

## Book of Revelation Study

### Lesson: Revelation 11:1-2

#### *“The Temple of the Tribulation”*

#### Revelation 11:1-2 [Message]

“ I was given a stick for a measuring rod and told, "Get up and measure God's Temple and Altar and everyone worshiping in it.

Exclude the outside court; don't measure it. It's been handed over to non-Jewish outsiders. They'll desecrate the Holy City for forty-two months”

### ***THE TRIBULATION TEMPLE***

#### **Introduction**

\* We are still in the midst of a parenthetical passage that began in chapter 10.

\* We are in the midst of a pause in the actions and activities of the Tribulation Period judgments.

Revelation 11 -- we have arrived at one of the most difficult passages in the book of the Revelation.

It is hard to understand, but keeping two thoughts in mind will help us as we study these verses.

1. We are on Jewish ground – The images and terminology are Jewish in nature. These verses deal with the future of the people of Israel.

2. We are dealing with future events – Some theologians take these verses and try to make them fit the past. Some even try to make them fit into the present. It seems to me that they will only fit into the future.

Let's examine John's words concerning the future Temple.

I want you to see that this prophecy contains some very specific visions of the future of the Jewish people.

#### *The Tribulation Temple*

2.

## **A VISION OF PROMISE**

When John mentions the Temple, he is referring to place dedicated to Jewish worship.

The Jews have been without a Temple for nearly 2,000 years now.

This verse makes it crystal clear that *a new Temple will be built in Jerusalem.*

## **The Past History Of The Temple**

\* For some 500 years from the time of Moses to David, the people of Israel worshiped God at the Tabernacle.

\* It was there that *sacrifices to God* were carried out.

\* It was there that *the priests made intercession for the sins of the people.* \*

It was there that *Israel sought their God.*

**Before King David died, he expressed a desire to build a permanent house of God, a Temple, where God's presence could dwell.**

### 2 Samuel 7:1-4

“And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

2 That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

3 And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.

4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying,

5 Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?”

**David got all the preparations made to build this house and the privilege of building the Temple fell upon David's son.**

\* How important it is for Leaders to always be visionaries

## Solomon built the Temple as he was commanded by David

### 1 Kings 6:1 [Message]

“Four hundred and eighty years after the Israelites came out of Egypt, in the *fourth year of Solomon's rule over Israel*, in the month of Ziv, the second month, Solomon started building The Temple of God”

- \* It took *seven years to complete* the building [1 Kings 6:38]
- \* When it was finished, it was dedicated to the Lord with a lavish sacrifice.

1 Kings 8:63 says that *twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred twenty thousand sheep* were offered to the Lord at the Temple dedication.

- \* At this dedication, when *the Ark of the Covenant* was brought from the Tabernacle into the Temple, God demonstrated His approval of this house of worship by filling it with His Shekinah glory.

[*Shekinah*: The glory of divine presence / conventionally represented as a light / Hebrew: Dwell / Rest]

### 2 Chronicles 7:1-3 [Message]

“When Solomon finished praying, *a bolt of lightning* out of heaven struck the Whole-Burnt-Offering and sacrifices and the Glory of God filled The Temple. The Glory was so dense that the priests couldn't get in—God so filled The Temple that there was no room for the priests! When all Israel saw the fire fall from heaven and the Glory of God fill The Temple, they fell on their knees, bowed their heads, and worshiped, thanking God: Yes! God is good! His love never quits!”

- \* This magnificent Temple cost an enormous amount of money to build
- \* The Illinois Society of Architects estimated - in 1925, that it would have cost \$87 billion dollars!
- \* If that Temple were built in our day, its cost would approach \$500 billion dollars / [The price put on Michael Jacksons Estate]

## The Present Preparations For The Temple

### Revelation 11:1 [Message]

“I was given a stick for a measuring rod and told, "Get up and measure God's Temple and Altar and everyone worshiping in it.

**When John mentions a Temple in [Revelation 11:1](#) - He is letting us in on the truth that a new Temple must be built in Jerusalem**

\* It might surprise you to learn that some people are already making preparations for such an event.

**One problem that has always stood between the Jews and a new Temple is the Mosque of Omar or the Dome of the Rock**

\* This is the third holiest site for Muslims

\* It was completed in 691 AD.

\* Inside the dome is a great rock

**Muslims believe that that Mohammad ascended into Heaven from this rock, conferred with Moses, and returned to earth with the prayers that all Muslims are supposed to pray.**

\* For many centuries, it was believed that the Dome of the Rock was built on the site of the original Temple.

\* It was believed that the Dome of the Rock would have to be demolished before a new Temple could be rebuilt.

**However, recent excavations revealed that the ancient Temple was actually about 100 yards north of the Dome of the Rock site.**

\* A new Temple could be build without disturbing the Muslim holy place.

**By the way, the problems in the Middle East today are not political problems; they are religious problems.**

\* Every group involved in the turmoil in the Israel wants control of the ancient city of Jerusalem.

\* It is the most contested ground in the world. It is the center of the World

\* For the Jews, their struggle is one of survival.

\* For the Arabs and Muslims, their goal is the annihilation of Israel.

**It will all be settled one day! Jesus will make sure of that!**

## The Powerful Message Of The Temple mentioned in Revelation 11:1

- \* The message delivered by this promise of a new Temple in Jerusalem is that God is not through with the Jewish people.
- \* They are still His chosen ones and He still has a plan for them.

## God has already returned them to their homeland

- \* On May 14, 1948, a nation that had been extinct from nearly 1,900 years was raised from the ashes.
- \* Israel became a nation and was restored to her former lands.
- \* The Jews began to return to Israel.

**The promise of a new Temple is simply God's way of saying, "*I am not finished with Israel!*"**

### Revelation 11:1-2 [Message]

**"I was given a stick for a measuring rod and told, "Get up and measure God's Temple and Altar and everyone worshiping in it.**

**Exclude the outside court; don't measure it. It's been handed over to non-Jewish outsiders. They'll desecrate the Holy City for forty-two months"**

- \* John is given A Vision Of PROMISE
- \* John was given A VISION OF PRESERVATION

**John is told to take a reed [a stick for a measuring rod] and measure the Temple, the altar and the worshipers.**

- \* This reed refers to a plant that grows in the Jordan valley.
- \* These reeds grow to a height of 15 to 20 feet.
- \* They are hollow and lightweight, yet they are exceedingly strong.
- \* They were also used in ancient times as measuring sticks.

**A "rod" is about six cubits, or nine feet.**

- \* John is told to take the measuring rod and measure the Temple.

**This is symbolic of two things**

### A Symbol Of *Full* Preservation

- \* **The act of measuring** speaks of possession
- \* **God is claiming the Temple, the altar and the worshipers as His Own**

### A Symbol Of *Faithful* Preservation

- \* **God will keep every promise He has ever made to the nation of Israel**
- \* **He has set them aside for a time because of their unbelief**
- \* **In the end, however, Israel will have the opportunity to be saved**
- \* **God will continue to work in and through Israel until a remnant is saved** [Zech. 12:10-13:1; 8-9]

**A this very time Israel is being called upon by most leaders in this world to negotiate with a people who does not believe or wants them to exist**

- \* **We need to pray for Israel**
- \* **They are an important part of the end-times**

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- \* **While this measuring of the Temple is in one sense a blessing for the nation of Israel, it also brings to mind images of judgment.**
- \* **The rod is mentioned four times in the book of Revelation.**
- \* **One is in these verses.**
- \* **The three other times are in connection with the Lord Jesus and they tell us that He will rule this world with a “rod of iron”** [Rev. 2:27; 12:5; 19:15]

**While there is a vision of Promise and Preservation, there is also a vision of Punishment**

7.

## The Realities Of This Punishment

- \* John is told not to measure the outer court of the Temple
- \* It is to be given to the Gentiles and they will occupy the city for three and one-half years [Revelation 11: 2b “...the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months”]

## These are the days of the *second half* of the Tribulation Period

- \* This verse brings out some thoughts that need to be considered
- \* The Temple will be rebuilt sometime during the early days of the Tribulation.

## No doubt, one of the first accomplishments of the Antichrist will be to arrange a peace treaty between Israel and her enemies

- \* He will do what no other diplomat has ever been able to do.
- \* Even today, diplomats and world leaders are trying to secure peace in Jerusalem.

## They will all fail!

- \* The Antichrist will bring a temporary, pseudo peace [false peace]
- \* When Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace comes, He will bring permanent peace to Israel.

**The peace treaty that the Antichrist will bring forth will give the Jews the right to build their new house of worship**

## Daniel 9:27 [Amplified]

“27 And he shall enter into a strong and firm covenant with the many for one week [seven years]. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and offering to cease [for the remaining three and one-half years]; and upon the wing or pinnacle of abominations [shall come] one who makes desolate, until the full determined end is poured out on the desolator”

**Daniel 9:27** {Message}

27 "'Then for one seven, he will forge many and strong alliances, but halfway through the seven he will banish worship and prayers. At the place of worship, a desecrating obscenity will be set up and remain until finally the desecrator himself is decisively destroyed'"

- \* The Jews will rebuild their Temple and will begin their sacrificial system of worship.
- \* Once again the Jews will slaughter animals in their attempt to keep the Law of God.
- \* Things will go well for a while, but somewhere around the mid-point of the Tribulation, the Antichrist will enter the Holy of Holies in the Temple and he will enthrone himself as god. [Matt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:3-4]

**This event will mark the beginning of the most intense time of persecution Israel will have ever experienced.** [Matt. 24:16-22]

- \* The Jews will lose their Temple and they will be driven from their lands.
- \* They will be hunted down and killed by the forces of the Antichrist and by the rest of their enemies.

**The Reasons For This Punishment**

- \* Israel will be shown in the most vivid manner possible that animal sacrifice cannot take away sin and bring peace with God
- \* God will allow them to build their Temple, and He will allow them to sacrifice again.

**However, their new Temple is nothing more than further rejection of their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ**

- \* Their sacrifices repudiate the Gospel and reject the cross and the blood of Jesus.

**The blood of Jesus Christ** did what the blood of animals has never been able to do or will ever be able to do. [Heb. 9:11-15; 10:10-14] **Their refusal to accept the preaching of the cross by the 144,000 Jewish preachers will not**

**go unpunished. [It's all about repentance and the blood of Jesus]**

**9**

**Because they have rejected the Gospel, the Jews will pay a price**

- \* They will be persecuted and pursued by their enemies
- \* This process will serve to purify the Jewish nation and prepare them for the return of the Lord Jesus.

**When Jesus comes, the remnant of the Jewish nation that is left will turn to Him and receive them as their Messiah [Zech. 12:10-13:1; 8-9]**

- \* Some preachers today are preaching that Jews are saved by a different method than other people
- \* In truth, there is only one plan of salvation for all people and His name is Jesus Christ [Acts 4:12; John 14:6]

**The Jews have rejected Jesus and they will be punished as a result the same as any other nation of people on this earth.  
Those who believe will be saved**

**Daniel 9:27 {Message}**

**27 "'Then for one seven, he will forge many and strong alliances, but halfway through the seven he will banish worship and prayers. At the place of worship, a desecrating obscenity will be set up and remain until finally the desecrator himself is decisively destroyed''**

- \* God still has a plan for Israel and for the future
- \* I also hope you can see from current events that everything is lining up to ensure that God's plans will be brought to pass.

**Right Now Israel is preparing to build their Temple**

- \* They are looking for their Messiah to come and save them
- \* Well, He is coming!
- \* But, tell you today that He has already been here!
- \* He has shed His blood.
- \* He has paid for sin and He will save all who will call on Him by faith

**I hope you are ready to meet Jesus!**

**He is coming and His coming will be very soon.**

Luke 21:28-32

“28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for *your redemption draweth nigh.*

29 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;

30 When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand.

31 So likewise ye, *when ye see* these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.

32 Verily I say unto you, *This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled*”

**Jesus is coming soon! Get Ready!**

Revelation 11: 3-5 [Amplified]

“3 And I will grant the power of prophecy to My two witnesses for 1,260 (42 months; three and one-half years), dressed in sackcloth.

4 These [witnesses] are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth.

5 And if anyone attempts to injure them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their enemies; if anyone should attempt to harm them, thus he is doomed to be slain”

[II Kings 1:10; Jer. 5:14]

*“The Street of Two Witnesses”*

In verses 1-2 we discovered that a new Jewish temple will be built in Jerusalem

The Jews will consecrate a priesthood and they will offer animal sacrifices as prescribed in the Law of Moses.

They will worship God under the old covenant, not recognizing the fact that Jesus shed His precious blood once for all to save the souls of humanity.

**The next vision we are given is of two special witnesses**

God sends two ambassadors from Heaven to preach His Gospel message to the people in Jerusalem.

### How Their Ministry Is Designed

\* Two men are raised up for a special purpose.

### They are called witnesses

- \* This word translates the word that gives us our English word “Martyr”
- \* The word originally referred to someone who gave testimony about something; a witness.
- \* However, as so many Christians began to give their lives for the cause of Christ, the word came to be associated with those who gave their lives for their faith – “Martyr’s for the Gospel”

### They are sent to prophesy

- \* What will be the content of their message?
- \* No one knows for sure, but I think they will stand outside the newly completed Temple and preach Jesus to the Jews in Jerusalem.
- \* They will talk about how Jesus Christ has fulfilled all the type and symbols.
- \* They will tell of His death, His resurrection and of His return.
- \* They will prove from the Word of God that the Temple and its worship are vain.
- \* They will preach the Gospel of grace and salvation through Jesus Christ.
- \* They will tell the people that Antichrist will desecrate the Temple.
- \* These men will be hated by Jew and Gentile because of the message they will preach.

### Revelation 11: 3 [Amplified]

“3 And I will grant the power of prophecy to My two witnesses for 1,260 (42 months; three and one-half years), dressed in sackcloth.

### They will be clothed in sackcloth

### Sackcloth is a symbol of mourning

- \* These men will not come with a message a peace, comfort and hope
- \* They will bring a message of condemnation and judgment to a wayward people.

### Their ministry will last for three and one-half years

- \* While we cannot be too sure of when their ministry will begin, we can safely say that they will commence their preaching sometime after the Temple is built there in Jerusalem.

### Revelation 11: 3-4 [Amplified]

“3 And I will grant the power of prophecy to My two witnesses for 1,260 (42 months; three and one-half years), dressed in sackcloth.  
4 These [witnesses] are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth.

They are described as “*olive trees*” and “*candlesticks*”

The “*olive tree*” speaks of their *unction*

### This is symbolic of God’s hand on their ministry

- \* The olive tree is the source of olive oil
- \* It is often a type of the Holy Spirit in the Bible
- \* These men are anointed by the Spirit of God for their particular ministry

The “*candlestick*” speaks of their *function*

- \* They will come to bring the light of God’s message to a darkened world

### Revelation 11: 5 [KJ]

“And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed”

### **How Their Ministry Is Defended**

- \* These two men will be extremely unpopular because of the message they have been sent to deliver.
- \* As a result, many will try to kill them.
- \* But, these men are under divine protection.
- \* Everyone who tries to kill them will be killed

**They God's witnesses – sent forth by God, sent forth for a set time, sent forth as prophets, God will meet their needs – They will have a great anointing of Gods Power and Presence**

- \* This gives us a picture of God anointing to fulfill
- \* Simply God keeps us!

### **Revelation 11: 6 [KJ]**

**“6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will”**

### **How Their Ministry Is Described**

- \* These two men will be able to use miraculous signs that will bring forth authenticity of their message.
- \* They will be able to shut up the heavens as Elijah did.
- \* They will be able to turn water to blood and call down plagues from Heaven as Moses did.
- \* They will have immense power – The Presence, Power and Purpose of the Lord will manifest in their ministry

**The Bible does not identify them and no one can say with absolute certainty just who they are.  
But the Bible gives us the very character and anointing of these men.**

**They will be known by their Preaching, by the Presence of Gods Anointing on them.**

**Some say Moses, some Elijah, some Enoch but I say if God wanted us to know He would have told us – the importance is their message!**

As I prepared this message I was listening to a Chief of a Tribe in Africa saying to a Missionary that the new well that was drilled in His village was such a blessing and then he said something that touched me – He said water is a special gift that you can give to a human being.

This was all taking place in Kenya and another statement was made – the chief said our soil is good – our soil

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Living Water and is indeed a very special gift from God for every human being!

The two witnesses bring forth the Gospel of Jesus with demonstration!

Revelation 11: 7 [KJ]

“ 7And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them”

**The Ministry Of The Two Witnesses**

**The Reason For Their Deaths**

- \* When they have finished their appointed ministry, Antichrist will be allowed to kill them.
- \* Until that moment, they are protected by the hand of God and cannot be killed.
- \* We are told that they are killed by “**the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit**”

**This is a reference to the Antichrist**

- \* He is called “*the beast*” 38 times in the Revelation.
- \* He ascends out of Hell itself letting us know that he is demonically charged and controlled.
- \* He will make war against the witnesses and he will be allowed to overcome them and kill them.

**Only when the Lord Allow it!**

**Revelation 11: 8 [KJ]**

“And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified”

**The Reaction To Their Deaths**

- \* The bodies of these men will be left in the very streets where they were killed.
- \* They will lay there in Jerusalem and no one will remove their bodies or attempt to bury them.

**Revelation 11: 9 [KJ]**

9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

**Verse 9 tells us that all the people of the earth will see this sight**

- \* 100 years ago it was a mystery how this could happen
- \* In our day, we see live events from around the world twenty-four hours a day
- \* Satellite technology has made it possible for us to see what is happening on the other side of the world with less than 8 seconds delay in time.
- \* The cable news channels like Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, etc will broadcast the images of these dead prophets around the clock.

**Revelation 11: 10 [KJ]**

10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth”

**Verse 10 tells us that the people of the earth will rejoice because these two men are dead.**

- \* For three and one-half years these men have preached the Gospel and caused plagues to be poured out on men.
- \* Now they are dead and the world celebrates.

**They act as if it were Christmas time.**

**They celebrate, they party and they exchange gifts because these men are dead.**

\* Why do they do this?

\* The preaching of these two witnesses drove them crazy.

\* We are talking about a world that rejected Jesus Christ and His blood.

**By the way, this is the only scene of joy on the earth during the whole Tribulation. And there are happy because God's men are dead and God's message is silent. What a tragedy!**

\* Just for the record, the world will rejoice when old time Bible preaching is finally silenced.

\* Now, they love the preaching of this crowd that exalts the flesh.

\* This world cannot stand preaching that exposes sin

\* This world does not like the word repentance and the name Jesus Christ

**Revelation 11: 11 [KJ]**

**“ 11And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them”**

**THE MIRACLE OF THE TWO WITNESSES**

**The Miracle Of Their Awakening**

\* The bodies of these men are allowed to lie in the streets of Jerusalem for three and one-half days

\* The world has watched as their bodies turn blue, pass through the various stages of rigor mortis and begin to bloat

\* Then, a strange thing happens, those bodies begin to stir!

**The two witnesses stand to their feet and the world trembles in fear**

\* Why does the world react in fear?

\* The fact that these men are alive again after being dead for 3 ½ days proves that they are the real deal.

People know that they are men of God and that the message they have been preaching is true.

Perhaps they understand that this is the work of God.

Perhaps they have a brief moment in time when they understand that they are headed for judgment!

**They will see it for themselves.**

**They are interrupted by proof positive that God, not man, not Satan, not Antichrist, is really in control**

Revelation 11: 12 [KJ]

“And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them”

The Miracle Of Their Ascension

\* While the world watches, the Lord God will reenact the Rapture [Rev. 4:1] and the two witnesses will rise up into Heaven.

\* The world will see what it missed out on when Jesus came.

\* Maybe they will comprehend in that moment of time what happened when millions of people disappeared in the Rapture of the church.

**Simply The world will be given a clear testimony of the power of God Almighty!**

**Satan, Antichrist and lost man will be reminded that God is in control of the world and all that happens in it. They will be helpless to stop this resurrection and rapture of the two witnesses.**

Revelation 11: 13-14 [KJ]

“13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.  
14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly”

\* Before the world can catch its collective breath, a great earthquake will hit Jerusalem.

\* God judges the city that has denied Him and His Christ.

**A tenth part of the city will crumble to the ground and seven thousand people will die.**

- \* We are told – that -“*the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven*”
- \* This probably refers to a remnant of the Jews.
- \* They see these events, repent of their sins and call on Christ for salvation.
- \* God will use even these events to bring glory to His name!

**We are also told:** “*The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.*”

- \* More horrors are on the way!

### **Revelation 11: 15-19**

“ 15 And *the seventh angel sounded*; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail”

**Now in this passage, the seventh trumpet, which was announced in [Revelation 10:7](#) - is about to sound**

**\* When it is sounded, this trumpet will unleash God's final acts of judgments upon the earth.**

The seventh trumpet will bring about a devastating wave of judgment. It will fulfill the ancient prophecies of [Joel 2:1-2](#) "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; (2) A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations."

**When it is sounds, the seven bowl judgments are revealed**

**\* These bowls contain the final, awesome, awful judgments of God – [Revelation 15:1 "And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God"]**

**\* The sound of the seventh trumpet alerts the world that King Jesus is about to reclaim everything that belongs to Him.**

**Now, the seventh trumpet is sounded here in [Revelation 11:1](#) - but the events it brings to pass are not recorded until we get to [Revelation 15](#).**

Revelation [Chapters 12 thru 14](#) are a retelling of the Tribulation story from a different perspective.

In [Revelation 6 thru Chapter 11](#) - the focus has been on the Lord Jesus. We have learned about the process He uses to take possession of this earth.

In [Revelation chapter 12 thru chapter 14](#) takes the focus off the Lord and places in on the Antichrist.

**We have been observing the Tribulation from God's perspective. For the next few chapters we will observe that awful period of time from Satan's perspective**

### Revelation 11: 15

**“15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever”**

- \* This passage takes us forward in time to the very edge of eternity.
- \* We are transported ahead to the end of the age to a time when Jesus has taken possession of the world and judged sin and sinners.
- \* As we look ahead to that blessed day, we find Heaven in a state of rejoicing.

### The Scope Of His Kingdom

*“kingdoms of this world”*

- \* In the **Greek**: the word *“kingdoms”* is **singular**.
- \* There are many rulers, leaders, kings and presidents in this world, but there is but one true kingdom.
- \* Men think they rule, in reality, Satan rules this world today.
- \* Satan is called *“the god of this world”* in **2 Corinthians 4:4**.
- \* The Lord Jesus called him *“the prince of this world”* three times in John’s Gospel, John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11.

**The truth of Satan’s rule can be seen in the hatred that is being leveled against Jesus Christ and His Gospel in this world.**

**People have no reason to hate Jesus.**

**They do so because they are led to by the devil! He is the ruler of this world today.**

### Revelation 11: 15

**“15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever”**

**The Span Of His Kingdom – “He shall reign for ever and ever” –**  
 Jesus will not be like a human ruler. All human rulers eventually reach the end of their reign. They die or are deposed and replaced by another. Not Jesus! He will reign eternally - **“Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations”**  
**Psalm 145:13.**

**Revelation 11: 15-17**

**“15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.**

**16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,**

**17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned”**

**This is what we are looking at:**

- \* The Third Woe is sounded**
- \* This world becomes Gods Kingdom**
- \* The Lord God almighty is praised and worshiped**
- \* The Elders in Heaven worship God**
- \* Praise and Worship is Eternal– He is praised because of His supreme authority and because He reigns!**

**Revelation 11: 18-19**

**“ 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.**

- \* The nations make a final rebellion and are destroyed**
- \* The wrath of God will fall**
- \* The dead will be judged**
- \* The Godly will be rewarded**
- \* The destroyers will be destroyed**

**19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail”**

- \* **God's Temple is to be opened**
- \* **God's covenant and promises will be seen to be true**
- \* **God's majestic presence will be experienced**

**(Note: In the Bible, there are five different names for the Ark of the Covenant mentioned. These five names reveal what God is doing in these verses.**

1. **The Ark of the Covenant – Numbers 10:33** – The ancient Ark contained the Law. In these verses we see a world that has transgressed God's Law. The world has angered the Lord and He has come down to judge them!
2. **The Ark of the Testimony – Exodus 25:22** – The Ark testified to God's holiness and man's sinfulness. God is still holy and man is still a sinner. As a sinner, man will be judged by a holy God.
3. **The Ark of God – 1 Samuel 3:3** – The Ark was the only visible throne of God on the earth. This vision of the Ark reminds everyone that God is still on His throne!
4. **The Ark of Strength – Psalm 132:8** – It was called this because of the miracles and great works associated with it. We are reminded here that God is still Almighty God and He still reigns in power.
5. **The Holy Ark – 2 Chronicles 35:3** – It was called the Holy Ark because it is where God dwelt! This vision of the Ark reminds us that God is still alive and well!

## **Conclusion**

### **Revelation 11: 19**

**“19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and *there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail*”**

- \* **Verse 19 closes with premonitions of impending disasters.**
- \* **More horrors, worse horrors, than those we have seen thus far, are on the horizon.**
- \* **We are at the half-way point of the book and of the Tribulation. We have seen things from God's perspective, now we will see things from Satan's perspective.**

These verses have literally taken us to the very edge of eternity. The question that must be faced today is this: Which group mentioned in [Revelation 11: 18](#) are you a part of?

**Revelation 11: 18-19**

**“ 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.**