

## **Revelation Chapter Outline Review:**

Chapter 1 – The Vision of Jesus Christ

Chapters 2 – 3 - The Future of the Church

Chapters 4 –5 – Church raptured—the heavenly scene

Chapters 6 –19 – The Great Tribulation Period (Seven years of God’s judgment)

Chapters 20–22 – 1000 year reign of Christ on earth, then New Heavens, New Earth, New Jerusalem

## **The REVELATION of JESUS CHRIST**

### **Chapter 11**

### **“The Temple, The Two Witnesses and the Seventh Trumpet!”**

**Intro: Micah Ch. 4 – “In the last days”**

**(v1-2) The Temple in Jerusalem will be built during the first half of the tribulation, that is, during the first 3.5 years of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Daniel 9:24), a seven year period determined for the Jewish people and the holy city, Jerusalem.** C.I. Scofield writes, “The tribulation that is to occur at the end of the age will continue for seven years, the “one week” of Daniel 9L27 (see Rev. 7:14). This seven-year period is divided, in the prophetic writings, into two equal halves of three and one-half years each. The length of the periods is also referred to as “a time and times and half a time” (Rev. 12:14; CP. Dan 7:25; 12:7): “forty-two months (Rev. 11:2; 13:5); and “one thousand two hundred and sixty days” (Rev. 11:3; 12:6). The second half of this seven-year period will be characterized by increasing cruelty on the part of the world ruler, and a consequent greater intensity of persecution and suffering

**> The Bible declares a future temple during the “Tribulation” according to Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 11:1. (The Messiah’s Temple will be built by Jesus Zechariah 6:12-13; Zechariah 1:16; Ezekiel chapters 40 – 46.)**

**> FYI – Preparations have been made for the next temple:**

- 28,000 Priests have been trained
- Temple implements have been built
- Sanhedrin reformed
- A High Priest has been elected
- They say the Ark of the Covenant has been located (questionable)
- Priestly garments have been made

**(v3-6) The Two Witnesses:**

- Are known as the two olive trees and the two lampstands (read Zechariah ch. 4).
- Are hot tempered against their enemies, very hot!
- Are given power to stop the rain, turn the waters to blood and bring forth plagues!
- Are going to finish their testimony!
- Are going to be killed and will rise again and ascend to heaven after 3.5 days!

**> Who are the “Two Witnesses”?** - There are three primary viewpoints on the identity of the two witnesses in Revelation 11:3-12: (1) Moses and Elijah, (2) Enoch and Elijah, (3) two unknown believers whom God calls to be His witnesses in the end times. (1) Moses and Elijah are seen as possibilities for the two witnesses due to the witnesses' power to turn water into blood (Revelation 11:6), which Moses is known for (Exodus chapter 7), and their power to destroy people with fire (Revelation 11:5), which Elijah is known for (2 Kings chapter 1). Also giving strength to this view is the fact that Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration (Matthew 17:3-4). Further, Jewish tradition expected Moses and Elijah to return in the future. Malachi 4:5 predicted the return of Elijah (*Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.*); and the Jews believed that God’s promise to raise up a prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15, 18) necessitated his return.<sup>1</sup>

**> Are you a witness for Jesus Christ?** Jesus gave us “*The Great Commission*”, *not the great option or suggestion*, He said in **Matthew 28:16-20** - Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, *"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and*

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<sup>1</sup> Understanding Endtimes Prophecies by Paul Benware

*make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Mark 16:14-18; Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23)* Also, **Acts 1:6-8** - So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: *"It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* **Remember Paul's inspiring testimony - 2 Tim 4:6-8** - *For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

**(v7-8) When the two witnesses "finish their testimony", Satan "the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit" will kill them; their "dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city (Jerusalem) which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt", why Sodom and Egypt, Sodom for its immorality (homosexual parades are an annual event in Jerusalem), Egypt because it will be an international religious city, all religion will gather to worship their gods in Jerusalem. Currently the Pope gathers all religions of the world for an international prayer meeting, the Vatican desires Jerusalem to be an international religious city, as well as the rest of the world.**

**(v9-12) The whole world will see their dead bodies for three and a half days and then watch them rise to heaven. John declares the technology of the last days via television, internet, smart phones, etc., how else could the whole world experience this incredible event?**

**(v13-14) The Great Rift Valley runs 3000 miles between Syria and Mozambique and passes through the Dead Sea, below Jerusalem's eastern hills.** The fault line was caused by the separation of African and Eurasian tectonic plates. About half a dozen major earthquakes have hit the city over the last thousand years, the last big earthquake in the area was in 1927, when a magnitude 6.3 quake centered near Jericho, about 15 miles to the east of Jerusalem; 200 people were killed, this according to Amos Bein, director of the Geological Survey of Israel.

**(v15-19) The Seventh Trumpet – The twenty-four elders give thanks for three special blessings: (1) Christ reigns supremely (17); (2) Christ judges righteously (v18a); (3) Christ rewards graciously (18b) (See Psalm 2).**

> **Food for thought regarding "The Ark of the Covenant"** - For more than 2,000 years, people around the world have been fascinated with the mystery of what happened to the Ark of the Covenant that served such a prominent spiritual role in Old Testament times. The mystery begins where the Bible's historical account ends, in the time of King Josiah of Judah (2 Chronicles 35:1-6; 2 Kings 23:21-23). Approximately 40 years later, the Babylonians overtook Jerusalem and its temple. 10 years later, the temple was burned along with the city. Yet nothing is mentioned of the Ark. The main options for what happened to the Ark could include that (1) it was destroyed, (2) it was taken by the Babylonians, or (3) it was hidden by the Jewish people before the destruction of the temple. The apocryphal book of 2 Maccabees states in its second chapter that the prophet Jeremiah received a vision to hide the Ark and other items in a cave upon the mount where Moses climbed to see the land of Israel before his death (Deuteronomy 31:1-4). Those who later sought to find it could not, because God had chosen to hide it until the appointed time. It is unclear if this account is accurate, but it reveals what many Jews believed to be the fate of the Ark from those times. However, the Bible does at least mention an Ark of the Covenant that plays a role in the future. Revelation 11:19 mentions "the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple." This is apparently the same Ark of the Old Testament, meaning that it will appear again one day as part of God's end-time plan. If this interpretation is correct, it would suggest the Ark is at least still in existence and will be made public again at some time in the future. Until then, the Ark may remain a mystery to all but God Himself.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> CompellingTruth.org