

# Revelation Study ~ Chapter 11 part 2

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## Revelation 11:7-14 ~ The Two Witnesses (part two)

In part one we observed the life and ministry of the two witnesses upon the earth. In this next section we will see their death and resurrection.

The testimony of the two witnesses is concluded with a war (see key words). Verse seven launches into that war which transpires between the two witnesses and the “beast from the bottomless pit.”

**Speculate: why does the “war” wait until they had finished their testimony?**

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This is the first of many references to the “beast” (see key words).

**Who is the “beast from the bottomless pit?”**

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**The beast of the pit accomplishes two things. What is the significance of each?**

- Conquer -
- Kill -

Verse eight describes the location of their death. Using symbolic terms (Sodom and Egypt), the city of Jerusalem is identified, bearing the name: “Where their Lord was crucified.”

**What symbolic (or spiritual) importance are these two references:**

- Sodom -

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- Egypt -

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**What significance is there in the world refusing them burial?**

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Verse nine describes the cruelty and spiteful nature of the world as they “gaze at their dead bodies” for three and a half days.

**Speculate: Why does the world gaze at their dead bodies?**

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The world’s vindictiveness is illuminated even more in verse ten. Because the two witnesses had been a “torment” to those who dwell on the earth, all who dwell here will celebrate their demise.

**Three aspects of this celebration are revealed. What does each signify?**

- **Rejoice over them -**
- **Make Merry -**
- **Exchange presents -**

Then everything changes in verse eleven! God breathed life into the two witnesses and, in a moment of great fear for the city of Jerusalem, these two stood on their feet. Imagine, for a moment, that these two dead bodies were being viewed by the entire world – perhaps televised or in a livestream broadcast – and now they are alive.

**Speculate: why did God wait “three and a half days” before bringing them to life?**

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Several monumental events occur after the resurrection of these two witnesses.

First: God removes the witnesses from the earth. With a loud voice, God speaks from heaven and calls His two witnesses to glory. In a cloud, the two ascended as their enemies watched on.

**Why didn’t God leave the two witnesses on earth to continue their work?**

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Second: A great earthquake strikes the city. As if punctuating the resurrection of the two witnesses, God strikes the city with a massive earthquake that devastates a tenth of the city.

**Speculate: Why does God destroy only a tenth of the city and not the entire city?**

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Third: Seven thousand people die and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. At this time we have no notion of the entire population of Jerusalem. However, in the merciful work of God, a multitude found salvation. God has used other earthquakes to get the attention of the lost (see Matthew 27:54; Acts 16:26).

Many identify this as the return of the nation of Israel to the true Messiah (see Zechariah 12:10; 13:1 & Romans 11:25-27).

**Is this the return of Israel to Jesus as Messiah? Why or Why Not?**

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The final statement at the end of the events surrounding the two witnesses is a transitional statement between the two woes or the sixth and seventh trumpets. With the end of the ministry of these two, the second woe (sixth trumpet) is past. The final woe (seventh trumpet and seven bowls of God's wrath) is still to come.

**Key Words:**

Beast - (Greek: "therion") meaning: "wild beast, a brute, dangerous animal"

War - (Greek: "polemon") meaning: "war, battle, strife, warfare, to bustle"

Conquer - (Greek: "nikesei") meaning: "be victorious, overcome, prevail, subdue"

Kill - (Greek: "apoktenei") meaning: "put to death, kill, slay, destroy"

Symbolic - (Greek: "pneumatikos") meaning: "spiritually, a spiritual way, figuratively"