

An Overview:

- Chapter 1 – The Introduction of John and “the Son of man”
- Chapter 2 – 3 – The message to the seven churches
- Chapter 4 – The throne in heaven
- Chapter 5 – The scroll and the “lamb of God”
- Chapter 6 – The first six seals opened
- Chapter 7 – [interlude] 144,000 set apart and the saints
- Chapter 8 – The seventh seal and the first four trumpets
- Chapter 9 - The fifth and sixth trumpet and the first woe
- Chapter 10 – [interlude] The small scroll, the great pronouncement, and the call of John
- Chapter 11 – We see the introduction of two players in the drama and the second woe and the seventh trumpet and the beginning of the third woe.

- 1) The two witnesses
- 2) The beast from the abyss

I. The Temple (11:1-2)

Verse 1

I was given

a reed (rhabdos = walking stick or scepter) like a measuring rod (Kalamos = known length)

and was told

“Go and measure (metreo)

- 1) the temple (naos) of God

naos = holy place building only – hieron – entire temple

- 2) and the altar (thysiasterion) ;
- 3) and count the worshipers there

Question: Is this temple on earth or in heaven?

- 1) Ezekiel 40 – 43 – Precedence for measuring earthly temple
- 2) Daniel predicts an earthly temple (9:27, 11:31, 12:11)

Question: Is this temple on earth or in heaven?

- 1) Ezekiel 40 – 43 – Precedence for measuring earthly temple in preparation for judgement from God.
- 2) Daniel predicts an earthly temple (9:27, 11:31, 12:11) in order for the abomination that causes desolation to occur
- 3) Jesus refers to a “temple” and tells them to watch for it as a sign of the end in Matt. 24:15-16
- 4) The Apostle Paul echoes the same idea of the anti-christ “sitting on the throne” (2 Thess. 2:3-4)

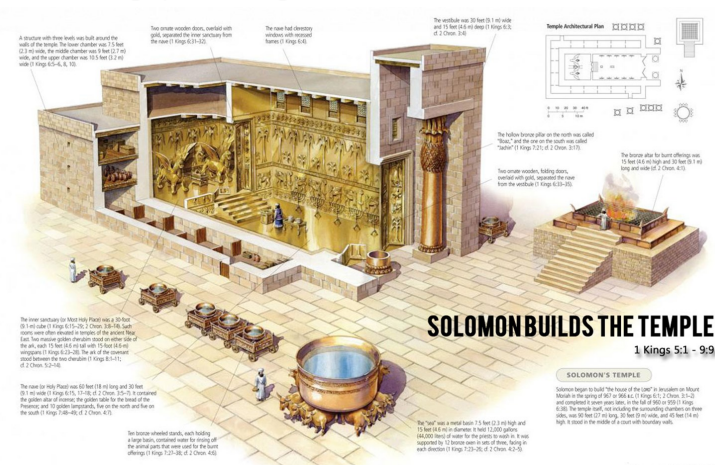
The Problem?

- 1) There was NO physical temple when the book was written
- 2) There is another building in the place where the temple is supposed to be (Dome of the Rock)



The Answer

The physical temple on earth will have to be rebuilt!



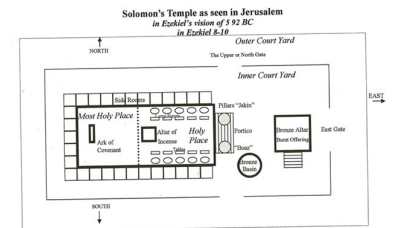
Verse 2

But exclude the outer court;

Do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles (ethnos).

They will trample (pateo = trample under foot = disgrace) on the holy city for 42 months (1250 days/3 1/2 years).

Luke 21:24 – Jesus refers to this same situation Along with the temple – the animal sacrifices will resume only to be stopped by the anti-christ.



II. The Two Witnesses (11:3-14)

Verse 3

And I (personal pronoun) **will give power (?) to my** (personal pronoun) **two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days,**

Seven parts of the work of the witnesses:

1) **clothed in sackcloth.**"

Sackcloth is a classic dress of a prophet who is calling people to repentance. Some believe these are Old Testament prophets.

Verse 4

These are the 2) two olive trees and the 3) two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

Seems to refer back to Zechariah 4 – “two anointed ones” (Joshua and Zerubbabel – empowered by the olive oil to witness)

Verse 5

If anyone tries to harm them, 4) fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies.

This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. (repeat for emphasis = !)

This idea of fire leads people to see Elijah as one of them.

Verse 6

These men have power (exousia = authority)

5) **to shut up the sky so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying;**

Similar to Elijah

6) **and they have the power** (exousia) **to turn the waters into blood**

This points people toward Moses

7) **and to strike** (patasso = to smite) **the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want.**

Once again leads people toward Moses

Verse 7

Now when they have finished their testimony (matryia), **the beast** (therion = savage animal)

Rev. 13 – beast receives power from the dragon and deceives people to worship it – probably the anti-christ

that comes up from the abyss

- 1) **will attack** (polemos = make war) **them,**
- 2) **and overpower** (nikao) **them**
- 3) **and kill them.**

Verse 8

4) **Their bodies will be in the street**

A huge disgrace in the Middle East

of the great city, (what is this great city?)

Term “great city” is often applied to Babylon the anti-christ’s headquarters

which is figuratively (pneumatikos = Spirit work) **called**

- 1) **Sodom** (“burning” – moral failings)
- 2) **and Egypt,** (slavery/bondage)
- 3) **where also the Lord was crucified**

Verse 9

For three and a half days

men from every people, tribe, language, and nation

- 1) **will gaze** (blepo = look) **on their bodies**
- 2) **and refuse them burial.** (more disgrace)

This would only be possible with mass media coverage!

Verse 10

The inhabitants (kataoiko = to dwell/love) **of the earth**

- 1) **will gloat** (chairo = rejoice) **over them**
- 2) **and will celebrate**
- 3) **by sending each other gifts**

because these two prophets

had tormented (basanizo = to test metal/harass with truth) **those who live on the earth.**

Verse 11

But after the three days and a half
a breath from God
entered them,
and they stood on their feet,
and terror struck those who saw them.

Verse 12

Then they (the two witnesses) 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.

Verse 13

At that every hour
there was a severe earthquake
1) and a tenth of the city collapsed.
2) Seven thousand people were killed
in the earthquake,
3) and the survivors were terrified
4) and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Verse 14

The second woe has passed;
the third woe is coming soon.

Through the second woe, God provided **three world-wide signs**:

1) The power of the witnesses, 2) The resurrection/ascension of the witnesses, and 3) the earthquake localized in Jerusalem.

III. The Seventh Trumpet (11:15 - 19)

Verse 15

The third woe begins



The seventh angel
sounded his trumpet,
and there were loud voices in heaven
which said:

- 1) The Announcement of the Kingdom
*“The kingdom of the world
has become the kingdom of our Lord
and of his Christ,
and He will reign for ever and ever.”*

Verse 16

2) The praise of the elders
And the twenty-four elders
who were seated on their thrones before God,
fell on their faces
and worshiped God saying:

Verse 17

*“We give thanks to you Lord God Almighty (pankrator)
The one who is and who was,
because you have taken your great power
and have begun to reign.*

Verse 18

*The nations were angry (orgizo = active hatred);
and your wrath has come.
The time (kairos – God’s time) has come for
judging (krino) the dead, (Rev. 20 – White throne)
and rewarding (misthos = wages/awards)
1) your servants the prophets
2) and your saints (hagios)
3) and those who reverence (phobeo)
your name,
4) both small and great –
and for destroying (diaphtheiro) those
who destroy the earth.”*

Verse 19

3) The Temple in heaven opened
Then God's temple (naos) in heaven
was opened
and within His temple
was seen the ark of His covenant.

In the earthly temple the ark was not seen by many
And there came flashes of lightning,
rumblings,
pearls of thunder,
an earthquake,
and a great hail storm.

Similar to Mt. Sinai (Ex. 19)

Prayer Concerns