

UNRAVELLING THE BOOK OF REVELATION | SESSION 39

A city skyline is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky with shades of orange, yellow, and red. A small airplane is visible in the upper left portion of the sky. The title 'THE TWO WITNESSES' is prominently displayed in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, centered over the skyline.

THE TWO WITNESSES

(REVELATION 11)

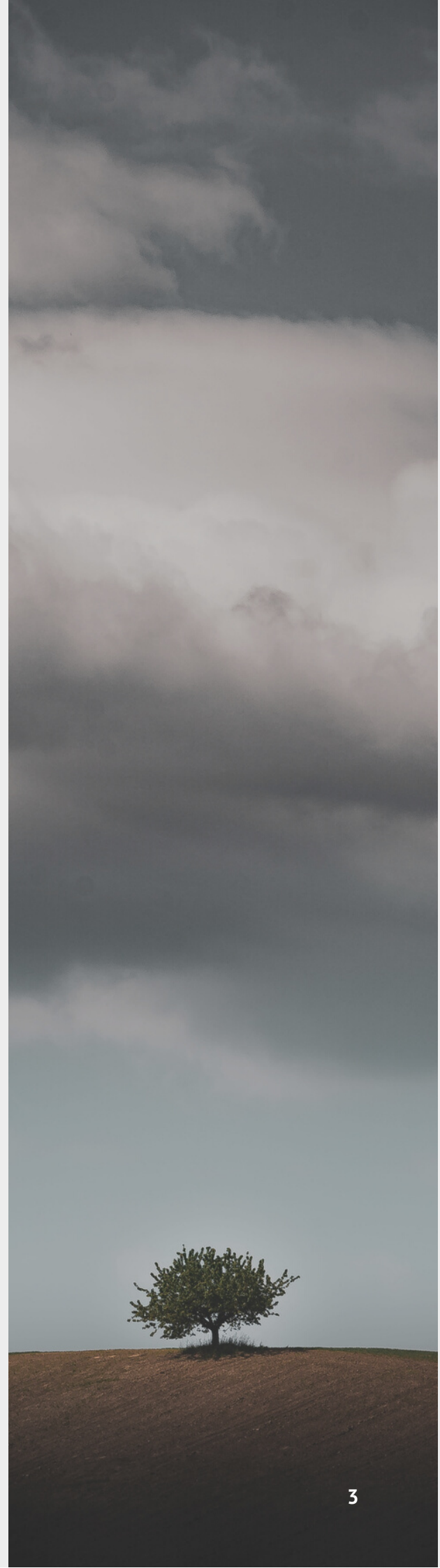


IHOP - ONE THING MINISTRIES

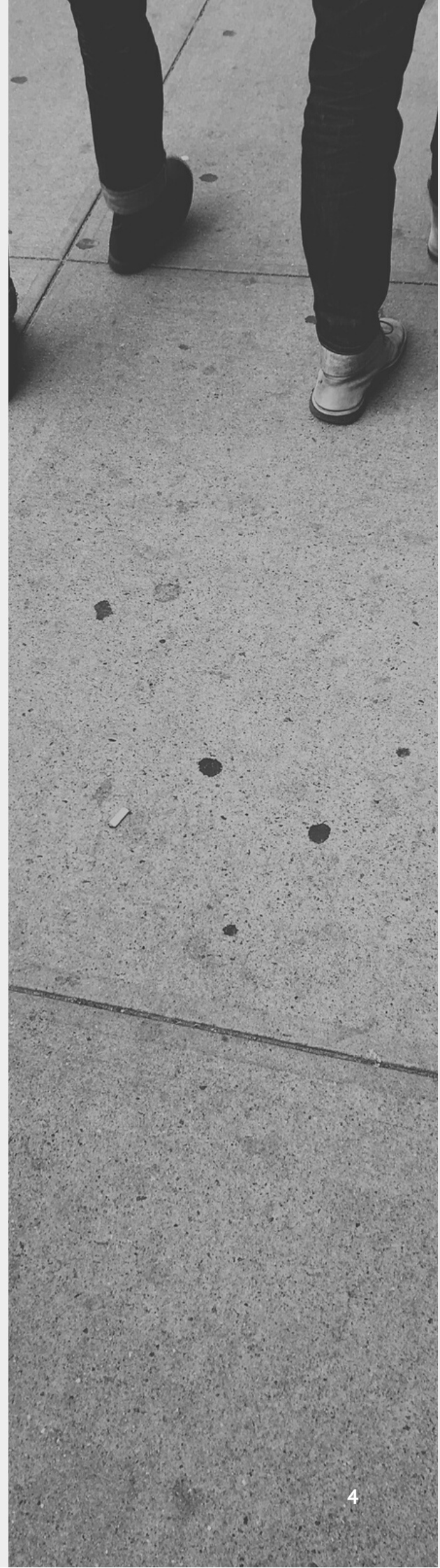


In Revelation 12, Satan and all his demons are cast down onto the earth (Rev. 12:9). This happens in the final three and a half years of human history (Rev. 12:13-14). The earth will become totally dark and demonic and sin will hit its max. Deception will increase and will be strong, causing many to fall away from the faith (2 Thes. 2:3,9-11).

The intensity of it all was seen and experienced by John and he needed an explanation – What will happen to the people of God and what will God do? That is why God provided Revelation 10 and 11. He is giving an assurance to His people that He will raise up End-Time prophetic messengers who will provide prophetic understanding, direction and guidance to His people in the midst of the most intense chaos and confusion. These seven-thunder prophetic messengers will guide the people of God with His truth and steer them away from deception.



In Revelation 11, God raises up the two witnesses, the two greatest prophets in the entire Biblical history. They will operate in unprecedented power and prophetic anointing in a global dimension. They will move in the spirit and power of Moses and Elijah and will confront the Antichrist, the False Prophet and release God's judgment on the empire of the Antichrist. **Our priority should not be to find out who these two witnesses are, but to understand Revelation 11 and align our hearts according to what God is saying through Revelation 11.**



**REVELATION 11:1 IS ONE OF THE MOST
DIFFICULT VERSES TO UNDERSTAND IN THE
ENTIRE BOOK OF REVELATION. IT IS ABOUT
THE PARADOX AND TENSION OF THE
TRIBULATION TEMPLE.**

The Tribulation Temple is the temple that will be built in Jerusalem in the final seven years of human history, whereas the Millennial Temple is the temple that Jesus will personally build soon after His Second Coming (Ezek. 37:26-28; 40 to 48; Isa. 2:3; 60:13; Jer. 33:18; Micah 4:2; Hag. 2:7-9; Zech. 6:12-15; 14:16-21).

The context of Revelation 11 is found in the final verse of Revelation 10:11 where John and the End-Time forerunners are commanded to prophesy the seven-thunder prophetic messages which are found in the little book.

They are to bring understanding concerning the complexity of the issue of the Tribulation Temple. The Tribulation Temple is significant, important and within the will and purpose of God. The issue, however, is not so simple. There is this mystery of why this temple will be raised up, built by the unsaved Jewish people, desecrated by the Antichrist and ultimately destroyed by the Lord Jesus Himself when He returns.

The angel is telling John and the End-Time prophetic messengers to eat the little book and to develop understanding so that they can understand the whole complexity, paradox and tension regarding this Tribulation Temple, and in turn, bring understanding to others. It is crucial for us to understand rightly so that we can pray.





How do we know that there will be a Tribulation Temple? The fact that the Antichrist has to step into a temple to desecrate the sacrifices and demand the whole world to worship Him implies that there will be a temple that will be built in Jerusalem (2 Thess. 2:4; Dan. 9:27; 8:13; 11:31,36-37; 12:11; Matt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; Rev. 11:1-2; 13:12-18).

Back to Revelation 11:1, John is commanded to measure three things:

1. **The temple of God** — refers to the process of building the temple.
2. **The altar** — the activities that will surround the temple.
3. **Those who worship there** — to measure the heart and intention of the worshippers.



Primarily, the temple will be **rebuilt by Jewish people who are God-fearing, but who are unbelievers who do not know Yeshua as the Messiah**. The building of the temple will be related closely to the salvation of Israel at the End of the Age. However, this event has both redemptive significance and also terrible consequences.

When the angel tells John he is given the reed as a measuring rod, by the phrase “*measuring*”, he is talking about **evaluating the action, intention and activities of a person or a group of people**. “*Measuring*” also speaks about **developing understanding and discernment**. **Understanding comes from the Scripture**. We are not to blindly accept everything or rejoice in everything. Neither should we be quick to criticise, reject or consider something irrelevant. Instead, we need to **measure things in accordance to the standard of God**.

Revelation 11:2 tells us that Jerusalem will be given over to Gentile domination during the final three and a half years of human history (Luke 21:20-24). She will be conquered and under the reign of the Antichrist.

Verses 3 to 6 tell us about God raising up the two witnesses, who are the two greatest prophets in Biblical history. They will preach, prophesy and move in unprecedented power in the final three and a half years.

Fire proceeds from their mouth and they have the authority to shut the heavens so that there is no rain. If we recall the Third Trumpet, there will be a global shortage of water supply from the poisoning of rivers. The global drought will worsen this problem.



The two witnesses are clothed in sackcloth because their message is **one of judgment and calling for mourning and repentance**. They stand before the God of the earth ministering to Him and waiting upon Him. They stand beside the Lord of the whole earth as the sons of oil who cultivate the oil of intimacy with Him (Zech. 4). They are entrusted with great authority and power because their hearts are pure and totally in line with God. Their ministry will be empowered by the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. They will move in the spirit and power of Moses and Elijah. They will be the burning and shining lamps.

Verse 7 to 13 tells us that the two witnesses will be killed, and subsequently raised from the dead. This happens after **they have finished their testimony**, meaning after they have fulfilled God's purpose and assignment for them here on earth. We must know this principle and have confidence that no enemy can touch or kill us unless God allows it. And there is a reason why God allows it.

The great city where our Lord is crucified is referring to Jerusalem (Rev. 11:8). It is called Sodom and Egypt because by then, it would have been so corrupted and perverted by the spirit of Harlot Babylon.

The dead bodies of the two witnesses were not allowed to be buried. This is likely the decision of the Antichrist. Out of his pride and arrogance, he was trumpeting to the world that he had overcome the two greatest prophets. He was also blaspheming against the Holy Spirit, telling the world that he is the real messiah and ascribing what the Holy Spirit did to the devil!

Those who dwelt on the earth actually rejoiced and celebrated because these two prophets had tormented them. But after three and a half days, God raised them from the dead and they ascended to heaven before the eyes of their enemies. Great fear fell upon them when they saw this.

Why did God allow the two witnesses to be killed by the Antichrist, and then be raised from the dead?

This is actually God's grace and mercy. It is God's final warning to the inhabitants of the earth to repent, before the Second Coming of Jesus. This is the final chance to repent. After this will come the Seventh Trumpet, where Jesus will return to the earth and release the judgments of the bowls of wrath.

Truly, the two witnesses lived out their calling as the faithful and true witnesses even unto death.

**MAY MILLIONS OF END-TIME
PROPHETIC MESSENGERS OF
THE LORD ARISE HAVING THE
SAME SPIRIT AS THE TWO
WITNESSES. MAY THOSE
WHO HEAR THEIR MESSAGES
TREMBLE, TURN TO YESHUA
WHOLEHEARTEDLY AND GIVE
GLORY TO THE GOD OF
HEAVEN (REV. 11:13)!**



IHOP - ONE THING MINISTRIES

www.onethingministries.net