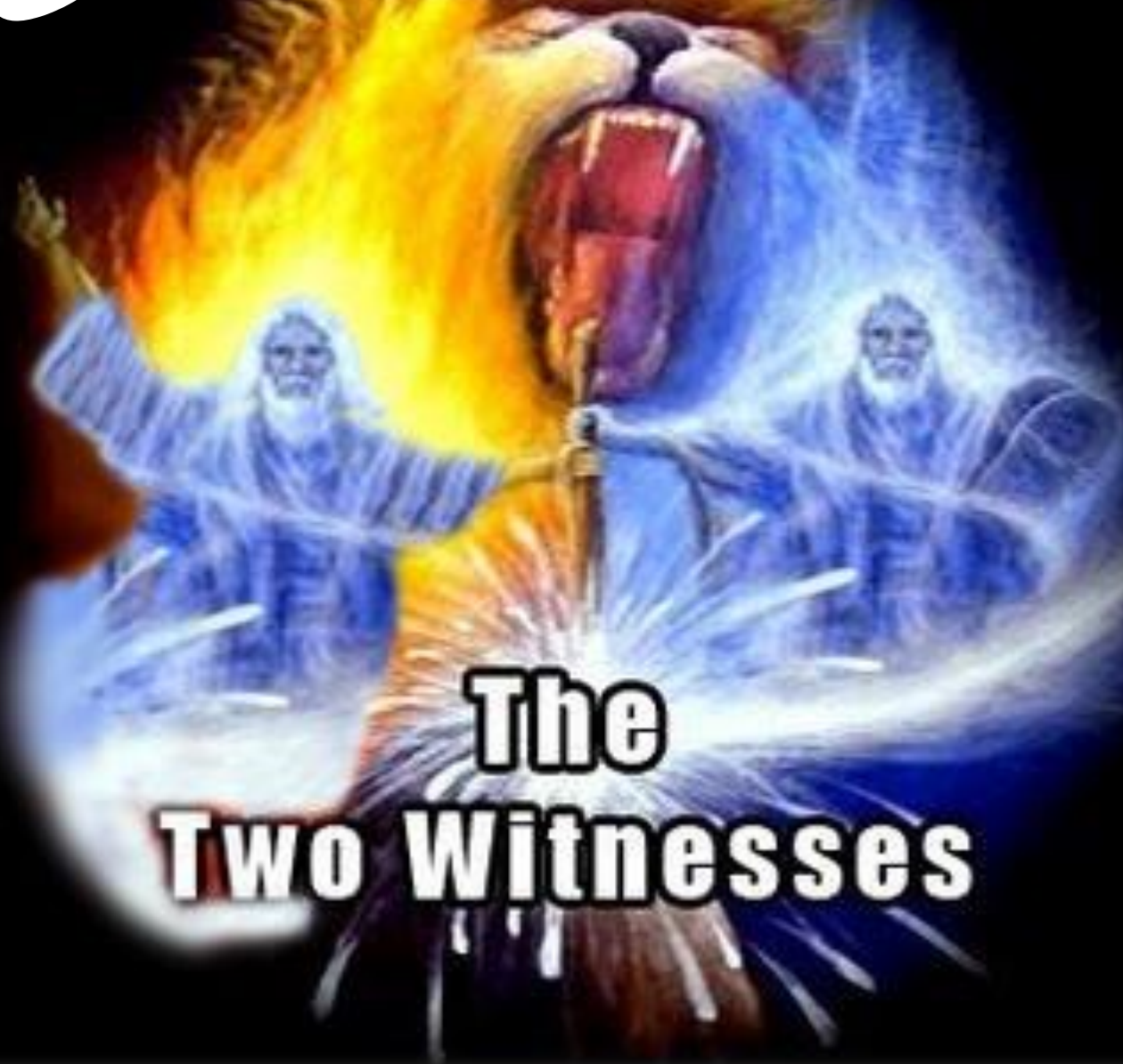


Revelation 11



**The
Two Witnesses**

Review: Chapter Headings

Chapter 1 Christ among the *lampstands*

Chapter 2-3 Letters to the seven churches

Chapter 4 Throne scene: *God's in control*

Chapter 5 Intro to 7 Seals: *Lamb is worthy*

Chapter 6 The 7 Seals: *Destiny revealed*

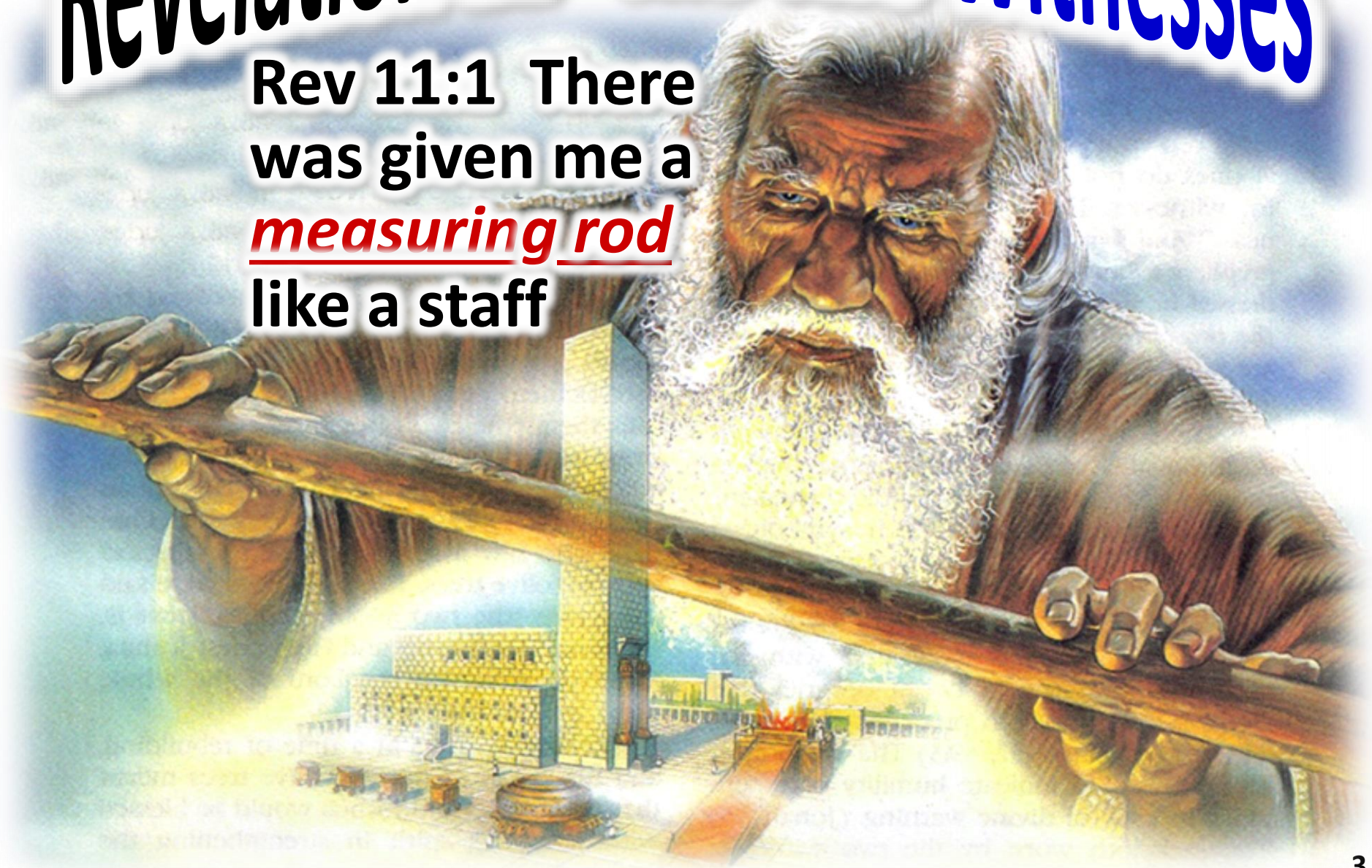
Chapter 7 Intermission: *Sealing 144,000*

Chapter 8-9 Seven Trumpets: *Warnings*

Chapter 10 Strong Angel: *Delay no longer*

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:1 There
was given me a
measuring rod
like a staff



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 1-2 Temple is Measured

Measuring rod: a staff for measuring. One in (Rev 21:15) was a “**Gold**” measuring rod

Gen 32:10 Jacob had a staff
Ex 4:2 Moses had a staff
Heb 11:21 Jacob leaned on a staff
Zech 8:4 Zech says aged use a staff

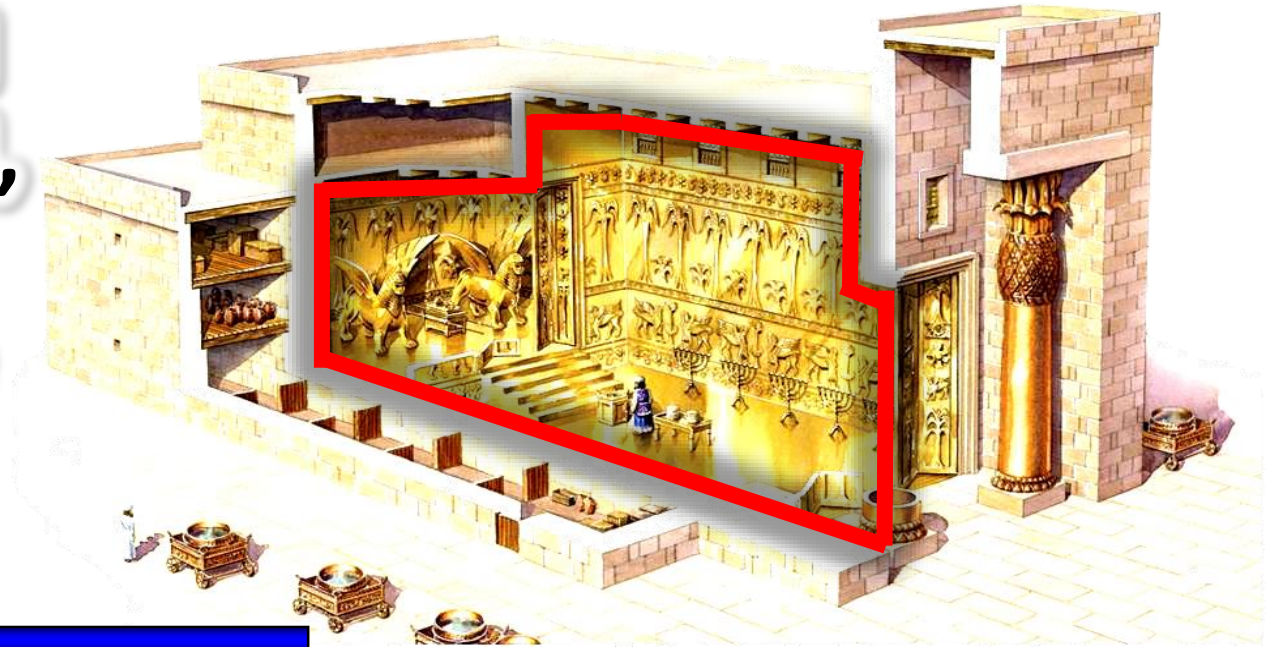
But John's stick was for measuring !



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 1-2 Temple is Measured

Rev 11:1 And someone said, "Get up and measure the *temple of God..*"



Thayer : Naos. "Used of the temple at Jerusalem, but only of ...the Holy place & the Holy of holies."

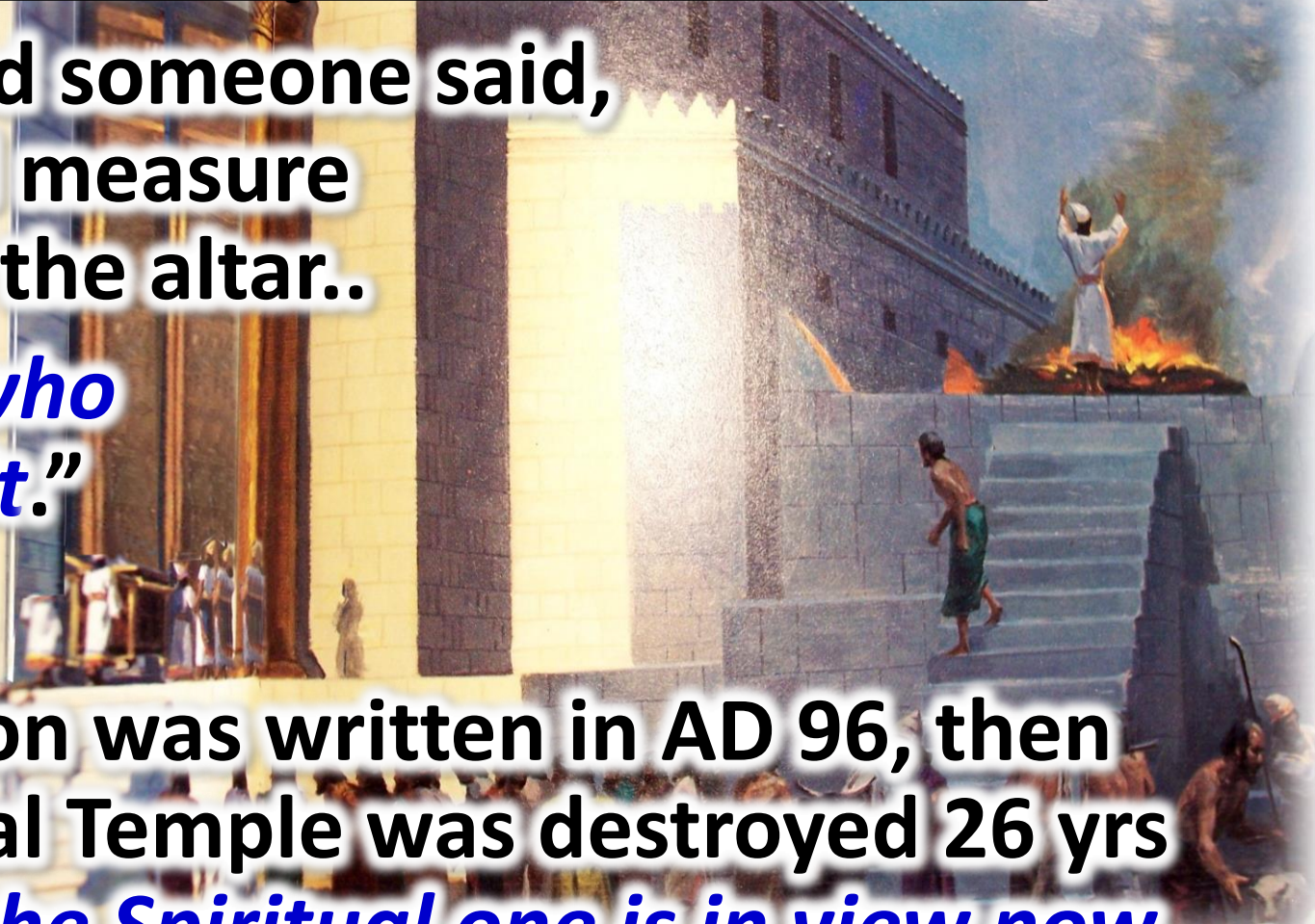
Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 1-2 **Temple is Measured**

Rev 11:1 And someone said,
"Get up and measure
the temple, the altar..

and *those who
worship in it.*"

If Revelation was written in AD 96, then
the physical Temple was destroyed 26 yrs
prior and *the Spiritual one is in view now.*



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:1 And someone said,
"Get up and measure the temple of God,
the altar, and those who worship in it."

Why? It Shows Security of the Faithful!

- a. Chapter 7 the faithful were sealed
- b. Chapter 11 the faithful are measured



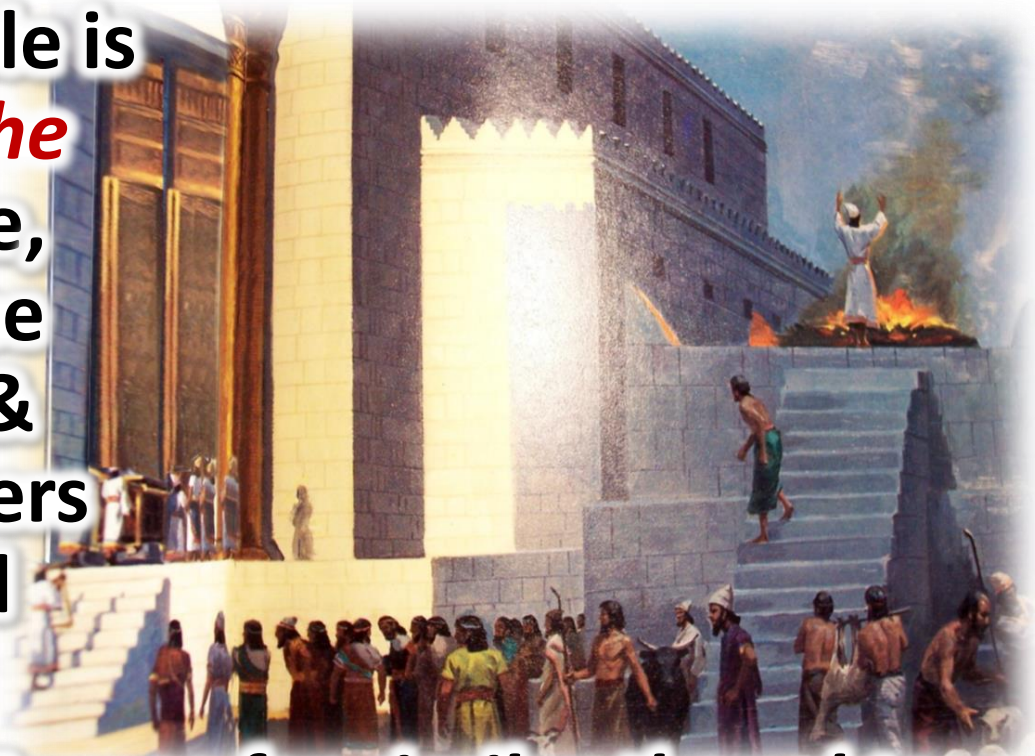
"The Temple represents the inner spiritual life of the true worshippers which neither Satan nor persecution can reach" Hailey

Point: God knows who are His, their dedication and He won't lose track.

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:1 Someone said,
"Get up and measure the temple of God,
the altar, and those who worship in it."

Coffman: "The temple is *the people of God.. the true church.* Doctrine, worship, teaching, the individual character & conduct of its members would all be included in the measuring."



Compare: Pulpit & Barnes for similar thoughts.

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Solomon's Temple was *destroyed* 586^{BC}

Ezekiel 'sees' a future Temple in a vision

(Ezk 40:1-5)

With 40 verses
about rooms,
pillars, courts,
furniture,
gates, win-
dows, and
utensils...

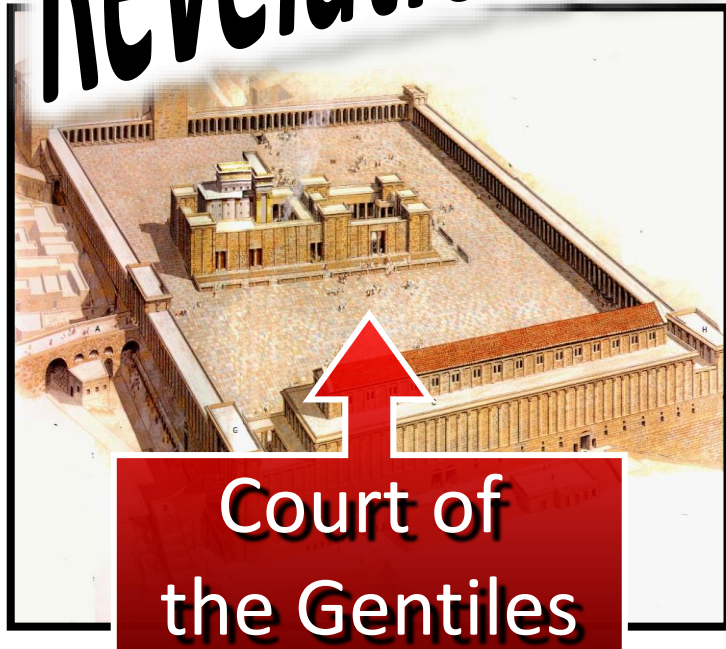
for a Temple
that would not
exist for 500
years.

And which has
NEVER *literally*
existed like that !

The Church
is NOW the

Temple of God (1 Cor 3:16 - 17; Eph 2:21)

Revelation 11



The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:2 “Leave out the court which is outside the temple & do not measure it, *for it has been given to the nations ...*”

“**Gentiles**.. were excluded from entering into any of the inner courts. Warning signs in Greek and Latin were placed that gave warning that the penalty for such trespass was death.. even if the offender were a Roman citizen.” BibleHistory.com

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:2 And they (the gentiles) will tread under foot *the holy city* for forty-two months.

Forty two months = 3 ½ years.

An incomplete period of Time — not 7 years

11:2 Nations tread Holy City for *42 months*

11:3 Witnesses preach in sackcloth *1260 days*

12:14 Woman in wilderness *time, times & ½ time*

13:5 Beast speaking blasphemies *42 months*

Faithful are Known and Protected ~

You won't face persecution all the time !

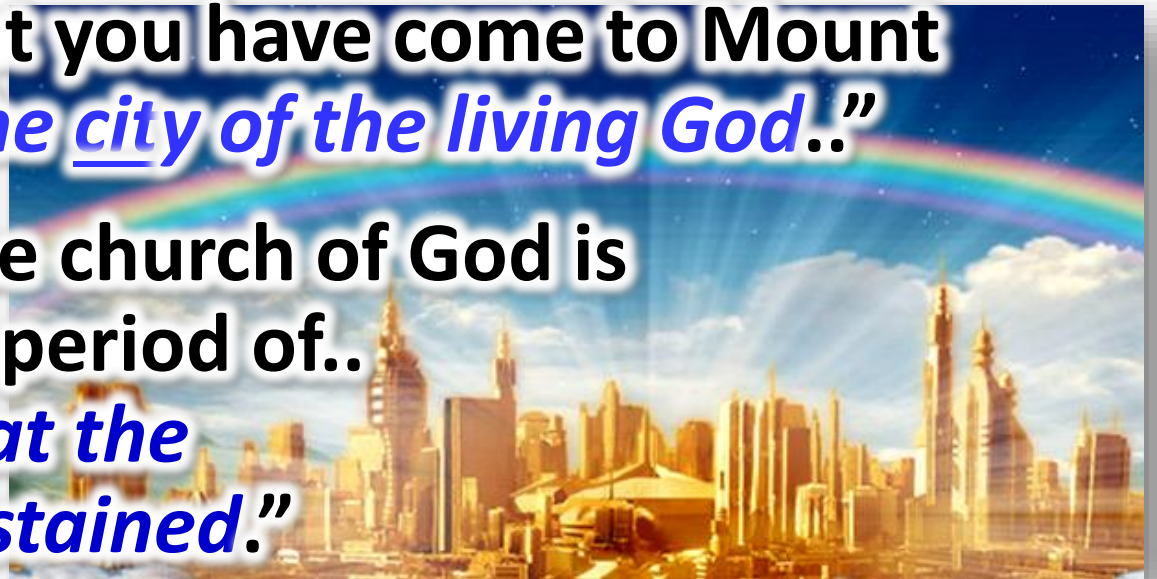
Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:2 And they (the gentiles) will tread under foot the Holy City for forty-two months.

Heb 12:22 “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.”

McGuiggan: “The church of God is about to enter a period of.. persecution but at the same time be sustained.”

“She would endure hardship and abuse but would be preserved through it by the Lord.”



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Ogden believes 3 ½ years is literal Jerusalem from... “the time that Vespasian entered Palestine in spring of AD 67 until Jerusalem was completely destroyed in the summer of AD 70.”

Rome didn't attack Jerusalem for 3 ½ years...
(ie 42 months, Rev 11:2) **But only for 6 months!**

67-68 **Vespasian** took surrounding provinces.*
69 **Nero** dies; Vespasian won't attack w/o orders.
69 **Vespasian** recalled and becomes emperor.
69 **Titus** lays siege to Jerusalem in **April**. Tower of Antonia fell in **July**. Temple was burned in **August**. Lower city burned in **Sept. (6 months)**

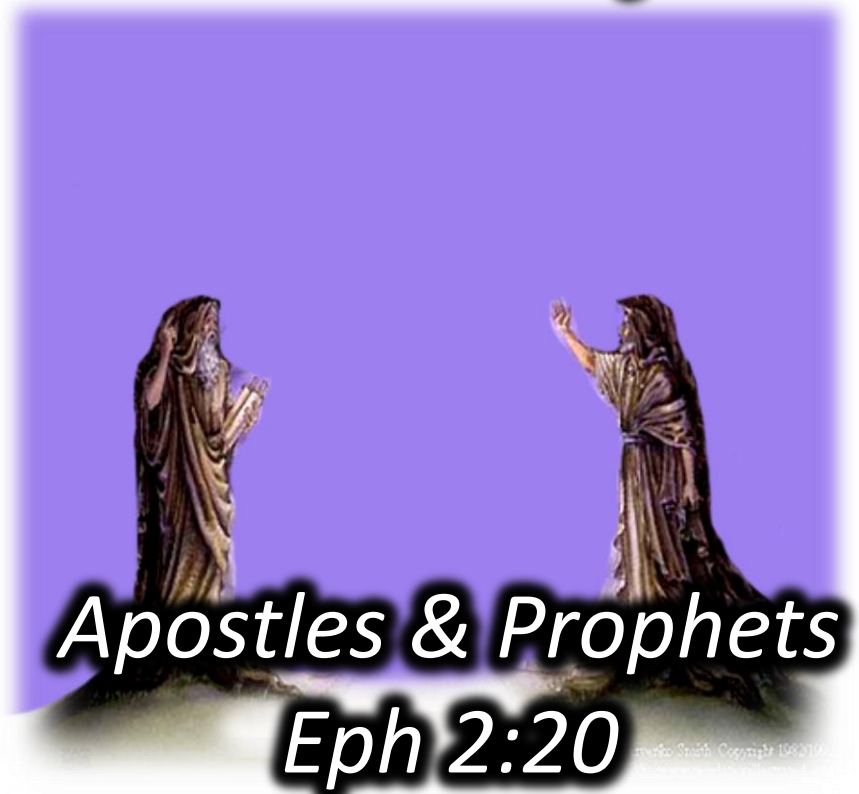
Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:3 And I will grant

authority to my two witnesses...

- Were Two (v.3)
- Had Authority (v.3)
- Were Prophets (v.3,10)
- Are Lampstands (v.4)
- Miracle-Power (v.5-6)
- Testified (v.7)
- Killed by Beast (v.7)
- Resurrected (v.11)
- Ascended (v.12)

Who Are They?



Apostles & Prophets
Eph 2:20

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:3 And I will grant

authority to my two witnesses...

Two witnesses to
confirm testimony!
(Deut 17:6; Mat 18:16)

Apostles & Prophets
Eph 2:20

Matt 10:1 Having summoned His twelve disciples,
He gave them authority over
unclean spirits, to cast them
out, and to heal every kind
of disease and every kind of sickness.

Mat 10:7 As you go, *preach*, saying,
“The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

v.3 The Witnesses

v.3,7 Who Testified

v.3 Granted Authority

v.4 Are Two Olive Trees & Two Lampstands

Zech 4:2-3 Is a vision is of **one lamp** with **2 trees**.

Zech 4:6 “The vision: **Prophecy** is not be effected by human strength but by the Spirit of God.” Keil



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

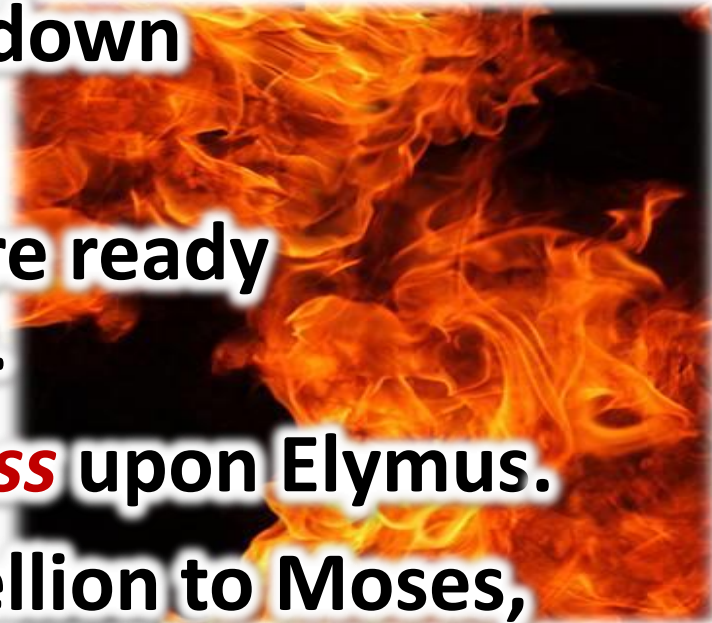
Rev 11:5-6 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies.

(2 Kings 1:10) Elijah called *fire* down upon arresting officers.

(Luke 9:54) James and John were ready to call *fire* down upon Samaritans.

(Acts 13:11) Paul called *blindness* upon Elymus.

(Num 16:35) At Korah's rebellion to Moses, *fire* came down and destroyed 250 men associated with Korah (v.16-17).



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:7 When they have finished their testimony, the Beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.

Finished their testimony

Mission Accomplished !

The Gospel was preached in all the world. (Col 1:23)

Beast that comes up...

Grk Therion "Wild, brutal, ferocious beast." Thayers

Beast is first mentioned.



The Roman empire !

Barnes; Ogden; McGuiggan.

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:7 When they have finished their testimony, the Beast that comes up out of the abyss **will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.**

1. Origin in **Abyss** Rev 11:7.
2. Great **Power** Rev 17:12-13.
3. Receives **Worship**, Rev 13:4.
4. Has a **Throne** from which its power proceeds.
Rev 16:10.



The Roman empire !

Barnes; Ogden; McGuiggan.

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

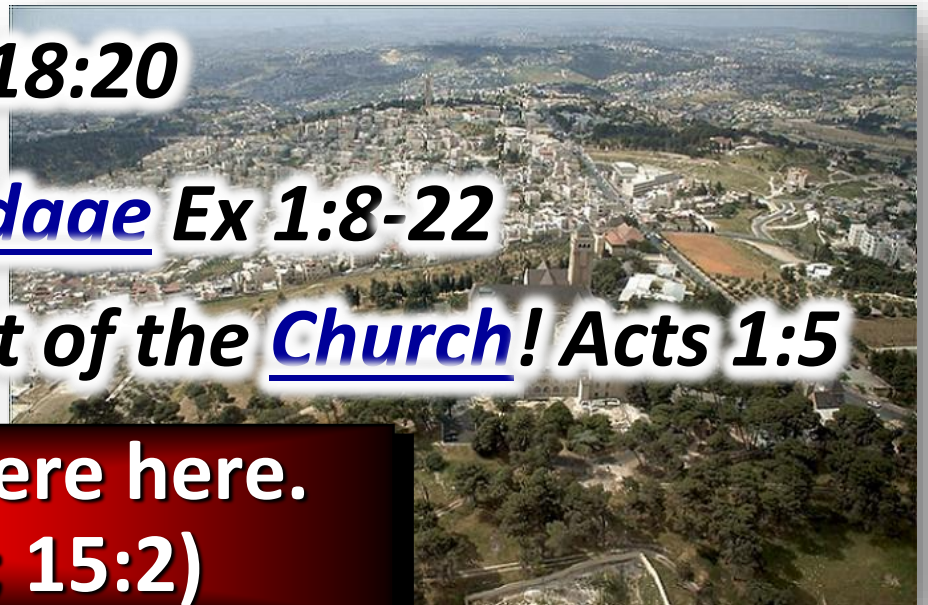
Rev 11:8 Their dead bodies will lie in the street
[3 ½ days v.11] of the great city which mystically
is called Sodom and Egypt, where also
their Lord was crucified.

Sodom: city of Sin Gen 18:20

Egypt: the land of Bondage Ex 1:8-22

Lord was crucified: Start of the Church! Acts 1:5

**Apostles & prophets were here.
(Acts 2:14; Acts 8:1; 15:2)**



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:9-10 They will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb.

Not...to be laid in a tomb: Expression of extreme dishonor.

Jer 8:2 They will not be gathered or buried; they will be as dung on the face of the ground.

Jer 22:19 will be buried with a donkey's burial, dragged off and thrown out .



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:10 And those who dwell on the earth will *rejoice* over them and *celebrate*; & they will send gifts to one another, *because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.*

Those who dwell on the earth =
Sinful mankind (Rev 13:8, 14)

(Rev 17:8) “Those who dwell on the earth will wonder, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world..”



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:11 But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them.



Three and a half days: a short period of time, in relation to 3 ½ years (Rev 11:3)

Same imagery in (Ezek 37:10-12) “**Truth triumphs over Persecution & sin.**”

Barnes: “Their testimony should be again [shown to be] the truth as it had been before.”

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "***Come up here.***"
Then they went up ***into heaven in the cloud, & their enemies watched them.***

v.12 Voice from Heaven saying— "Come up here."

Imagery like Jesus' Ascension (Acts 1:9)

Through Persecution & death they are still Victorious!
(Rom 8:35-39)



Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:13 In that hour there was a **Great Earthquake**, and **one tenth** of the city fell; **7,000 people were killed in the earthquake.**

Judgments of God Pictured:

Isa 13:13 Fall of Babylon: **Earth will be shaken** from its place.”

Jer 4:23-24 Babylonian Attack: **“Mountains were quaking”**



Ogden says nothing of this earthquake, but quotes Josephus saying while the Temple was being plundered 10,000 were SLAIN !

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v14-19 *The 7th Trumpet: Reign of Christ*

Rev 11:14 The 2nd Woe is past; behold the
3rd woe is coming quickly

Trumpets 1-4 were blown (Rev 8:2-12)

[Vegetation, Ships, Bitter water, Sun darkened]

Eagle says **Woe** for last *Three trumpets* (Rev 8:13)

- **1st Woe** Trumpet #5 *Locust torment* (Rev 9:1-5)
- **2nd Woe** Trumpet #6 *Many Killed* (Rev 9:12-15)
- **3rd Woe** Trumpet #7 *Judgment* (Rev 11:14-18)

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v14 - 19 The Seventh Trumpet : *Reign of Christ*

Rev 11:15 The 7th angel sounded... loud voices in heaven saying "*The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and ...*
He will reign forever & ever...

Kingdom already existed (Col 1:13; Rev 1:6)

*Now it is a Victorious World Empire
(Dan 2:44)*

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 14 - 19 The Seventh Trumpet : *Reign of Christ*

Rev 11:16 *And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones* before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying, "*We give Thee thanks, O Lord God...*



v.16-18 Saying "We give Thee thanks"

Victory Song

Over the forces of Rome

*Like Moses song after Red Sea
(Ex 15:1-21)*

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 14 - 19 The Seventh Trumpet : *Reign of Christ*

Rev 11:18 “And the *nations were enraged*, and Thy wrath came, and the time came for **the dead to be judged...**

And **the time to give their reward** to ... the saints and to those who fear Thy name...”

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 14 - 19 The Seventh Trumpet : *Reign of Christ*



Rev 11:18b *And to destroy those who destroy the earth."*

Barnes: "That is, all who have, in their conquests, *spread desolation over the earth* and who have persecuted the righteous, and all who have done injustice and wrong..."

Revelation 11 The Two Witnesses

v. 14 - 19 The Seventh Trumpet : *Reign of Christ*

Rev 11:19 And the temple of God which is in *heaven* was opened; and *the Ark of His Covenant appeared in His temple*, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

A golden Ark of the Covenant is depicted floating in a dark blue sky filled with lightning bolts. The Ark is a rectangular structure with a flat top and a decorative front panel. It is surrounded by several bright, jagged lightning bolts that strike down from the sky. The overall scene is dramatic and powerful, emphasizing the divine nature of the event described in the text.

God is faithful and Powerful !

He will be true to every promise.