

## Revelation 11:1-14

*I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the worshipers there. <sup>2</sup>But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months. <sup>3</sup>And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." <sup>4</sup>These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. <sup>5</sup>If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. <sup>6</sup>These men have power to shut up the sky so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want. <sup>7</sup>Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. <sup>8</sup>Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. <sup>9</sup>For three and a half days men from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. <sup>10</sup>The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth. <sup>11</sup>But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. <sup>12</sup>Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. <sup>13</sup>At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. <sup>14</sup>The second woe has passed; the third woe is coming soon.*

## Seven Characteristics Found in the Two Witnesses

1. Their duty
    - God has always chosen to do his work through people.
    - The two witnesses will put the judgments of the last part of the tribulation into redemptive context.
  2. Their attitude
    - The two witnesses wear sackcloth to show their great sorrow over the sinfulness of the unbelieving world.
  3. Their empowering
    - The preaching of the two witnesses, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will lead to a spiritual revival for Israel.
- Zechariah 4:6  
*So he 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 Almighty.*
4. Their power
    - The two witnesses will be universally hated.
    - They will be unstoppable for the duration of their ministry.
    - Your days are held within the framework of God's purpose for you.
  5. Their death
    - The anti-Christ will be a world leader empowered by Satan.
    - The great city of Jerusalem is now seen as a city of unmatched sin and captivity.
    - People all around the world will see and celebrate the deaths of the two witnesses.

6. Their resurrection

- The resurrection of the witnesses provides comfort for *believers* but not yet repentance for *unbelievers*.

7. Their impact

- As a result of the two witnesses' ministry and resurrection, the final remnant of Jews will come to faith in Christ.

Romans 11:4-5, 26

*And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself even thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." <sup>5</sup>So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace.*

*<sup>26</sup>And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.*