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Revelation 11:1-19

The Two Witnesses

11 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. ² But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot *for* forty-two months. ³ And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. ⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

The Witnesses Killed

⁷ When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸ And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. ⁹ Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

The Witnesses Resurrected

¹¹ Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹² And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. ¹³ In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴ The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Proclaimed

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying:

"We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was and who is to come,
Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come,
And the time of the dead, that they should be judged,
And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints,
And those who fear Your name, small and great,
And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

I think that the two prophets are Moses and Elijah. I come to this conclusion because the kind of power that manifests through them is identical to what is written in the Old Testament about

Moses when he call down plagues on Egypt specifically turning the water to blood. It also says that they were able to shut heaven so that there was no rain. This is specific to the prophet Elijah. However, I could be totally wrong about this. Does it really matter who they are? It seems at this point God gives these two prophets the authority and supernatural power to manifest the judgments of God during this period of time. When they finished their season of prophecy the Bible says that the beast will arise from the bottomless pit and attack them and kill them. When it says that their bodies lay open in the public streets for three and a half days and all the world is able to see them to me this is obviously a reference to modern-day television and internet. How else could this happen?

Another question is where did all this happen? The same place that our Lord was crucified which we know was Jerusalem. The amazing thing is that after 3 ½ days the Spirit of God enters into these two prophets and causes them to come back alive and then ascend from earth up into heaven in the sight of the entire world. Their exit is immediately followed by a mega earthquake that kills one 10th of all the people in Jerusalem which was 7000. So they literally blew in, blew up and then blew out by the power of God.

The seventh angel sounds his trumpet and announces that it's time for the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdoms of the Lord Jesus Christ. This announcement produces a mighty wave of worship as the multitude rejoices in God realizing that they have almost arrived to take possession of the earth and be rewarded for their faithful service to the King of Kings. To me this is a very positive picture for those of us who have faithfully served God here and now pushing through, day by day, in spite of persecutions, oppression, Satan's resistance and everything else that we have to deal with following Jesus Christ as Lord. I know the Bible teaches that we are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us but to be honest, I look forward to being the presence of God because once were there it's like we're going to enter into an eternal spiritual rest and all of the pressure, evil and negative things on earth will be behind us and then we will realize it was worth it all being totally liberated in the glorious presence of God!

WHATS THE BOTTOM LINE?

- 1) God will send two witnesses to prophesy and bring judgment.
- 2) These two witnesses will have the power to release all kinds of plagues and no one will be able to harm them until they finish their ministry.
- 3) The beast will be released from the bottomless and have power to kill them.
- 4) Everyone will see their dead bodies remain in the street publicly for 3 ½ days.
- 5) God will raise up His two witnesses and take them to Heaven in the sight of all mankind.

6) The seventh angel announces that it's time for the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7) Be faithful serving the Lord now and you can be sure to be among those that will be rejoicing to receive eternal rewards!

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