
The Book of Revelation: Session 16

Revelation 11:3-19

YouTube: “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 11:6-12:1-6 | Gary Hamrick”
(taught on October 14, 2020 | 44:22 minutes)

Notes:

The Two Witnesses:

- Their commission: To preach a message of repentance.
- Their duration: 1260 days (3.5 years).
- Their protection: Fire from their mouths.
- Their celebration: Their bodies will lie in the streets of Jerusalem for 3.5 days while people celebrate their deaths.
- Their assassination: The Beast (Antichrist) overpowers and kills them.
- Their resurrection and ascension: They will come to life by the breath of God and ascend to heaven.
- Their contribution: Many survivors of the subsequent earthquake give glory to the God of heaven.

Who might the two witnesses be?

- Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel (Zechariah 4)
- Elijah and Enoch: Neither died
- Moses (Law, “turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague”) and Elijah (Prophets, “shut up the sky so that it will not rain”) – Malachi 4:4-6, Matthew 17:3

“In the midst of all of this chaos ... God is constantly bringing a message of grace, opportunities for people to get saved.”

Trumpet #7 (Rev 11:15-19): An announcement that God is going to take over the earth as Judge and King.

Who is the woman of Rev 12:1? The nation of Israel. Genesis 37:3-11 (sun, moon and stars represents the nation of Israel).

Introduction: Remember, “John’s measurement of the temple (Revelation 11:1-2) is a symbolic action. To measure something means to claim it for yourself. ... The Lord was saying through John, “I own this city and this temple, and I claim both for Myself” (Warren Wiersbe). In Revelation 11:3-14, we will witness God claiming back Jerusalem and the Jewish people, as His very own.

Questions:

1. Read Revelation 11:1-6. Why will these two witnesses be wearing sackcloth? What message will they likely be preaching? Who do you think these two witnesses might be?
2. Read Revelation 11:7-14. Like last week, there are sweet and sour aspects to this future event. What are they? As “witnesses” for God, what should bring us hope and confidence from what we have just read?

“The term “people” (v. 13) in the Greek text is literally “names of men.” That unusual phrase may indicate that the 7000 who were killed were prominent people, perhaps leaders in Antichrist’s world government.” – John MacArthur

3. Read Revelation 11:15-19. The 7th Trumpet ushers in God’s final series of bowl judgments (Rev 16). Warren Wiersbe summarizes, “In Revelation 4:10-11, the 24 elders praised the Creator. And in Revelation 5:9-14, they worshiped the Redeemer. Here, the emphasis is on the Conqueror and King.” He further explains: “There are two Greek words for anger: “thumos,” which means “rage, passionate anger,” and “orgē,” used in verse 18, which means “indignation, a settled attitude of wrath.” God’s anger is not an outburst of temper; it is holy indignation against sin.” How does it impact you to recognize that what Jesus accomplished at the cross will be ruthlessly dealt with in this final chapter of history as we know it?

What aspects of who God is do we particularly see in verse 19?

Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1993:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-38/two-witnesses-part-3>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-39/the-seventh-trumpet-part-1>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-40/the-seventh-trumpet-part-2>