

# The Book Of The Revelation of Jesus Christ

## Chapter Eleven

### *The Rebuilt Jewish Temple*

Focus Verse: **Revelation 11:1**

**“And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.”**

#### I. Introduction - The Key To All The Keys

We now enter the one chapter in Scripture that unlocks the Book of the Revelation, so that Revelation will unlock the Old Testament, so that the Old Testament will unlock the New Testament for the believer! There are several critical things that the child of God must have settled before portions of Matthew, Acts, and Hebrews will make any sense: The importance of the Jews to God; the Temple in prophecy; the cyclical nature of history; the time element of the Tribulation; the character of the Beast; and the ultimate end of this present evil world! Chronologically, we enter the last half of the Tribulation, called the “\_\_\_\_\_ tribulation” in Matthew 24:21.

#### II. Lesson - Chapter Eleven

##### A. The Rebuilt Jewish Temple (11:1-2)

###### 1. Its Past

- a. The whole Jewish system of worship revolved around the existence of the Tabernacle and then the Temple. When the Temple was destroyed, the Jews lost their identity and purpose in relation to God.
- b. All Jewish temples are patterned after the \_\_\_\_\_ built by \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness (Exod 29). The “Tabernacle” was God’s “mobile home” while they were in the wilderness.
- c. The first “Temple” was \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (I Kings 5-8). Destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587 BC (II Kings 25). The “Temple” was permanent.
- d. The second or rebuilt Temple was \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (Ezra 3:4-13; 6:1-22), which later was expanded on and became known as \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (John 2:19,20) – Destroyed \_\_\_\_ AD

###### 2. Its Placement

- a. This Temple will be on the earth (not in heaven), in Jerusalem (vs 2) on Mount Moriah (2 Chron 3:1) where Abraham was told to sacrifice his son Isaac (Gen 22:2), which was *Mt Calvary!!!*
- b. This Temple is yet future (11:2 “shall they tread”), during the Tribulation

**PRINCIPLE:** Therefore, from John’s vantage point (95 AD), the Jews had to get back into their land, rebuild their Temple for the third time, and have it desecrated by Gentiles for 3 1/2 years. So... God then is NOT all through with the Jews, but will deal with them again as His people. This is the premillennial method of interpretation.

###### 3. Its Prominence - Notice how important the Temple is to God!

###### a. There are Seven Temples listed in Scripture:

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (Rev 11:19; 15:5) - the Pattern
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (I Kings 5-8)
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (Ezra 3:4-13; 6:1-22), also known as Herod’s Temple (John 2:19,20)
- 4) The Christian’s \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 6:19)
- 5) The \_\_\_\_\_ Rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem (Rev 11), called the \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (2Thes 2:4) which will be made into the abomination of desolation (Mt 24:15)
- 6) The \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (Ezek 40-48)
- 7) The final Temple is \_\_\_\_\_ and the Lamb – they are our eternal Temple (Rev 21:22)

Note: The Tabernacle in the Wilderness (Ex 26:1-30), was the first “temple” of God, but called a **Tabernacle** because it was *mobile*, and not permanent (see 2 Pet 1:13,14). David took the design of the Tabernacle, and had his son Solomon build a permanent Temple from it. After the millennium, the Bible says that we will no longer need ANY physical Temple (Rev 21:22).

b. Prophecies concerning this Tribulational Temple

- 1) Daniel 9:25-27 “*the sacrifice shall cease*” - implying...
  - a) There will be a restored priesthood
  - b) Restored daily animal sacrifices
  - c) Repulsion of Muslim control over any Jewish Temple grounds
- 2) 2 Thess 2:1-4 the antichrist will publically take over the Temple
- 3) Matthew 24:15 the “*abomination of desolation*” will take place
  - a) He, as a devil, will claim to be God
  - b) He will sit on the Mercy Seat, the very throne of God on earth
  - c) He will demand HUMAN sacrifices in the Temple
- 4) Luke 21:20-28 “*the times of the Gentiles*” will overshadow God’s dealings with the Jews

4. Its Particulars

- a. It will be built like Solomon’s Temple was - MASSIVE
- b. It will have an Altar - The blood sacrifice is central to the Jewish worship of God! Think about this: The Jews will have an operating Temple in Jerusalem with Sacrifices again being made for sin.
- c. It will have an outer court for the Gentiles implying that Israel will be forced to accommodate the Gentiles in their worship.
- d. There will be *many* that will worship there. Talk about a Jewish Tourist trap!!!

B. **The Two Witnesses** (11:3-14)

Notice: **God Has His Witness**. No matter where a person can go, God has a witness. Whether on a secluded Pacific island, even “the heavens declare the glory of God” (Ps 19), or downtown Anywhere, God has His witness at work. Sometimes it will be in the form of a Gospel tract left in a phone booth. Sometimes it will be in the form of a street preacher on a busy corner. Sometimes, it will be in the form of a radio program. The principle is, God is interested in His creation knowing that He is there, and “that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Heb 11:6). During the first half of the Tribulation, God uses two men who are almost unstoppable. During the last half of the Tribulation God has His 144,000 witnesses. We will find out who these two witnesses are, God’s purpose in using them, what happens to them, and the conclusion to this world’s history of self-determination.

Note also, the emphasis upon witnessing: the two here, and the 144,000 witnesses in chapters 7 and 14. We ought to major on the things that God majors on AMEN?! - “WITNESSING”

1. The Identity of these Two Witnesses

- a. They shall prophecy 1260 days (Dan 12:11) - Unlocks the time element of the following things:
  - 1) 1260 days (vs 3) = 42 months (vs 2) = 3 1/2 years - NOTHING ALLEGORICAL HERE!
  - 2) A Bible month therefore consists of 30 days each 1260 / 42 = 30 days
  - 3) The Tribulation is divided into two 3 1/2 years segments
  - 4) This is literal time, with start and stop dates
  - 5) These two men are the ONLY witnesses during this time period. There are no Christians, no believing Jews, no one. ONLY these two men.
- b. They are called (see Zech 4:11-14) by the following terms:
  - 1) The two \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) The two \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3) They are the ones “standing before the God of the earth” (I Kings 17:1; Exod 33:20,21)

- a) Mormons say these are “the Bible AND the book of Mormon”
- b) Mary Baker Patterson Eddy says “the Bible AND her ‘*Key to the scriptures*’”
- c) Rome says that “they are the Bible AND the Apocrypha, AND Tradition...”
- d) The Bible says these are **anointed ones**, (chosen ones) Zech 4:11-14
- e) The Bible says that if any hurt them, then FIRE WILL COME OUT OF THEM AND BURN (11:5)!!!

c. They have the following characteristics:

- 1) They destroy their enemies with fire (Num 16:31-35; II Kings 1:10)
- 2) Shut up heaven that it rain not for 3 1/2 years (James 5:17)
- 3) Have power to turn water into blood (Exod 7:19)
- 4) Have power to smite the earth with plagues (Ps 105:26-36)

Therefore, these two witnesses are \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Cf Matt 17:1-4)

NOTE: Notice then that we not only have the Second coming of Christ, but also, the Second coming of Moses and Elijah, and even the Second coming of \_\_\_\_\_. Any country farmer can count on history going in a complete circle and repeating itself (season after season, Eccl 3)!

2. The Intoleration of the Two Witnesses (11:7-12)

- a. They shall boldly preach AGAINST the Antichrist
- b. They shall fight head to head with this “Beast” - The spiritual warfare enters the visible realm.
- c. But, unlike earlier battles, they shall lose and die in the center of Jerusalem with the world watching. But it won’t be until they “finish” their job, AMEN!
- d. The world rejoices over the death of Bible preachers! It always has and always will!
- e. God then (3 days later) resurrects these two witnesses. Notice that there are several resurrections in Scripture.
- f. God then \_\_\_\_\_ these two witnesses (in the MIDDLE of the Tribulation, just before the Second Coming). A *mid*-tribulation rapture for these two witnesses.

3. The “Illumination” of the World - It gets “fox-hole religion” (11:13), which doesn’t last. Notice how long “revival” lasted when Elijah defeated Jezebel’s 400 prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:17-40 and 19:1-3), or when Moses withstood Korah and his crew (Num 16 & 17) !

4. The Intervention By God (11:14-19)

- a. We are now back to the Seventh and LAST Trumpet<sup>2</sup> (11:14,15) - at the end of the Tribulation.
- b. There is a “transfer of ownership” of this world (11:15) Up to this point, the world has been in a “self-deterministic” mode where every man thinks that he can run his life any way he deems fit. Now, the Lord Jesus Christ claims title to this old wretched planet.
- c. The time has come to do the following:
  - 1) Crown the Lord Jesus Christ as King (for the Millennium) - Therefore, you know you are at the end of the Tribulation at this point.
  - 2) Bring the final wrath against this world (the Second Coming)
  - 3) Judge the “dead” - Those who never were born again!
  - 4) Reward His servants the prophets, and the saints, and them that fear His name (to receive their inheritance)
  - 5) Destroy them that destroy the earth (God is an Environmentalist!)
- d. The Temple \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven (11:19) in preparation for Christ’s return!!!

### III. Conclusion - Some Questions About Chapter Eleven:

- A. All Jewish temples are patterned after what? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. List the seven temples listed in Scripture (very important):  
\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup>This ONE statement really throws modern day Christians for a "loop" dispensationally when they try and connect it to the statement in 1 Cor 15:52. Marvin Rosenthal wrote an entire book, "*The Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church*," trying to prove that the New Testament Church would have to go through the majority of the Tribulation, but would be raptured just before the actual "wrath" of God being let loose on this planet. There are so many flaws in his thesis all because he relates all of the Book of the Revelation to **one** linear, chronological interpretation, instead of to **four** sequential trips through the Tribulation as we have learned.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. \_\_\_\_\_
- C. How many days will the two witnesses witness? \_\_\_\_\_, which is how many months \_\_\_\_\_?
- D. When the Bible refers to a “month,” how many days does it consist of? \_\_\_\_\_
- E. The Tribulation is divided into how many segments \_\_\_\_\_ of how many years each? \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Who are the two witnesses? Give their names: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- G. Who kills the two witnesses? \_\_\_\_\_