

Who are the Two Witnesses in Revelation 11?

The author, or as I like to say the scribe of Revelation, was John the Beloved. He was also the author of the Gospel of John along with the Three Epistles with his name. The Book of Revelation was likely written between A.D. 90 and 95 on the Greek island of Patmos.

I am asked frequently by many people, "How are we to interpret this controversial book?" I tell them in all prophetic writings, they need to slow down and look for the 'symbolic language' or, as I like to say, 'speed bumps'. Pull over the side of the book and make sure you interrupt correctly i.e. Jesus was the 'Lamb of God' (pause) did he have 4 legs and a tail? No, He was not a Narnia character, half human, half animal, nor was He all animal. It was 'symbolic' language that was a literal truth.

The Two Witnesses 11:1-13; Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. ² But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. ³ And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

In my opinion, after reading at least 4-5 commentaries by the top scholars' in history, this 3½ years (1,260 days) takes place in the 1st half of the Tribulation. Some of those scholars are convinced it is the 2nd half. Study it for yourself and see what you come up with.

⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. ⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Who are the Two Witnesses? I am going with Moses and Elijah based upon them showing up at the Mount of Transfiguration, in Matthew 17: ¹ Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ² and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. ³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. ⁴ Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

I have wondered many times how did Peter know it was Moses and Elijah? Did they have name tags or T-shirts with their names on it?

Moses is well known for changing water into blood and bringing plagues on the Egyptians. Elijah is well known for calling fire down from Heaven along with withholding the rain from the land of Israel. Last but not least, Orthodox Jews have a place set for Elijah every Friday night Sabbath Meal in case Elijah does show up, as stated in Malachi 4:5 before the Messiah shows up in Israel.

The Witnesses Killed; ⁷ Now when they finished their testimony, He (Satan) the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸ And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt (Jerusalem), where also

our Lord was crucified. ⁹ Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies' three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

The Witnesses Resurrected; ¹¹ Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹² And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. ¹³ In the same hour there was a great earthquake and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven. Imagine the whole world is watching this and is mesmerized by this event and stunned beyond belief at their resurrection!

The Creator God of Genesis and John 1 are in total control of what will happen over a literal 7-year period. You study, pray, and decide for yourself!

Keep Seeking His Truth ... Pastor Chris Heeb