



STUDY TEXT:

Revelation 10:9-11; 11:3-7 (KJV)

Revelation 10: 9 **And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.**

¹⁰ And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.

¹¹ And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

Revelations 11:3 **And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.**

⁴ These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

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⁵ And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

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

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

APPLICATION POINT:

In this interlude space or pause between the sounding of the Sixth and Seventh Trumpets, the Lord provides us with further details regarding additional activities that will also transpire at the close of this present age. These too are included in the annunciation of this special category of punitive “woe” judgment.

THE TWO WITNESSES

(Interlude - Part 2)

FOCUS TEXT: And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

Revelation 11:3 (KJV)

At the close of the events marking the first pause or interlude that has been place between the sounding of the Sixth and Seventh Trumpet, our view is specifically directed to focus on a “little book” that was held by the Strong Angel presented in Revelation 10:1.

Moreover, also we observe that Apostle John is directed to interact with this angelic emissary, and to take the book from his hand. And upon taking it, he was further directed by the divine voice to consume it.

Now of course the imagery actual represents Apostle John reading the contents in preparation for continuation of his heavenly assignment as cited in verse 11.

The continuation of that assignment entails the events set forth in the second phase of this period of interlude between the final two woes.

God Special Envoys

Although the identity of these unique individuals is not readily revealed to us in Scripture, the known particulars about them are quite astonishingly detailed and graphic.

Foremost, we are told in **verse 3** that they are specials representatives that have been dispatched from Heaven by distinct commission by God.

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Regarding them, the Lord openly revealed in the opening segment of the key text: **“And I will give power unto my two witnesses.”**

Here we are shown both the fact that their actions are both sanctioned by the Supreme Sovereign and too they have been fully empowered to perform the holy task assigned to them.

Thus, there is no question or notion of ambiguity regarding their credentials of authorization. The Lord personally vouched emphatically for them that they are “my two witnesses.”

And we should take note here that their number (two) fully aligns in accordance with the general rule of validation cited in **Deuteronomy 19:15b** that clearly states: **“at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.”**

Now this particular focus point becomes crucial given the astonishing nature of the ministry to they will be distinctly appointed.

That is, their very presence will innately reveal the falsity of the truth claim that will be made by the popular wicked world ruler (the Antichrist) that will emerge on the world stage during the final years of this present dispensation.

Regarding this unveiled arrival, the Lord Christ distinctly formally warned us in **John 5:43**: **“I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.”**

Too, this is the same diabolically evil person of whom 2 **Thessalonians 2:3-4** alerts us, namely: **“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 worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

“Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?”

As such one evident reality that we (contemporary professing Christ followers) often forget and/or overlook is the fact that Satan is fully aware of the truth that there is an appointed period where he will be temporarily granted authority to fill the center stage of the world scene.

As we listen to the various voices of public dialogue and commentary regarding our prospective future paths, there is little question that we (humanity) have succumbed to and have been deceived by the various contrive notions and self-devised theoretical projects about the future of humanity on the planet.

However, conversely, the “archrival of righteousness” fully knows precisely that the intricate web of lies; spiritual deception and soul derailing solicitations of seductions that he has broadly introduced into the world-sphere of this fallen domain are mere illusionary fabrications explicitly designed to blind and obscure the perceptions of the unbelieving human heart long enough to lose all chance for eternal redemption.

The clear insight of Scripture repeated reminds us that his (Satan’s) direct focus is aimed toward the pending moment of his long-awaited visible exaltation and reign over the whole world.

Foretelling his “latter day” climatic rise to power, **Daniel 7:23** minutely detailed about his future period of physical earthly reign: **“Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.”**

And, in **verse 25** the prophetic vision further revealed: **“And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall**

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wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

Hence, herein is a clear portrait of the formidably hostile life scene on to which the “two witnesses” will be commissioned to minister.

Sadly, too frequently we are prone to overlook the fact that the true real spiritual character of this world is innately evil.

Commonly, we choose rather to merely accept the thin surface characterizations and crafted imagery projections and propaganda that depicts it as a caring environment that espouses to be genuinely concerned by the plight of all people; and acceptably honors the God of Heaven.

Routinely, this is presented as the maintained public position; while simultaneously fully promoting indulgence into every aspect and practice of moral and spiritual wickedness that has been plainly defined throughout the volumes of Scripture.

However, God’s Word certainly reminds us that at some appointed future moment this elaborate cloak of charade will be completely removed and the true nature of the objectives of darkness will be visibly exposed.

That which is largely hidden from the open view of plain sight will no longer remain obscured.

Now it is in the context of these border revelations that we can more greatly understand and fully appreciate the hallowed ministry assignment of these two “olive tree-candlestick,” witnesses that will be dispatched Almighty God.

Special Ability

According to the insightful declaration of verse 4, the two witnesses are identified as God’s special envoys or

representatives on earth; hence, their actions will be specifically designed to highlight that truth point.

Furthermore, we observe that they will be endowed with publicly manifest supernatural ability to repel those who seek to hinder their mission and/or cause them harm.

Do these statements sound strange and incredible? Absolutely, but let us not forget that during the closing days of this present age that will be the featured characteristic showcased on the global stage of life.

Yet too, we observe that the supernatural actions of the two witnesses have clear tether to biblical references. That is, historically other servants of the Lord have been enlisted to perform many of these punitive judicial actions in the life sphere of evil humanity.

Verse 6 showcased:

- “These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not” (Elijah);
- “and have power over waters to turn them to blood.”
- (Moses);
- “and to smite the earth with all plagues.” (Moses)

Special Mission Termination

Lastly, at the end of their mission Scripture plainly reveals that they will be killed during a brief confrontation directly with the Antichrist.

Verse 7 reported: “And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.”

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Hence, for a brief span he will have appeared to have successfully defeated them to the utter delight of his peer group that have allied with the power of spiritual darkness.

But their period of jubilant celebration will be short-lived.