

Rev 1:3 Blessed are those who obey.

These words are trustworthy. 22:6-7

John uses OT words/images and applies them to NT concepts.

Here: Ezk 40-48; Zech 2-4; Dan 7-9

God's People=Holy Priesthood/Temple

“The most difficult passage to interpret in the entire book.”

-Keener, 287, NIVAC



The Sevens of Revelation



There

The 2 Witnesses are between:
The 6th & 7th Trumpet Judgments
And is the 2nd of 3 Woes. 8:3, 9:12

Seven Trumpets [11:19]

Seven Bowls [16:18]

The 2 Witnesses of Ch 11



1)

“The difficulty of Revelation surfaces when so many views compete for attention.”

It'

(Schriener, 375)

Like John, they're authorized to *prophecy* [Rev 11:3-4].

They're further described with Zech 4 & [Rev 1:20].

Described in prophetic images [v5-6]. Moses/Elijah/Jeremiah

Their hard words lead to persecution. [11:7-10]

God resurrects them & brings them to heaven. [11:11-14]

The 2 Witnesses of Ch 11



1) Symbolic & Parallel Numbers:

A 3½ years=42 months=1260 days=“3x & ½time.”

Wide array of prophetic images... ending in martyr victory.

Keep in mind: Be humble. Variety of approaches.

John's use of symbolism elsewhere:

Why specific people? What about The Harlot?

Numbers are often parallel, contrasts are often present.

The 2 Witnesses of Ch 11



Who are the Witnesses: (1) OT & NT

(2) Law & Prophets (3) Peter & Paul (4) Christian Jews & Gentiles

(5) Out of 7 churches, 2 will be persecuted. (6) Figures t/o history

(7) Unknown early prophets (8) Enoch/Moses & Elijah

(9) Most common: symbolic for God's church.

But, how did it lay in the street for 3 days?

Or what about *prophecy*? Not always prediction [19:10].

The 2 Witnesses of Ch 11



2) How Are The Witnesses A BLESSING?

It is GOOD to know that some *Repent*. Give glory to God!

Pray, we never know who or why they'll turn.

It is GOOD to know God *Rewards* His saints. [11:15-18]

He sees the injustices & hears the slander.

It is GOOD to know God will *Resurrect* His people/prophets.

The world can kill the body, but it'll NEVER kill the soul!

The 2 Witnesses of Ch 11



3) How Do We OBEY The Witnesses Story?

Join the Mighty Army of God, blow the trumpet warning.

Note the battle strategy: Victory by suffering. [12:11]

Are we proclaiming The Words of God?

*Jer 5:14 Behold I am making My words in your mouth a fire,
And this people wood, & the fire should consume them.*

Our task: Speak the fire of God's Word [Jer 23:23-32].