

Sometimes it is difficult for me to determine whether a subject ought to go into “Other Prophetic Subjects” or be here in a newsletter, however, since the 3 ½ days of Revelation 11: 5 actually relate to our own times and to the return of the Lord, this seems an appropriate place. If you haven’t read *The False Prophet* or one of my earlier works on Bible prophecy, what follows may appear to be guesswork theology, but if Revelation is viewed figuratively, this is a sound exegesis of 11:5-12.

Hopefully you’ve read *The False Prophet*, if so, you already know that the 42 months of Revelation 11:2 were not literally 42 months, but 42 months of years (or 1278.34 years). You also know that the 1260 days of Revelation 11:3 are not 1260 literal days, but actually 1260 years. Since those two time periods were figurative representatives of a vastly longer time than stated, you should now be asking yourself, are the 3 ½ days of Revelation 11: 5 actually 3 ½ 24-hour periods, or could they also be figuratively referring to a much longer time? Is it possible that the 3 ½ days the “witnesses lie in the street” are not about Moses and Elijah, but about the Christians and Jews of the Christian Era?

First off, Revelation is a vision. John states so in the very first verse, and biblical visions are always figurative in nature. If you think not, show me a biblical vision that isn’t figurative. I have read the Bible many times and have yet to find a biblical vision that wasn’t figurative! Revelation even contains 82 verbal signposts: “Like - Like unto - As” and “I was in the spirit.” Those signposts show that the book is primarily figurative.

Rev 11:3 “And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.”

1948AD - 1260 = 688AD !!! From the construction of the Islamic Dome of the Rock to the establishment of the new nation of Israel, right to the year! No rocket science there. A first grader can do that math. But following the verses identifying the Two Witnesses are several verses impossible to understand unless viewed figuratively. I quote a few relevant excerpts, the full text can be found in your Bible:

REV 11:8-15

“And their (i.e., the Two Witnesses) dead bodies”

[the empty churches. The Greek word translated bodies here is "ptoma," defined as a ruin, i.e. lifeless body. Church buildings without believers in them are exactly that, dead bodies.]

“will lie in the street of the great city, which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified”

[Jerusalem]

“And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations”

[the Moslems in the surrounding lands]

“will look at their dead bodies”

[the empty churches]

“for three and a half days”

[The Greek word translated “day” in this verse is ambiguous. “Hemera,” is variously translated: time - hour - moment - day - or YEAR. Context suggests that the correct translation is years. Applying a day for a year principle (Eze 4:5-6), to these 3.5 “years”, each of which has 365.24 days, these “years” could actually be figuratively referring to 1278.34 YEARS.]

Jerusalem was freed of Gentile control in 1967AD - 1278.34 = 688.66, and the construction of the Islamic Dome of the Rock! This gives us the time-frame for when these verses were fulfilled. Between 688AD and 1967AD.

“and will not permit their dead bodies”

[the empty churches]

“to be laid in a tomb”

[to be torn down].

“And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry; and they will send gifts to one another,”

[The Two Witnesses = Christians and the Jews. Islam thought it had won, that the God of Israel had lost the “footstool of His feet,” forever, and they reveled in their victory]

“because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth”

[it is torment for the lost when the gospel is preached and they do not repent].

“And after the three and a half days”

[after Jerusalem was freed.]

“the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet;”

[After 1967, God's people returned to Jerusalem's churches and synagogues in staggering numbers, a phenomenon that continues to this day]

“and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them.”

[the Palestinians and surrounding Moslems]

“And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them,

“Come up here.’ ”

[Saints, both Jew and Gentile are taken up. This is the so-called “rapture” folks. At this verse the Church is taken to be with the Lord. It is a repeat of the declaration of Rev 4:1 using the exact

SAME words, and it is another indication that Revelation is repetitive in nature.]

“And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them...and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.”

“And the seventh angel sounded;”

[This is the Last Trumpet in the Bible and we are taken to be with the Lord at the Last Trumpet, 1 Cor 15:52]

“and there arose loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’ ”

Note “forever and ever”

At this Last Trumpet, there is NO tribulation following and NO Millennium following. We are taken immediately into the Eternal Kingdom of God. Rev 10:6 defines the event:

Rev 10:6-7 . . . “there should be time no longer:”

[i.e., time as a natural phenomenon will cease to exist.]

“But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound,”

[“begins,” at the very first note that comes out of this trumpet this verse will be fulfilled. Sound is “salpezo,” i.e., the sound of a trumpet]

“the mystery of God should be finished,”

[The Greek word “musterion” appears 27 times in the New Testament. Most refer to the Gospel itself or the mystery of Jesus' relationship with the believers.]

[Finished is “teleo,” defined as a total and complete end.]

“as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.”

Note that NO prophets are left out, so that includes John and the book of Revelation. According to these verses, all of Revelation (with the exception of those verses foretelling the eternal Kingdom of God) will be fulfilled at the Seventh Trumpet!

Since it's all over at the Seventh and Last trumpet and that trumpet blows in Rev 11:15, what do we do with the rest of Revelation, i.e., chapters 12 through 20? The Bible clearly tells us:

Rev 10:11 And he said unto me, Thou must PROPHECY AGAIN before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

“Thou must prophesy again!” We are at the end of the trumpets. The Last Trumpet is about to blow. Jesus hands Revelation (the little book) to John and commands him to “prophesy again.”

Ergo: Revelation 12-20 is a repeat of chapters 2-11. Those chapters are In different words with a different emphasis, but they cover events that take place on earth during the same TIME, i.e., the Christian Era.

End of study

The room is now open for discussion.