



T H R E A D I N G T H E P E A R L S . o r g

# Threading the Pearls of the Book of Revelation

An Expository Study

Session 22: The Two Witnesses

REVELATION 11:1 — 11:12

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E-mail:  
admin@threadingthepearls.org

I will give power to *my two witnesses*, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.  
<sup>4</sup>These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

[REV 11:3-4]



## REVELATION 11

**1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and it was said to me: Arise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar and them that adore therein.**

**I was given**

ISA 42:1-3, Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. <sup>3</sup>*A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth.*

**Reed**

1KING 14:15-16, *the Lord will strike Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water.* He will uproot Israel from this good land which He gave to their fathers, and will scatter them beyond the River, because they have made their wooden images, provoking the Lord to anger...

**Measuring rod**

EZE 40:2-5, In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city. <sup>3</sup>He took me there, and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze. He had a line of flax and *a measuring rod in his hand*, and he stood in the gateway. <sup>4</sup>And the man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show them to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see." <sup>5</sup>Now there was a wall all around the outside of the temple. In the man's hand was a measuring rod six cubits long, each being a cubit and a handbreadth; and he measured the width of the wall structure, one rod; and the height, one rod;

REV 21:15-16, he who talked with me had *a gold reed to measure the city*, its gates, and its wall...

**I was told**

LEV 19:25, *'You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume;*  
JOSH 18:6-7, *You shall therefore survey the land in seven parts and bring the survey here to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the Lord our God...*

**Go**

EZE 43:10-11, Son of man, *describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern.* <sup>11</sup>"And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write it down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them;  
1CHR 22:19, Now *set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God. Therefore arise and build the sanctuary of the Lord God*, to bring the ark of the covenant of the Lord and the holy articles of God into the house that is to be built for the name of the Lord".

**Measure the temple of God**

2CHR 2:4-6, Behold, I [Solomon] am building a temple for the name of the Lord my God... <sup>6</sup>But *who is able to build Him a temple*, since heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him? Who am I then, that I should build Him a temple, except to burn sacrifice before Him?

EZE 41:13-17, *he measured the temple*, one hundred cubits long; and the separating courtyard with the building and its walls was one hundred cubits long...

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Prepare a place for the Lord**

1CHR 22:19, Now set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God. Therefore arise and build the sanctuary of the Lord God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the Lord and the holy articles of God into the house that is to be *built for the name of the Lord*".

**Measure the... altar**

EZE 43:13-17, "*These are the measurements of the altar* in cubits (the cubit is one cubit and a handbreadth): the base one cubit high and one cubit wide, with a rim all around its edge of one span. This is the height of the altar: <sup>14</sup>"from the base on the ground to the lower ledge, two cubits; the width of the ledge, one cubit; from the smaller ledge to the larger ledge, four cubits; and the width of the ledge, one cubit. <sup>15</sup>"The altar hearth is four cubits high, with four horns extending upward from the hearth. <sup>16</sup>"The altar hearth is twelve cubits long, twelve wide, square at its four corners; <sup>17</sup>"the ledge, fourteen cubits long and fourteen wide on its four sides, with a rim of half a cubit around it; its base, one cubit all around; and its steps face toward the east."

**Count the worshipers**

EZE 46:8-10, "When the prince enters, he shall go in by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way. <sup>9</sup>"But when the people of the land come before the Lord on the appointed feast days, *whoever enters by way of the north gate to worship shall go out by way of the south gate*; and whoever enters by way of the south gate shall go out by way of the north gate. He shall not return by way of the gate through which he came, but shall go out through the opposite gate. <sup>10</sup>"The prince shall then be in their midst. When they go in, he shall go in; and when they go out, he shall go out;

2CHR 7:1-9, When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. <sup>3</sup>When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, *they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever."* <sup>4</sup>Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord. <sup>5</sup>King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand

bulls and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. <sup>6</sup>And the priests attended to their services; the Levites also with instruments of the music of the Lord, which King David had made to praise the Lord, saying, "For His mercy endures forever," whenever David offered praise by their ministry. The priests sounded trumpets opposite them, while all Israel stood. <sup>7</sup>Furthermore Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was in front of the house of the Lord; for there he offered burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the fat.





## REVELATION 11

**2 But the court, which is without the temple, cast out, and measure it not: because it is given unto the Gentiles, and the holy city they shall tread under foot two and forty months:**

**Exclude the outer court**

EZE 44:18-19, "They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen trousers on their bodies; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat. <sup>19</sup>"When they go out to the outer court, *to the outer court to the people*, they shall take off their garments in which they have ministered, leave them in the holy chambers, and put on other garments; and in their holy garments they shall not sanctify the people.

**Do not measure [the outer court]**

EZE 42:13-15, ...<sup>14</sup>"When the priests enter them, *they shall not go out of the holy chamber into the outer court*; but there they shall leave their garments in which they minister, for they are holy. They shall put on other garments; then they may approach that which is for the people"...

**Given to the Gentiles**

EZE 30:2-8, "Thus says the Lord God: "Wail, 'Woe to the day!' <sup>3</sup>For the day is near, Even the day of the Lord is near; *It will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles*. <sup>4</sup>The sword shall come upon Egypt, And great anguish shall be in Ethiopia, When the slain fall in Egypt, And they take away her wealth, And her foundations are broken down. <sup>5</sup>"Ethiopia, Libya, Lydia, all the mingled people, Chub, and the men of the lands who are allied, shall fall with them by the sword"...

**Gentiles... will trample**

MATH 27:27-31, the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. <sup>28</sup>And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. <sup>29</sup>When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the

Jews!" <sup>30</sup>Then they spat on Him, and *took the reed and struck Him on the head*. <sup>31</sup>And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified;

DAN 8:12-13, Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered. <sup>13</sup>Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, "How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the *giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot*?"

**Trample of the holy city**

LUKE 21:20-24, when you see *Jerusalem surrounded by armies*, then know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup>"Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. <sup>22</sup>"For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled...;

EZE 7:21-22, I will give it as plunder Into the hands of strangers, And to the wicked of the earth as spoil; And they shall defile it. <sup>22</sup>I will turn My face from them, And *they will defile My secret place*; For robbers shall enter it and defile it.

**42 months**

REV 13:4-5, they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" <sup>5</sup>And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and *he was given authority to continue for forty-two months*.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**42 months = 1,260 days**

REV 12:6, the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there *one thousand two hundred and sixty days*.

REV 13:5, [the beast] was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for *forty-two months*.



## REVELATION 11

**3 And I will give unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.**

**I will give power**

ISA 40:28-29, Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. <sup>29</sup>*He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.*

**Two witnesses**

DEUT 17:6-7, "*Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.*" <sup>7</sup>"The hands of the witnesses shall be the first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall put away the evil from among you;

DEUT 19:15, One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; *by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established;*

NUM 14:6-11, Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were *among those who had spied out the land*, tore their clothes; <sup>7</sup>and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. <sup>8</sup>"If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' <sup>9</sup>"Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them"... <sup>11</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses: "How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them?"

JOSH 2:1-6, Joshua the son of Nun *sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly*, saying, "Go, view the land,

especially Jericho." So they went, and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab, and lodged there. <sup>2</sup>And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the children of Israel to search out the country." <sup>3</sup>So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country." <sup>4</sup>Then the woman took the two men and hid them...

**[Two witnesses] will prophesy**

JOSH 2:23-24, the two men returned, descended from the mountain, and crossed over; and they came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them. <sup>24</sup>And they said to Joshua, "Truly the Lord has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed *all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us*".

**Prophecy for 1,260 days**

REV 12:6, the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, *that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.*

**Clothed in sackcloth**

GEN 37:31-34, they took Joseph's tunic, killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the tunic in the blood. <sup>32</sup>Then they sent the tunic of many colors, and they brought it to their father and said, "We have found this. Do you know whether it is your son's tunic or not?" <sup>33</sup>And he recognized it and said, "It is my son's tunic. A wild beast has devoured him. Without doubt Joseph is torn to pieces." <sup>34</sup>Then *Jacob tore his clothes, put sackcloth on his waist*, and mourned for his son many days.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Why two witnesses?**

DEUT 17:6-7, "*Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.*



## REVELATION 11

**4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks, that stand before the Lord of the earth.**

**Two olive trees**

PSM 52:8, *I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever;*

ZECH 4:1-6, ...<sup>2</sup>"I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. <sup>3</sup>"*Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.*"

<sup>4</sup>So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?" <sup>5</sup>Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." <sup>6</sup>So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts;

ZECH 4:11-14, I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees-at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"

<sup>12</sup>And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?" <sup>13</sup>Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." <sup>14</sup>So he said, "*These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth*".

**Two lampstands**

ZEPH 1:12-14, it shall come to pass at that time That *I will search Jerusalem with lamps,* And punish the men Who are settled in complacency, Who say in their heart, 'The Lord will not do good, Nor will He do evil.' <sup>13</sup>Therefore their goods shall become booty, And their houses a desolation; They shall build houses, but not inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards, but not drink their wine." <sup>14</sup>The great day of the Lord is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out.

**Stand before the Lord**

2CHR 20:9-12, 'If disaster comes upon us-sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine-*we will stand before this temple and in Your presence* (for Your name is in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save'...

**The Lord of the earth**

MATH 11:21-26, ...<sup>25</sup>Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, *O Father, Lord of heaven and earth,* because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. <sup>26</sup>Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Were the two witnesses here before?**

MATH 17:1-3, after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; <sup>2</sup>and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, *Moses and Elijah appeared to them,* talking with Him.



## REVELATION 11

**5 And if any man will hurt them, fire shall come out of their mouths, and shall devour their enemies. And if any man will hurt them, in this manner must he be slain.**

**Anyone tries to harm them**

EST 8:11, the king permitted the Jews who were in every city to gather together and *protect their lives -to destroy, kill, and annihilate* all the forces of any people or province that would assault them, both little children and women, and to plunder their possessions.

**Fire comes from their mouths**

JER 5:14, thus says the Lord God of hosts: "Because you speak this word, Behold, *I will make My words in your mouth fire*, And this people wood, And it shall devour them."

**Devours their enemies**

PSM 50:3, Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; *A fire shall devour before Him*, And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him;

PSM 21:9, You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The Lord shall swallow them up in His wrath, *And the fire shall devour them*.

**Anyone who wants to harm them**

PSM 105:11-15, To you I will give the land of Canaan As the allotment of your inheritance," <sup>12</sup>When they were few in number, Indeed very few, and strangers in it. <sup>13</sup>When they went from one nation to another, From one kingdom to another people, <sup>14</sup>*He permitted no one to do them wrong*; Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, <sup>15</sup>Saying, "Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm."

**Must die**

2KING 1:9-17, ...<sup>15</sup>the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he arose and went down with him to the king. <sup>16</sup>Then he said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but *you shall surely die*.'" <sup>17</sup>So Ahaziah died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**How can fire come from their mouths?**

JER 5:14, thus says the Lord God of hosts: "Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make *My words in your mouth fire*, And this people wood, And it [the fire of God's words] shall devour them."



## REVELATION 11

**6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and they have power over waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues as often as they will.**

**These men have power**

1COR 2:4-5, my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in *demonstration of the Spirit and of power*, <sup>5</sup>that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

**Power to shut up the heavens**

1KING 8:35-36, "*When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You*, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them...;

LUKE 4:24-26, He [Jesus] said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. <sup>25</sup>"But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when *the heaven was shut up three years and six months*, and there was a great famine throughout all the land...

**Not rain**

JAM 5:17-18, Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and *he prayed earnestly that it would not rain*; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup>And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

**During the time they are prophesying**

NUM 11:26-29, two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp... <sup>29</sup>Then Moses said... Oh, *that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!*"

ISA 10:11-27, ...<sup>22</sup>For though your people, O Israel, be as the sand of the sea, A remnant of them will return; The destruction

decreed shall overflow with righteousness. <sup>23</sup>For the Lord God of hosts Will make a determined end In the midst of all the land. <sup>24</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts: "O My people, who dwell in Zion, do not be afraid of the Assyrian. He shall strike you with a rod and lift up his staff against you, in the manner of Egypt. <sup>25</sup>"For yet a very little while and the indignation will cease, as will My anger in their destruction." <sup>26</sup>And the Lord of hosts will stir up a scourge for him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; as His rod was on the sea, so will He lift it up in the manner of Egypt. <sup>27</sup>*It shall come to pass in that day* That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.

**Power to turn the waters into blood**

EXO 4:8-9, "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign. <sup>9</sup>"And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. And *the water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land*".

**Power to strike the earth with every kind of plague**

ZECH 14:12, this shall be *the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem*: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

**As often as they want**

PRO 29:1, *He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed*, and that without remedy.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Why no rain?**

1KING 8:35, When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain *because they have sinned against You*, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them.





## REVELATION 11

**7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast, that ascendeth out of the abyss, shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.**

**When [the two witnesses] have finished**

DEUT 34:9-12, Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses. <sup>10</sup>But *since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses*, whom the Lord knew face to face, <sup>11</sup>in all the signs and wonders which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt, before Pharaoh, before all his servants, and in all his land, <sup>12</sup>and by all that mighty power and all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

**Finished their testimony**

PSM 119:96-103, *I have seen the consummation of all perfection*, But Your commandment is exceedingly broad... <sup>103</sup>How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**The beast that comes up from the Abyss**

ISA 24:17-18, Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth. <sup>18</sup>And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the fear Shall fall into the pit, And *he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the snare*; For the windows from on high are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**The beast... will attack [the two witnesses]**

ZECH 11:6-9, "For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the Lord. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbor's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver them from their hand." <sup>7</sup>*So I fed the flock for slaughter*, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock...

**The beast... will... overpower... [the two witnesses]**

2CHR 36:15-17, the Lord God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place. <sup>16</sup>But *they mocked the messengers of God*, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy. <sup>17</sup>Therefore He brought against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, on the aged or the weak; He gave them all into his hand.

**The beast... will... kill [the two witnesses]**

EZE 9:7-10, He said to them, "Defile the temple, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" And they went out and killed in the city. <sup>8</sup>So it was, that while they were killing them, I was left alone; and I fell on my face and cried out, and said, "Ah, Lord God! *Will You destroy all the remnant of Israel in pouring out Your fury on Jerusalem?*" <sup>9</sup>Then He said to me, "The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, 'The Lord has forsaken the land, and the Lord does not see!' <sup>10</sup>"And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head."

## CONSIDER THIS —

**The beast from the Abyss**

REV 13:11-12, I saw another *beast coming up out of the earth*, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup>And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.



## REVELATION 11

**8 And their bodies shall lie in the streets of the great city, which is called spiritually, Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord also was crucified.**

**[The two witnesses'] bodies will lie in the street**

JER 33:4-5, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city and the houses of the kings of Judah, which have been pulled down to fortify against the siege mounds and the sword: <sup>5</sup>"They come to fight with the Chaldeans, but *only to fill their places with the dead bodies of men whom I will slay in My anger and My fury*, all for whose wickedness I have hidden My face from this city.

**The great city**

JER 22:5-8, if you will not hear these words, I swear by Myself," says the Lord, "that this house shall become a desolation." <sup>6</sup>"For thus says the Lord to the house of the king of Judah: "You are Gilead to Me, The head of Lebanon; Yet I surely will make you a wilderness, Cities which are not inhabited. <sup>7</sup>*I will prepare destroyers against you*, Everyone with his weapons; They shall cut down your choice cedars And cast them into the fire...

**Figuratively called Sodom**

EZE 16:48-59, As I live," says the Lord God, "neither your sister Sodom nor her daughters have done as you and your daughters have done. <sup>49</sup>"Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. <sup>50</sup>"And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit... <sup>56</sup>"For *your sister Sodom was not a byword in your mouth in the days of your pride*, <sup>57</sup>"before your wickedness was uncovered...;

ISA 1:10-15, Hear the word of the Lord, *You rulers of Sodom*; Give ear to the law of our God, You people of Gomorrah: <sup>11</sup>"To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?"

Says the Lord. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, Or of lambs or goats. <sup>12</sup>"When you come to appear before Me, Who has required this from your hand, To trample My courts? <sup>13</sup>Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies-I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting...

**Figuratively called... Egypt**

ACTS 7:39-41, *in their hearts they turned back to Egypt*, <sup>40</sup>"saying to Aaron, 'Make us gods to go before us; as for this Moses who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' <sup>41</sup>"And they made a calf in those days, offered sacrifices to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

**Where... their Lord was crucified**

ISA 53:7-12, He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. <sup>8</sup>He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For *He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken*. <sup>9</sup>And they made His grave with the wicked-But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth... <sup>12</sup>He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors;

LUKE 23:33-34, when *they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him*, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do".

## CONSIDER THIS —

**What has happened to Jerusalem?**

JER 22:7-9, I will prepare destroyers against you, Everyone with his weapons... <sup>8</sup>"And many nations will pass by this city; and everyone will say to his neighbor, '*Why has the Lord done so to this great city?*' <sup>9</sup>"Then they will answer, 'Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord their God, and worshipped other gods and served them.' "



## REVELATION 11

**9 And they of the tribes, and peoples, and tongues, and nations, shall see their bodies for three days and a half: and they shall not suffer their bodies to be laid in sepulchres.**

**Men from every people, tribe, language and nation**

DEUT 32:8-9, the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, When *He separated the sons of Adam*, *He set the boundaries of the peoples According to the number of the children of Israel*. <sup>9</sup>For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance.

**Gaze on their bodies**

OBI 1:11-14, In the day that you stood on the other side-In the day that strangers carried captive his forces, When foreigners entered his gates And cast lots for Jerusalem-Even you were as one of them. <sup>12</sup>But you should not have gazed on the day of your brother In the day of his captivity; *Nor should you have rejoiced over the children of Judah In the day of their destruction*; Nor should you have spoken proudly In the day of distress. <sup>13</sup>You should not have entered the gate of My people In the day of their calamity. Indeed, you should not have gazed on their affliction In the day of their calamity, Nor laid hands on their substance In the day of their calamity. <sup>14</sup>You should not have stood at the crossroads To cut off those among them who escaped; Nor should you have delivered up those among them who remained In the day of distress.

**Three and a half days**

EXO 10:22-23, Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. <sup>23</sup>They did not see one another; *nor did anyone rise from his place for three days*. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

**Refuse them burial**

PSM 79:2-3, The dead bodies of Your servants They have given as food for the birds of the heavens, The flesh of Your saints to the beasts of the earth. <sup>3</sup>Their blood they have shed like water all around Jerusalem, And *there was no one to bury them*;

PSM 25:1-3, To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. <sup>2</sup>O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; *Let not my enemies triumph over me*. <sup>3</sup>Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Every nation:**

DEUT 32:8-9, the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, When *He separated the sons of Adam*, He set the boundaries of the peoples According to the number of the children of Israel. <sup>9</sup>For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance.



## REVELATION 11

**10 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 upon the earth.**

**The inhabitants of the earth**

PSM 33:8-11, Let all the earth fear the Lord; *Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.* <sup>9</sup>For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast. <sup>10</sup>The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. <sup>11</sup>The counsel of the Lord stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.

**Gloat over them**

LAM 2:17-18, The Lord has done what He purposed; He has fulfilled His word Which He commanded in days of old. He has thrown down and has not pitied, And *He has caused an enemy to rejoice over you*; He has exalted the horn of your adversaries. <sup>18</sup>Their heart cried out to the Lord, "O wall of the daughter of Zion, Let tears run down like a river day and night; Give yourself no relief; Give your eyes no rest.

**Celebrate**

ECC 8:12-15, Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. <sup>13</sup>But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God. <sup>14</sup>There is a vanity which occurs on earth, that *there are just men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked*; again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous...

**Sending each other gifts**

EZE 20:39, "As for you, O house of Israel," thus says the Lord God: "Go, serve every one of you his idols-and hereafter-if you will not obey me; but *profane My holy name no more with your gifts* and your idols.

**Two prophets had tormented**

JER 2:7-12, ...<sup>9</sup>"I will yet bring charges against you," says the Lord, "And *against your children's children I will bring charges.* <sup>10</sup>For pass beyond the coasts of Cyprus and see, Send to Kedar and consider diligently, And see if there has been such a thing. <sup>11</sup>Has a nation changed its gods, Which are not gods? But My people have changed their Glory For what does not profit. <sup>12</sup>Be astonished, O heavens, at this, And be horribly afraid; Be very desolate," says the Lord.

**Those who live on the earth**

PHIL 3:18-19, many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that *they are the enemies of the cross of Christ.* <sup>19</sup>whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame-who set their mind on earthly things.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**The inhabitants of the earth rejoice one last time:**

LAM 2:17-18, The Lord has done what He purposed; He has fulfilled His word Which He commanded in days of old. He has thrown down and has not pitied, And *He has caused an enemy to rejoice over you*; He has exalted the horn of your adversaries.



## REVELATION 11

**11 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 that saw them.**

**Three and a half days**

JOSH 2:14-22, So the men answered [Rahab], "Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours. And it shall be, when the Lord has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you." <sup>15</sup>Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the city wall; she dwelt on the wall. <sup>16</sup>And she said to them, "Get to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you. Hide there three days, until the pursuers have returned. Afterward you may go your way." <sup>17</sup>So the men said to her: "We will be blameless of this oath of yours which you have made us swear, <sup>18</sup>unless, when we come into the land, you bind this line of scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you bring your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father's household to your own home. <sup>19</sup>So it shall be that whoever goes outside the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we will be guiltless. And whoever is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head if a hand is laid on him. <sup>20</sup>And if you tell this business of ours, then we will be free from your oath which you made us swear." <sup>21</sup>Then she said, "According to your words, so be it." And she sent them away, and they departed. And she bound the scarlet cord in the window. <sup>22</sup>*They departed and went to the mountain, and stayed there three days until the pursuers returned.* The pursuers sought them all along the way, but did not find them;

PSM 90:11-12, Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath. <sup>12</sup>So *teach us to number our days*, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

**Breath of life from God**

JER 33:6, 'Behold, I will bring it health and healing; *I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth.*

**Breath of life... entered [the two witnesses]**

GEN 2:7, the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and *breathed into his nostrils the breath of life*; and man became a living being;

JOB 12:9-10, Who among all these does not know That the hand of the Lord has done this, <sup>10</sup>*In whose hand is the life of every living thing*, And the breath of all mankind?

**They stood on their feet**

MIC 7:8, Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; *When I fall, I will arise*; When I sit in darkness, The Lord will be a light to me.

**Terror struck those who saw them**

PRO 1:24-31, Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, <sup>25</sup>Because you disdained all my counsel, And would have none of my rebuke, <sup>26</sup>I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes, <sup>27</sup>*When your terror comes like a storm, And your destruction comes like a whirlwind*, When distress and anguish come upon you. <sup>28</sup>Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me. <sup>29</sup>Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the Lord, <sup>30</sup>They would have none of my counsel And despised my every rebuke. <sup>31</sup>Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, And be filled to the full with their own fancies.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**The celebration for the inhabitants of the earth ends:**

MIC 7:8, *Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The Lord will be a light to me.*



## REVELATION 11

**12 And they heard a great voice from heaven, saying to them: Come up hither. And they went up to heaven in a cloud: and their enemies saw them.**

**[The two witnesses] heard**

ACTS 5:17-23, at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup>"Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." <sup>21</sup>And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought...

**A loud voice from heaven**

ACTS 14:8-10, in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. <sup>9</sup>This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, <sup>10</sup>said with a loud [μεγάλη] voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked.

**Saying to them**

DEUT 30:19-20, I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; <sup>20</sup>that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days...

**Come up here**

JOHN 20:15-17, Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended [ἀναβέβηκα] to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending [Ἀναβαίνω] to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God'".

**Went up to heaven**

2KING 2:1-11, ...<sup>11</sup>Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and *Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven*;  
JOHN 16:28-32, I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, *I leave the world and go to the Father.*" <sup>29</sup>His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! ...

**In a cloud**

MATH 17:4-6, Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, behold, *a bright cloud overshadowed them*; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" <sup>6</sup>And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.

**Enemies looked on**

LUKE 19:26-27, I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>27</sup>But *bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me*";  
GEN 22:15-18, the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, <sup>16</sup>and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son <sup>17</sup>blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and *your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.*" <sup>18</sup>"In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice".

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Reminiscent of Jesus:**

JOHN 16:28-32, "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, *I leave the world and go to the Father.*" <sup>29</sup>His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech!"



## GROUP DISCUSSION

REV 11:1-2, 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. <sup>2</sup>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.

⊕ **1a. Why might a measuring of the temple be needed?**

(see also EZE 40:3-4, JOSH 18:6, EZE 43:10 & 1CHR 22:19)

⊕ **1b. What could the phrases 'given to the Gentiles' and 'tread the holy city underfoot' signify?**

(see also LUKE 21:24, ROM 11:25 & MATH 24:29-30)

⊕ **1c. What other prophetic events are recorded as lasting 42 months, 1260 days, or 3½ years?**

(see also REV 11:3, DAN 7:25, DAN 12:7, REV 12:13-14 & REV 13:5)

REV 11:3-4, I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." <sup>4</sup>These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

⊕ **2. Where do the two witnesses come from?**

(see ZECH 4:11-14)

REV 11:5-6, 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. <sup>6</sup>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.

⊕ **3a. Who could the two witnesses be?**

(see also LUKE 4:24-26, JAM 5:17-18, EXO 4:8-9)

⊕ **3b. List possible prophetic roles are they to fulfill.**

(see also JOSH 6:17, MAL 4:5-6 & ZECH 1:2-4)

REV 11:7, When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

⊕ **4. Why might God allow the beast to kill the two witnesses?**

REV 11:8-12, their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city... <sup>10</sup>And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them... <sup>11</sup>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.*

⊕ **5. Why would their resurrection have such a profound effect upon the inhabitants of the earth?**

(see REV 13:3)

NEXT SESSION —