

# THE UNVEILING OF JESUS CHRIST

"Two Fireball Preachers"

Revelation 11:1-14

## INTRODUCTION:

1. Now we come to Chapter 11 and we must keep 3 things in mind.

a) **FIRST** - Chapter 11, is Jewish.

1) The focus is on Jerusalem.

2) It focuses on the Temple.

3) And it focuses on the Jews place in End Time activity.

b) **SECOND** - Chapter 11 is a prophetic chapter.

1) Not historical. The temple was destroyed in AD 70 by Titus before John wrote Revelation.

c) **THIRD** - Chapter 11 must be interpreted literally.

1) Real people, real numbers, places and events.

2) These things are not symbolic.

2. When we looked at Chapter 10, we recognized we were in a parenthesis (interlude) and chapter 11 is a continuation of chapter 10.

a) **Revelation 11:1**

1) "**Then**" - connects chapter 11 to chapter 10.

2) This parenthesis is between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet judgments.

b) In chapter 10 we identified the Mighty Angel as the "Angel of the LORD" of the Old Testament.

1) Notice again His description: **Vs 1**

a. "**cloud**" - Shekina glory

b. "**rainbow**" - Faithful and true

c. "**face like the sun**" - Holiness

d. "**legs like pillars of fire**" - righteous judgment

e. "**little scroll in his hand**" - the Title deed to the earth

## I. SIZING UP THE TEMPLE

1. **Vs 1**

a) "**Then I was given**"

1) By whom?? The mighty angel.

b) **Cf. 10:2**

2. **Vs 1**

a) "**Then I was given a measuring rod**"

3. "**A rod**" in Scripture is always an indication of impending judgment.

#### 4. There are FIVE temples in Jewish history.

- a) **THE FIRST** temple - was Solomon's temple.
  - 1) It was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587 BC.
- b) **THE SECOND** temple - was Zerubbabel's temple which was built when the Jews returned home from Babylonian captivity.
  - 1) It was desecrated and destroyed in the second century before Christ.
- c) **THE THIRD** temple - was built for the Jews by Herod the great.
  - 1) This was the temple in existence during Christ's ministry and the Apostles ministry as described in the book of Acts.
  - 2) This was the temple destroyed by the Romans in AD 70.
  - 3) These three temples are historical temples.
- d) **THE FOURTH** temple - is the future tribulation Temple.
  - 1) Revelation 11 - yet to be built
- e) **THE FIFTH** temple - and the Millennial temple described in Ezekial 40-43

5. Israel today is dominated by the Zionist political movement which started when Israel reorganized back in 1948.

#### 6. *2 Thessalonians 2:3-4*

7. The Antichrist who makes a covenant with Israel in order to curry favor with her will ultimately break that covenant and defame the temple just as Antiochus Epiphanies defamed the temple of Zerubbabel in the second century BC.

#### 8. *Revelation 11:1*

- a) *"and I was told, "Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there."*

## II. THE TWO WITNESSES

1 Vs 3

### 2. NOTICE FIVE KEY POINTS ABOUT THESE 2 WITNESSES

#### A. FIRST - THEY WERE REAL PEOPLE

1. These verses are not some symbolic language.

a) Vs 3

1) *"clothed in sackcloth and ashes"*

2. Vs 4

a) *"lampstands"* which signifies their ministries of light.

b) *"Olive trees"* - which represents the power of the Holy Spirit.

### 3. Zechariah 4:1-14

## B. SECOND - THEIR PROCLAMATION

### 1. Revelation 11:3, 6, 10, 18

a) Prophecy, prophesying, prophets are used.

1) Prophecy doesn't always mean to "foretell" the future.

2) The word Prophecy can mean to "forthtell"

### 2. SO who were they?

a) Interesting that there were 2 of them and God often dispatches people in teams of 2.

b) I believe they are Moses and Elijah,

#### 1) Elijah

a. Malachi 3:1-3; 4:5-6

b. John 1:21

c. 2 Kings 2:9-11

d. 1 Kings 17:1 (Revelation 11:3)

e. Matthew 17:3-6

#### 2) Moses

a. Matthew 17:3

b. Revelation 11:6

c. Exodus 7:14-24

c) Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets.

## C. THIRD - THEIR SUPERNATURAL POWER

1. In order for them to survive the world's antisemitism the two witnesses will be equipped with power from God.

a) **Power of their preaching.** (5 Areas their power is manifested)

1) They will declare that Jesus Christ is Lord of all the earth by the fact of His ability to withhold rain.

2) That will declare that sin is sin among the Jewish leaders.

3) They will testify concerning the character of the judgments being experienced.

4) They will preach against the Beast who will blaspheme God. Rev 13

5) They will preach against spiritual hypocrisy.

b) **The Power of the Plagues**

- Vs 5 indicates they will have the power of immediate judgment.

- The power of life and death over those who try to harm them.

- The power of their plagues is seen in 3 ways:

1) **Death**

- a. Vs 5
- b. 2 Kings 1
- 2) Draught
  - a. The power to withhold rain.
- 3) Disease
  - a. The power *"to strike the earth with plagues, as often as they desire."*

#### D. FOURTH - THEIR MARTYRDOM

##### 1. THE DEATH OF THE WITNESSES

a) Vs 7

- 1) *"the beast that rises from the bottomless pit"*

2. **Very Important:** The witnesses were untouchable until they had finished their assignment from God.

a) Vs 7

- 1) *"And when they finished their testimony"*

##### 3. THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF THEIR BODIES

a) Vs 8-9

- 1) Talk about hatred and antisemitism!!!

b) It was a great offense in Judaism to allow a dead body to lie unburied.

- 1) But they lie in the street for the entire world to see.

#### E. FINALY - THEIR RESURRECTION

##### 1. REJOICING OVER THEIR DEATH

a) Vs 10-11

##### 2. THEIR RAPTURE

a) Vs 12

- 1) *"in a cloud"* should be *"in the cloud"* which is the Shekina glory of God.

##### 3. THE CONSEQUENCE

a) Vs 13

1) "**people**" - literally in the Gk. Means "**men of renown**" or very important people.

**b) Jude 1:15-16**

1) When the Lord returns He will execute judgment on those who great words to gain advantage over others.

**c) Vs 13**

1) "**and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of Heaven.**"