

The Revelation

(19) The (2) Faithful Witnesses

The measuring of the Temple...Rev.11:1-2

What is John commanded to do next? 11:1

He's given a measuring rod, told to measure the temple of God, the altar, and worshipers.

And he's specifically told to not measure what? 11:2

Don't measure the court outside the temple; it's given to the nations for 42 months.

From this (don't measure) what do we learn is the purpose of the measuring?

It shows ownership. John is measuring what is God's. The court of the Gentiles is out...

What is the meaning of this event? Is there precedence for this? Ez.40:3-43:17; Rom.11:2-5

Ezekiel records the measuring of the millennial temple. Symbolizes God's choice of Israel.

Where is this temple physically located? vs.2b Comment?

In Jerusalem, the holy city. The "nations" (gentiles) control part of it for 42 mo (3.5 yr).

What is the likely chronology of the 42 months? Lu.21:24; Rev.13:5-10; 12:6; Mt.24:15-17

42mo, 3.5yr, 1260 days, the Great (last half) Tribulation. Concludes the time of the gentiles

Taken as a whole what does the measuring of the temple reinforce? Rom.11:25-26

During the horrible great tribulation, God will preserve and protect a remnant of Israel.

The powerful (2) witnesses...Rev.11:3-13

John is next informed of the (2) witnesses. What is their ministry and duration? vs.3 Deut.19:15

They prophesy (preach) for 1260 days. Two witnesses are always required / law...

How are these witnesses further identified? vs.4 cp. Zech.4:2-14

As two olive trees and two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

Describe this time. vs.5-6; IIKings.1:10; IKings.17:1; Ex.7:17-21; Mal.4:5; Mt.17:3; Gen.5:24

They are invincible for 1260 days. Signs, power, miracles, similar to Moses and Elijah.

How does their ministry finally end? vs.7-9 (note: *when* they have finished their testimony)

The "beast" will kill them. Dead bodies are seen for 3 1/2 days by whole world.

What is the reaction of "the nations" to their death? vs.8-9 Deut.21:22-23

They gloat over their death, send presents to each other, have a world wide party.

But how does God end their merriment? vs.11-13 Why no more preaching? Luke 16:31

HE resurrects them after 3.5 days, before the world. If they won't believe the Word...

Where does all this take place? vs.8 Comment?

In Jerusalem (where Jesus was crucified). Called Sodom & Egypt, seats of spiritual revolt.

And what is emphasized about the 'beast'? (first of 36 references in Rev)

That this world leader is empowered by demons from the abyss. This is the antichrist.

But what is outcome, positive and negative? vs.13

Great earthquake, 7000 (specific) people die, and the "rest" (Jews/Jerusalem) get saved!