

³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. —
Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

A man with a long, grey beard and hair, wearing a simple, light-colored robe, is seated in a rocky, arid landscape. He is holding a scroll in his left hand and a quill pen in his right, writing on it. The scroll has some text written on it, including the words "KAAAGH" and "TONT". The background shows rolling hills and a clear sky.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- The **imagery** and **symbols** in Revelation are necessary in comprehending the **BIG PICTURE** - but if we focus too much on the imagery and symbols we can easily **MISS** the **BIG PICTURE**.
- The **BIG PICTURE** in chapters 8:2-11:19 is clearly **GOD WILL BRING CALAMITY** upon those who persecute His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



Revelation 8:4
(NKJV)

⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

- A series of three “7's” — 7 seals (6:1-8:5); 7 trumpets (8:6-9:21); and 7 bowls of wrath (15:1-16:21).
- John describes them one after the other by revealing from different viewpoints the judging and restraining action of God.
- Those who prayed for help in their distress CAN know that God HEARS - it would be their prayers that initiate divine judgment.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

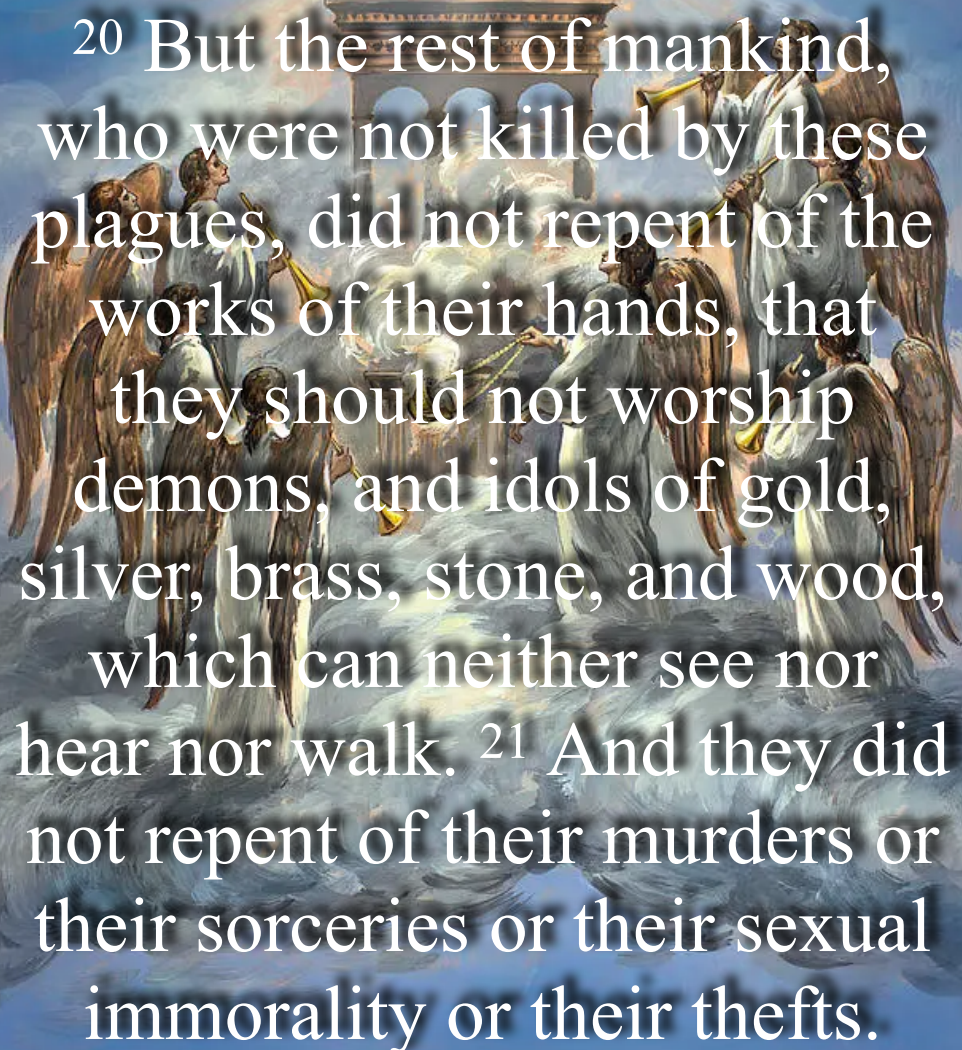
- ▶ The natural calamities symbolized by the first 4 trumpets have weakened the Empire (8:1-13)
- ▶ The 5th and 6th trumpets introduce the last two factors that contributed to the demise of the Roman Empire. (9:1-21)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

Revelation 9:20–21 (NKJV)



²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

■ THE 5TH & 6TH TRUMPETS (9:1-21)

- ▶ The sounding of the sixth trumpet pictured those who experienced these plagues but yet refused to yield themselves to the divine will.
- ▶ Like Pharaoh and the Egyptians in the story of the Exodus of Israel from the land of Egypt.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



■ THE 5TH & 6TH TRUMPETS (9:1-21)

- ▶ Before the 7th trumpet we see one of John's interlude visions, much like we saw in ch. 7 (10:1-11:14)
- ▶ Before proceeding with the 7th trumpet, John speaks to the mission of believers to a lost and dying world.

Revelation 11:1–14 (NKJV)

¹ 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.” 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.

Revelation 11:1–14 (NKJV)

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. ⁷ When they finish their testimony, 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, where also our Lord was crucified.

Revelation 11:1–14 (NKJV)

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.

Revelation 11:1–14 (NKJV)

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. ¹⁴ The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - ▶ This chapter has been the touchstone for imaginative speculators, resulting in a myriad of interpretations.
 - ▶ The next three chapters give further assurance to the saints that the aggressive kingdoms of men will not succeed in overthrowing God's people. God's kingdom will stand forever (11:15; 17:14).

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Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - ▶ Daniel prophesied that the 4th kingdom would wage war against the saints of God, but God's kingdom would stand. By contrast, the 4th kingdom would be conquered and fall.
 - ▶ This insight of the future victory was designed to comfort the church and encourage them to persevere even though at times it may appear that their cause was hopeless.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - Ezekiel and Zechariah had visions of angels with measuring-rods measuring the temple, and the city of Jerusalem (Ezek. 40:3–42:20; Zech. 2:1)
 - It signifies the protection that God will provide to all under his measurement (Zech. 2:1-5).
 - John is told to measure the temple, a symbol which coincides with the church (Eph. 2:21-22; 1 Cor. 3:16-17).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - Many argue that this text stands as irrefutable evidence that Revelation was written before 70 AD.
 - If the temple John sees is the literal temple in Jerusalem, then the holy city, two witnesses, the olive tree, the 42 months and the 1,260 days are literal.
 - If this temple is the literal temple, then John would be proclaiming that God is going to protect it (7:3-8).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - ▶ We know the literal temple did not survive its destruction in 70 AD - so if John’s vision pertained to the protection of the literal temple, then John’s prophecy would be untrue.
 - ▶ John is saying saying the Lord would protect His church, and He would surely preserve it throughout the the persecutions and sufferings to come, — that it would survive. (Dan. 2:44)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



Revelation 11:2 (NKJV)

²But 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.

■ JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)

- ▶ The court which is without the temple represents all others beside the Lord's true disciples.
- ▶ The Gentiles stand for everyone who has rejected God's standard of divine authority. They are outside the realm to be protected.
- ▶ The Gentiles will persecute the church for a limited period of time but will fail ((Dan. 7:25; 13:1, 5).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



Revelation 11:2 (NKJV)

²But 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.

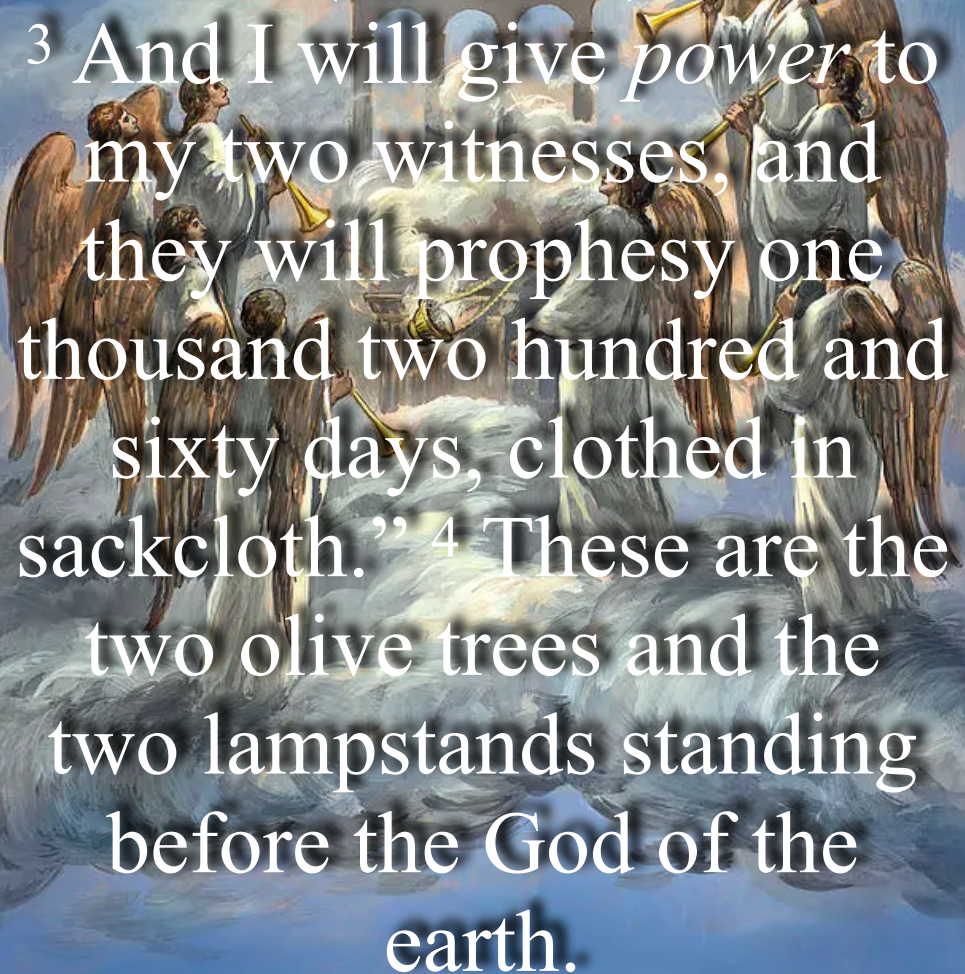
- JOHN INSTRUCTED TO MEASURE THE TEMPLE (11:1,2)
 - ▶ 42 months = (Time, times, and half a time)
 - Saints are persecuted (Dan. 7:25)
 - Holy city trodden underfoot (11:2)
 - The two witnesses . . . shall prophesy 1260 Days (11:3)
 - The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared of God (12:6,14)
 - Beast given power (13:5)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

Revelation 11:3–4 (NKJV)



³ And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.



THE TWO WITNESSES ARE TWO OLIVE TREES (11:3,4)



The number “two” stands for competent testimony (Deut. 17:6; 1 Tim. 5:19).



The function of the two witnesses was to prophesy and speak forth the word of God (Mark 16:15).

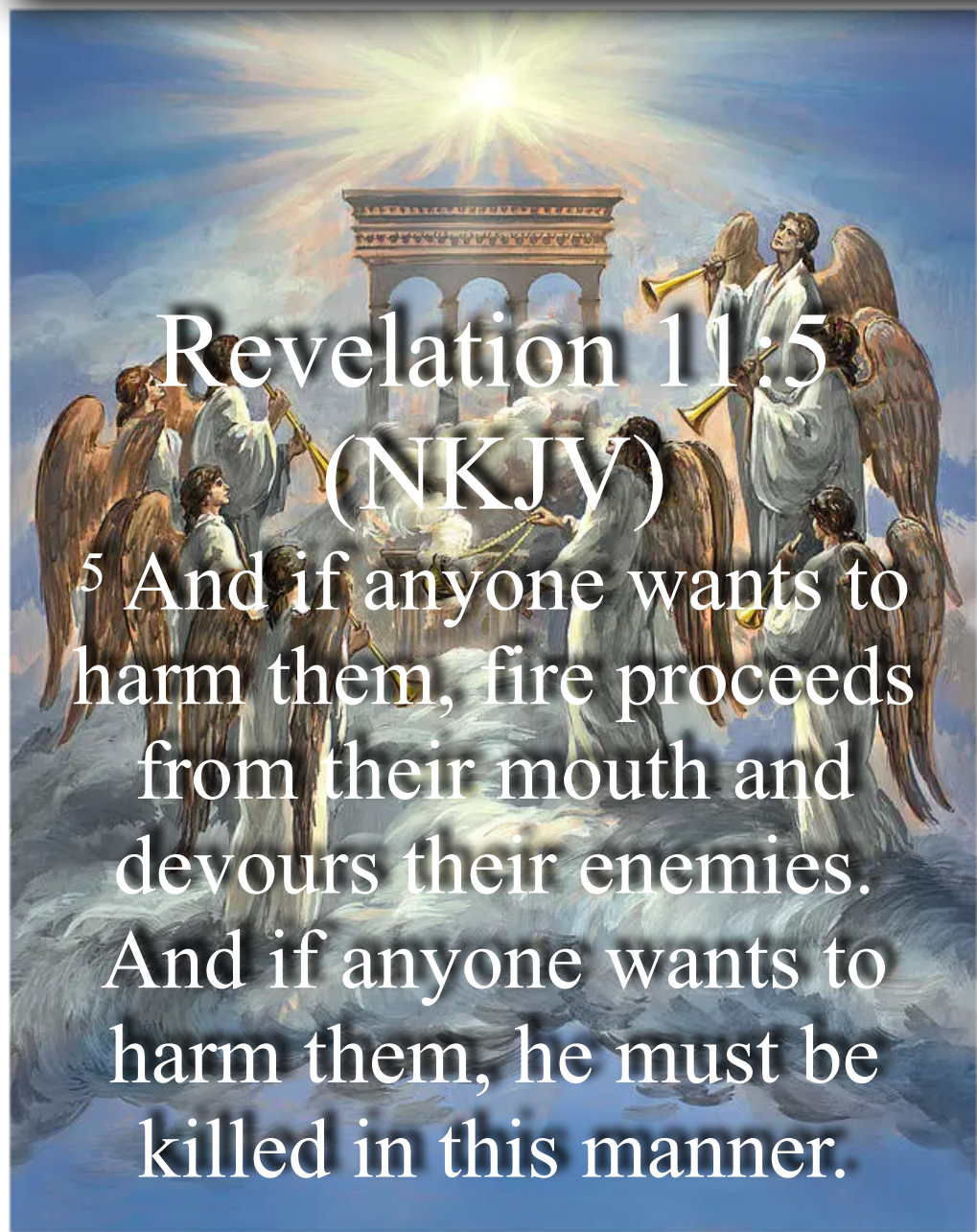


They are called the two olive trees (v. 4), a source for oil that keeps the light burning in the candlesticks among the churches (1:20).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



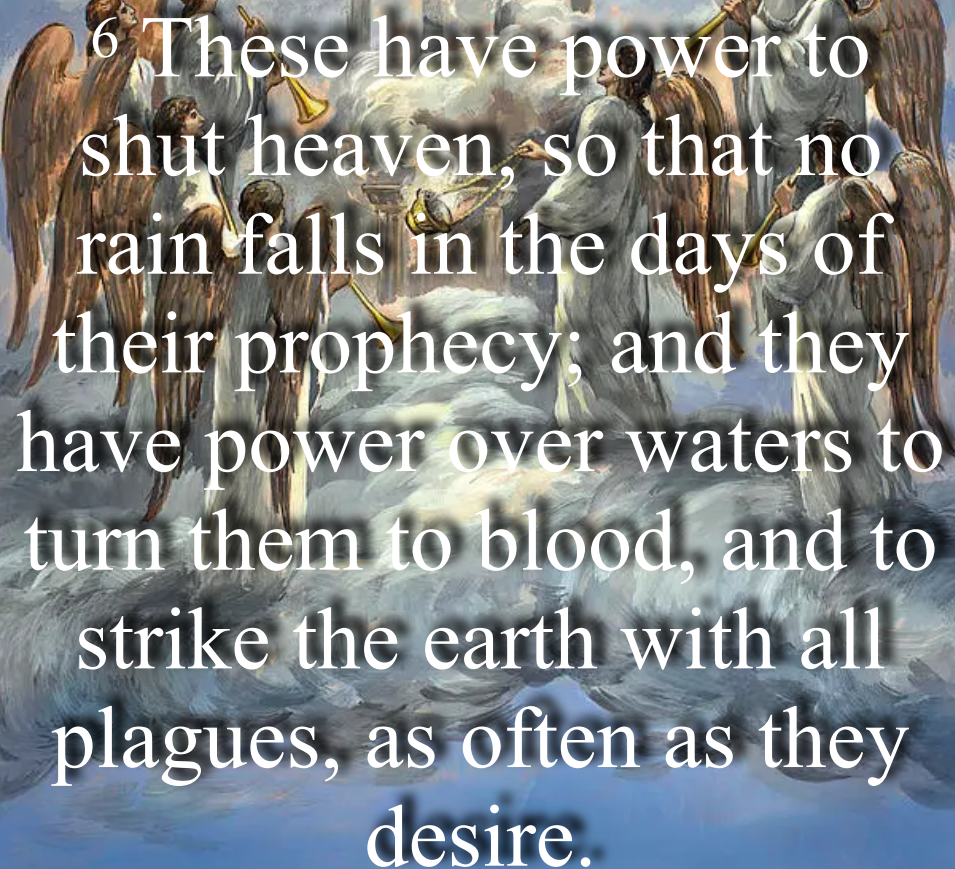
- THE TWO WITNESSES ARE UNDER DIVINE PROTECTION (11:5,6)
 - ▶ The two witnesses, (olive trees), revealed and confirmed the truth.
 - ▶ The apostles and prophets revealed the truth which could not be thwarted by those in opposition.
 - ▶ Those who revealed and proclaimed the gospel wielded a power that would destroy the enemies of God if left unopposed - but the truth itself could NOT be destroyed!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

Revelation 11:6 (NKJV)



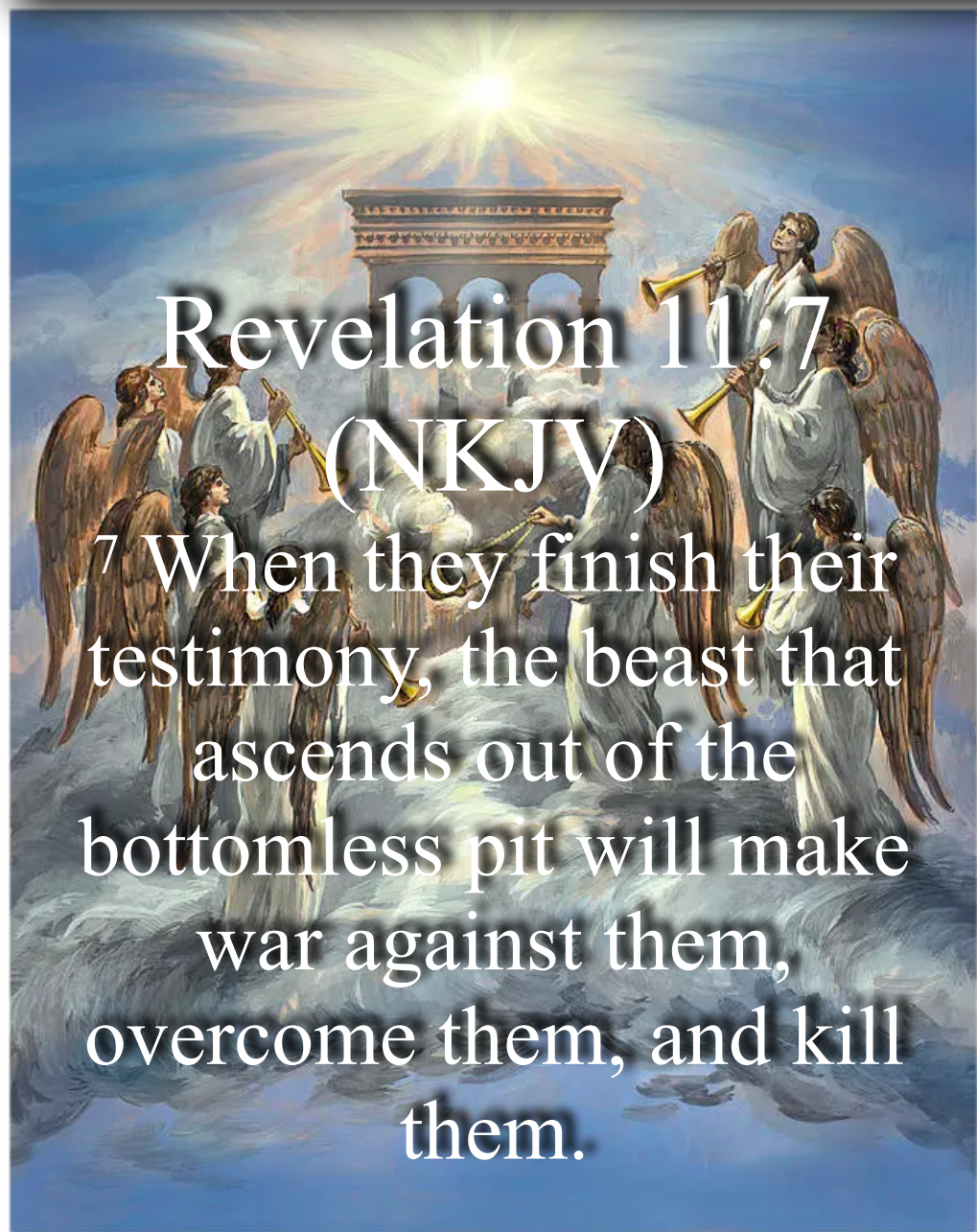
⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

- THE TWO WITNESSES ARE UNDER DIVINE PROTECTION (11:5,6)
 - ▶ Allusions are drawn from Moses who turned the water to blood (Exod. 7:20), Elijah whose prayer shut the heavens (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1-45), and Daniel's three friends who were spared from the fire that killed the king's men (Dan. 3:22).
 - ▶ They are heirs to all the power and prophetic preaching of the storied messengers of the Old Testament age.

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Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



Revelation 11:7 (NKJV)

7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

- THE TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)
 - ▶ No one could stop God's witnesses before their mission was complete. (Mark 16:15-20; Col. 1:6,23).
 - ▶ This is the first reference to the beast who will be described in chapter 13 as receiving power and great authority from Satan (13:2).
 - ▶ As we shall see in that context, the beast represents the Roman Empire that made war with the saints (13:7).

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Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- THE TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)
 - ▶ Figuratively, their bodies were exposed in the street of the great city.
 - ▶ Those who apply the focal point of the book to the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 consider this to be Jerusalem.
 - ▶ Since both “Sodom” and “Egypt” are figurative, the last description, where our Lord was crucified, should be considered as figurative also.

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- THE TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)
 - ▶ Sodom is to bring to remembrance that Old Testament city's universal and everlasting reputation for base immorality (Gen. 19).
 - ▶ Likewise, the reference that Rome was like Egypt brings to mind the Pharaoh who knew not the God of Joseph and who detained God's people in bondage (Exod. 1:8; 2:23-25).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



■ THE TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE
THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)

- ▶ Although Jerusalem is the city where our Lord was literally crucified, to say that Rome is that city casts her in the same truth-rejecting mold as Jerusalem.
- ▶ Rome, the great city, possesses the same attitude like Jerusalem who put to death the Author of truth.

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Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)



- THE TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)
 - ▶ The contempt the people of this city held for the truth the martyrs proclaimed is manifested by the treatment of their corpses.
 - ▶ They leave them to the open gaze of the world and will not allow them to be buried as though to proclaim the apparent defeat of their cause.
 - ▶ As we will see - their efforts prove to be in vain (11:11,12)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

Revelation 11:10
(NKJV)

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 TWO WITNESSES COMPLETE THEIR TESTIMONY (11:7-10)

- ▶ Great joy fills earthlings who gloat over the demise of the prophets. The world has a party!
- ▶ Gifts are exchanged among the unregenerate as they celebrate the fact they will no longer have to hear a message that tormented their consciences (John 3:19-21).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

Revelation 11:11–14 (NKJV)

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. ¹⁴ The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

This world has repeatedly brought suffering to the people of God, but the day will come when God will avenge His saints, and glorify His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

God would, by His sovereign power and might, would preserve the gospel and His people in spite of terrifying odds which seemed at the moment to be so unassailable.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

The gospel is the only message that can save men from eternal ruin — It MUST continue to be PROCLAIMED! (2 Timothy 4:1-3)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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“THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

**HEAVENS DOOR HAS BEEN OPENED
FOR YOU - WILL YOU ENTER?**

Believe — John 3:16;

Repent — Acts 17:30;

Confess — Romans 10:9,10;

Be baptized — Acts 2:38;

Endure by faith — I Corinthians 15:58

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“THE THE TWO WITNESSES SLAIN & RESURRECTED” (11:1-14)

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Zechariah 2:1–5 (NKJV)

¹ Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand. ² So I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what *is* its width and what *is* its length.” ³ And there *was* the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him, ⁴ who said to him, “Run, speak to this young man, saying: ‘Jerusalem shall be inhabited *as* towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. ⁵ For I,’ says the Lord, ‘will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.’ ”