trumpet comes the announcement of the imminent rule of Christ over this world.
 - A. Additional events have to transpire before all is realized, but the announcement can be made.
 1. The fact that this is an overall announcement can be seen in the following.
 - a. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come (this began in chapter 6)
 - b. The time of the dead, that they should be judged (this happens after the Millennial)
 - c. That You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, small and great (this took place at the Rapture)
 - d. And should destroy those who destroy the earth (this will happen at Armageddon)
 2. The seventh trumpet introduces and includes the seven bowl judgments of the wrath of God revealed in chapter 16.
 - B. God is being glorified because He is taking His great power and reigning.
3. All these things are based on His law. (10 commandments)

- Application

- Today is the day to be building.
 - 1 Cor. 3:11-15 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.