



Second Interval: Two Witnesses  
Revelation 11: 1-14

## SCRIPTURE

### Chapter 11

<sup>1</sup> 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.”<sup>2</sup> But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.<sup>3</sup> And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.”

<sup>4</sup> These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> And 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. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> And after three days and a 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

## COMMENTARY

John is now given a measuring stick to measure the Temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. This is significant information, as the Temple at Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD by Titus and his Roman legions. It has not been rebuilt to this day.

Daniel was given the same information in [Daniel 9:27](#) when he was told that the Antichrist would cause the sacrifice and oblation (offerings) to cease in the middle of the Tribulation period. In order to have sacrifices and oblations going on, you have to have a Temple.

The Temple in Jerusalem will have to be rebuilt either before the seven-year Tribulation begins or at least be finished before the first three and a half years are completed.

The Holy City is today trodden down of the Gentiles. It began in 606 BC when God

gave Israel into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar because of her sin. It will continue until the “Stone cut without hands” ([Daniel 2:34-35](#); The Lord Jesus Christ) returns and destroys the Antichrist and his evil coalition at the battle of Armageddon.

In Verse 3 we find God’s two witnesses who preach for the first three and a half years of the Tribulation period.

Who are they? I believe they are Moses and Elijah for two significant reasons. Verse 6 says that they have power to shut off the rain: that was Elijah in [1 Kings 17:1-7](#). They also have power to turn the water into blood and to smite the earth with plagues: that was Moses in [Exodus, Chapters 7-12](#).

The second reason I believe that this is Moses and Elijah is because of the picture that it proclaims. We find this picture in [Matthew 17:1-5](#). In this setting we see our Lord transfigured, and from [Matthew 16:28](#) it is the picture of our Lord coming into His kingdom.

Note who the participants are: the Lord Jesus Christ glorified, Moses, picturing the saints who died and will be resurrected at the Rapture, Elijah, picturing the saints who will be alive at the Rapture and will be translated without tasting death and Peter, James and John, picturing the Jews who will go into the Millennial Reign in their physical bodies.

The two witnesses are murdered after their time of witnessing is fulfilled and they lie in the street for three and a half days. People used to laugh years ago at the thought that people all over the world could see those dead bodies. Today’s television satellite system once again makes God truth, and every man a liar. The truth is always the truth even if no one believes it.

God calls to His two witnesses and the cloud of the “Shekinah Glory” of God translates them to heaven.