

Revelation 11:1-2 Notes

Introduction:

- A. Chapter 11 has 3 Primary Sections:
 - 1. The Tribulation Temple vv1 & 2
 - 2. The 2 Witness' vv3-14
 - 3. The 3rd Woe vv 15-19
 - a. remember ---The 3rd Woe is the 7th Trumpet --- The 7th Trumpet is the 7 Vials (Bowls)

- B. Again I will give you some info ----which you may not be familiar with or aware of
 - 1. On the Temple and on the Witness'
 - 2. Please approach this with an open, willing to learn attitude

- C. Everyone says:
 - 1. Chapter 11 is one of the most difficult to understand in Revelation
 - a. I have never found it to be so.
 - 2. Some attempt to Spiritualize:
 - i. The City
 - ii. The Temple
 - iii. The Events
 - 3. These should be taken Literally:
 - i. The Great City = Jerusalem
 - ii. The Time Period – Specific as presented
 - iii. The Earthquake = Literal earthquake
 - iv. Two Witness' = Two literal individuals
 - v. 7,000 Men = Dead Men
 - vi. Death of the Two Witness' = Literally dead
 - vii. The Two Witness' Resurrections = Literal resurrections

- D. Chapter 11 continues the Parenthetical section begun in Chapter 10
 - 1. When the 7th Trumpet sounds in v 15 ---
 - a. The narrative continues with the Chronology of Events

THE TRIBULATION TEMPLE vv1 & 2

V 1 “And there was given me a reed like unto a rod; and the angel stood saying, rise, and measure the temple of God and the altar and THEM that worship there in.”

V 2 “But the court which is without the temple leave our and measure it not for it is given to the Gentles and the Holy City shall they tread under foot forty and two months.”

(Now that’s a lot of material to cover)

- A. The command to measure the Temple makes John a participant as well as an observer
 - 1. The Temple refers to:
 - i. The Holy Place
 - ii. AND the Holy of Holies
 - iii. And NOT to the outer court of the Temple
 - 2. The explanation given in V 2 is that this is given to the Gentles
 - a. This indicates they will have access during the Tribulation
 - 3. A number of questions could be raised concerning this command to measure
 - a. In Zechariah chapter 2 a man is seen measuring Jerusalem (a scene evidently portraying God’s judgement on the city)
 - b. In Ezekiel chapter 40 the temple of the future kingdom is carefully measured with a reed
 - c. Still another instance is found in Revelation chapter 20 where the New Jerusalem is measured
 - 4. The act of measuring indicated the object belongs to God in some special way.
 - 5. This measuring then --- is an evaluation of His property.
 - 6. A measuring of --- Temple, Time, and People

B. The Temple (Biblical Temples)

1. The Tabernacle in the Wilderness:

Instructions were given for this one to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai. He was told it was to be patterned after the heavenly Tabernacle

SEE: Hebrews 8:1-5, 9:23,24

DESCRIPTION & SIZE: Outer Court = (Like a picket fence) 50x75x7.5’

Tabernacle = (2-room tent) 45x15x15’

CONSISTED OF 2 ROOMS: Holy Place (Eastern end of the tent)

North = Table of Shewbread

South = Lampstand

West = Altar of Incense before the Veil

Holy of Holies (where God met with man – High Priest)

East = Ark of the Covenant

Looking from above ----In the form of a Cross. (took 6 months to build) It lasted 400 years, rested in Shiloh, destroyed by the Philistines.

2. Solomon's Temple:

God gave the Blue Print to David in 1 Chron. 29

COST: \$75 billion (1/10th of a trillion)

COMPLETED: in 7 years

WORKERS: 30,000 Israelites cut timbers

153,000 non-Israelites were laborers

3,600 foremen

DESCRIPTION & SIZE:

90x30x45' Temple proper

600x300' Temple court

Lasted 373 years. Destroyed when Babylon invaded under Nebuchadnezzar

3. Zerubbabel's Temple:

90x90' --- Ezra 6:3

Rebuilding command given by a heathen king, Cyrus of Medes

Financed by the Persian King Darius

Time of its destruction is not truly known (about 185 B.C.)

4. Herod's Temple:

Herod began this one B.C. 20

Work was still being done when Christ was born

150x150' – Temple

750x600' – court = could hold 120,000 worshippers

Daily Temple rituals required 1,000 Priest & Levites.

DESTROYED: A.D. 70

So this Temple had been destroyed in John's life – (about 25 years prior he knew it no longer existed when he wrote about this one in Chapter 11)

5. Tribulation Temple:

The Bible states another Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:27 "...In the midst of the week he (anti-Christ) shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it (the temple) desolate..."

2 Thess. 2:3-4 "Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first and that man of sin be revealed the son of perdition. Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

Matt. 24:15 "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place,"

Rev. 11:1 "...measure the temple of God..."

- a. There has not been one since Herod's temple was destroyed in A.D. 70 --- but, here in Revelation 11 (Tribulation period) there is one standing --- John is instructed to measure it.

- b. For those who are keeping up with this ---have heard all kinds of rumors.
 - 1. One is = the stones have been cut and are stored ready to go
 - 2. Another = every Jew is being urged to give to the building of this
 - 3. The Jews = one they occupied Jerusalem swore never to remove from that spot again
- c. When will this Temple be built?
 - 1. Some think it will be built during the 1st part of the Tribulation period
 - 2. I (pastor, Tom Scarlett) think = it will be in place at the beginning of the Tribulation period
 REASON BEING: = Anti-Christ will make a covenant with the Jews for 3 ½ years and will break it and become their god in midst (Daniel 9:27)
 - 3. Originally this temple will be rebuilt so the Jews can renew their ancient ways of sacrifices to God.
 The anti-Christ will enter into covenant with them and allow it.
 Then he will stop it and say "I am your god worship me"
 - 4. For this reason it is necessary for John to: Measure the Temple, The Altar, The People ---v 1
- d. A Problem:

There sits on the spot where this temple is to be built --- A beautiful mosque = The Mosque of Omar or The Dome of the Rock – sits over the rock where Abraham offered Isaac (it's the peak of the mountain called Mt. Moriah) So, something will have to be done with this building for the Tribulation Temple to be built.

For the Jews to start to dismantle it --- would certainly mean a "Holy War" Right now they allow it to stand –

They allow the Moslems to worship there –
 Although they do not like it ----they wait.
- e. The Jews use the Wailing Wall --- lies just west of the Mosque

The remainder of the wall around Herod's Temple
 Those stones were there during Christ's Day
- f. But, this temple will be rebuilt ---In God's Way

In God's Time

6. Millennial Temple:

- There will be during the Millennium a temple ---
 In Ezekiel 40 = Ezekiel sees the temple measured.
- a. Now some say Ezekiel is given instructions on how to build the temple.
 - b. However if you will look closely –
 Instructions are never given to rebuild (VERY IMPORTANT) simply to measure a standing structure

- c. It's significant to note – Ezekiel 1-11 – deals with the withdrawing of the Shekinah Glory of God from His temple, from His city - Jerusalem
The final chapters 40-48 deals with His return to the Millennial temple.
- d. Why this temple in the Millennium?
Children will be born who will still have the Adamic nature – they will need the New Birth experience.
This temple will serve as a reminder of = The need of the New Birth
The awfulness of sin
The Holiness of God

C. One more thing before we close –

We see the terms = V. 2 – 40 and 2 months (3 ½ years)

V. 3 – 1,260 days (3 ½ years)

In the book of Daniel – times, time, and ½ time (3 ½ years)

The Tribulation – a 7 years period is divided into two 3 ½ year periods – which one is it here?

CONCLUSION:

A. Wrap up:

We live in a time out period --Church Age

Gentile Age

Grace Age

When Jesus comes --- this age will end.

B. God will once again deal with the Jews directly

C. Anti-Christ will step in.