#### THE TWO WITNESSES Rev 11:1-13 Verse by Verse Commentary

By Joseph Edwards II

Updated 02/12/25

### **INTRODUCTION**

The spiritual teaching of the Two Witnesses was presented to John in a vision. The vision uses spiritual symbols (same as spirit words, **John 6:63**) to teach its messages.

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; <u>and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his</u> <u>servant John</u>: 2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

The spiritual symbols which are used in the vision carry meanings that are different from what man's wisdom teaches. To understand the spiritual symbols, Paul said to "compare spiritual with spiritual" (**1Cor 2:13**) In other words, the meanings assigned to the symbols must come from how the symbols are used elsewhere in scripture. A person should not be looking out into the world for their meanings.

The prophecy of the Two Witnesses is <u>not</u> teaching about two literal people who will appear near the end of this age as is commonly taught. The Two Witnesses represent all the Elect of this age (after Paul's death).

John was also told that those who are blessed (the Elect) will "keep the sayings of the prophecy". This means that all the Elect will fully experience the same spiritual events presented in the prophecy of the Two Witnesses. And as you will see, those sayings of the prophecy teach the pathway that leads to salvation/conversion. If a person does not keep these sayings, they are not one of the Elect and they will not be saved in this age.

## Rev 1:3 <u>Blessed is he</u> that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and <u>keep</u> those things which are written therein: for <u>THE TIME IS AT HAND</u>.

Rev 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: <u>blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the prophecy</u> of this book.

Rev 22:9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, <u>and of them which keep the sayings of this book</u>: worship God.

#### KEY SYMBOLS AND CONCEPTS

Before I begin the verse by verse commentary on the prophecy of the Two Witnesses, it is important to understand the key symbols and concepts contained in the story.

#### Key Symbols

The symbols can be quite difficult to understand at times because their meanings can depend on their usage. In addition, there are other symbols which can carry the same spiritual meaning as the one in question.

Below are a few of the key symbols, along with their spiritual meanings. Understanding them will help unveil the spiritual message that the prophecy of the Two Witnesses teaches.

TWO WITNESSES: represents all Elect believers since Paul's "departing" (Acts 20:29-31).

DAY OF THE LORD: represents Christ's judgment.

**THOUSAND YEARS REIGN:** represents Christ's judgment with the Elect reigning with Him.

FIRST RESURRECTION: represents the full spiritual process of conversion.

**THEY THAT DWELL UPON THE EARTH:** represents the carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted believers (babes) who have become apostate. They still dwell upon the Old Earth.

**OLD/NATURAL EARTH:** represents mankind's marred spirit which has a carnal and religious spiritual nature. Synonymous symbols include: Old Jerusalem, Sodom, Egypt, Mystery Babylon the Great city, Damascus, woman and the Great Harlot. Also, many historical women of scripture are "types" for the marred spirit.

**NEW EARTH:** represents the new spirit of a converted believer which has a divine spiritual nature that comes from the indwelling Holy Spirit.

**OLD/NATURAL HEAVENS:** represents the carnal mind and head of the woman (marred spirit). Synonymous symbols include: Old Man and Man of Sin. Also, many historical men of scripture are "types" for the carnal mind/head.

**NEW HEAVENS:** represents the Mind of Christ and Christ as the head of the church.

**KINGS OF THE EARTH:** represents the thoughts and beliefs of the mind; can be either the carnal mind or the Mind of Christ - depending on how the symbol is used. In Col 3:8-9, Paul identifies some of the kings of the earth of the Old Man as anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language and lying.

The verse below is an example of when the symbol "kings of the earth" is used as representing the thoughts and beliefs of the carnal mind:

Rev 18:9 "The <u>kings of the earth</u> who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her (the Great Harlot) will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,

The verse below is an example of when the symbol "kings of the earth" is used as representing the thoughts and beliefs of the Mind of Christ:

### Rev 21:24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the <u>kings of the</u> <u>earth</u> bring their glory and honor into it.

The formula for mankind's spiritual makeup is as follows:

#### MIND + SPIRIT = ONE FLESH

Since mankind has a "marred" spiritual makeup (Jer 18:4), below is a more detailed formula:

## CARNAL MIND + MARRED SPIRIT W/CARNAL & RELIGIOUS SPIRITUAL NATURE = ONE FLESH

Additional formulas for the marred spiritual makeup of mankind are as follows:

### ADAM + EVE = ONE FLESH

MAN + WOMAN = ONE FLESH

#### **OLD EARTH + OLD HEAVEN = ONE FLESH**

### **OLD MAN + GREAT HARLOT = ONE FLESH**

#### Additional comments on the symbols:

The symbol "<u>Man of Sin</u>" represents the worsened carnality of the carnal mind/head (Old Man). This worsened spiritual condition occurs when the spirit of anti-Christ indwells a believer (a babe) and makes their marred spirit and carnal mind "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**). With this worsened spiritual condition, the believer is an <u>apostate believer</u> who is now an even worse child of the Devil. The Seven Headed Beast w/Ten Horns & Ten Crowns presented in Revelation chapter 13 is a synonymous symbol.

Peter spoke of a Man of Sin/apostate believer in the verse below:

# 2Pet 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, <u>the latter</u> end is worse with them than the beginning.

The spirit of anti-Christ is also called the False Prophet and is represented by the second beast of Revelation chapter 13.

<u>One last point on the symbols which represent the mind</u>: Since the <u>mind</u> is the head of the body, the terms used to symbolize the mind (Adam, Man, Earth, Old Man and Man of Sin) can also be used to refer to the <u>individual</u> themselves and not just to the mind.

#### Key Concepts

At the time a person receives the <u>Early Rain of the Spirit</u>, they will go from being an <u>unbeliever</u> to being a <u>believer (a babe)</u>. This is when they are called to be a saint (**Mat 22:14, 1Cor 1:2 & Rom 1:7**) and when they enter the church.

The Early Rain of the Spirit is a small amount of the Holy Spirit (not the baptism) and is what gives a person a measure of faith.

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the <u>small</u> rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the <u>small rain</u> (Early Rain), and to the great rain (Latter Rain) of his strength.

Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man (that is among you, babes) the measure of faith.

With the Early Rain of the Spirit indwelling a person, Christ will deliver a deadly head wound by His sword (Word of God) to their Old Man. This blow by the sword represents Christ's judgment that He uses for conversion.

Since the Early Rain of the Spirit is only a small amount, the believer will remain carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted. This leaves the new believer (a babe) unable to receive the nourishment of Christ's spiritual teachings of the New Covenant. They do have the ability to receive the truth of Christ's Old Covenant work (Milk, Christ and Him crucified, **1Cor 2:2**) but the spiritual teachings of the New Covenant will largely remain veiled from their understanding.

Because the babe cannot receive the truth of Christ's New Covenant teachings, Satan will come to the babe and deceive them with his lies. Satan does this by indwelling the person with his spirit - the spirit of anti-Christ. From the deceptions of the spirit of anti-Christ, the person will accept Satan lies as the truth of Christ. As a result, the babe will accept Satan's "another gospel" (**2Cor 11:4**) which will teach them to mix their own works with faith (**Prov 23:27-32**). When they do this mixing, they are committing the <u>sin that leads to death</u> (**1John 5:16**). And with the spirit of anti-Christ now governing the person's marred spirit and carnal mind, the believer is made "worse than the first (**Mat 12:43-45**); a <u>Man of Sin</u>. They now have the "mark of the Beast" (**Rev 13:16-17**).

An apostate believer will remain in this "worse than the first" spiritual condition until they die if they are <u>not</u> one of the Elect. If the person is one of the Elect, Christ will come to them a second time (commonly called the Second coming of Christ) and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit (the baptism of the Holy Spirit/Spirit of Truth). This time the Spirit comes with power and strength and will heal the Elect person's spiritual blindness. After they have received sufficient nourishment (truth) from Christ, the knowledge of the truth will usher in the Day of the Lord which will destroy the Man of Sin. The Elect person is now converted and will walk by faith and by the Spirit of Truth. This is salvation.

The symbols and concepts which I presented above (along with the guidance of the Spirit of Truth) are the keys to a correct understanding of the prophecy of the Two Witnesses. Please keep these symbols and concepts in mind as I go through the prophecy verse by verse.

### VERSE BY VERSE COMMENTARY

Rev 11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the <u>temple of God</u>, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

The New Covenant is a spiritual covenant in which the Temple of God is no longer made with hands. The Temple of God is now a person who has the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

### 1Cor 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

## **Rev 11:2** But the court which is without the temple <u>leave out</u>, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot <u>forty and two months</u>.

In <u>verse 2</u>, John is told <u>not</u> to measure the outer court of the Temple. Why? Because the outer court of the Temple is given over to the (spiritual) Gentiles. In other words, the outer court of the Temple is where unconverted believers (babes) dwell who are still walking under the control of their Old Man. The Two Witnesses are no exception at this time because they are still walking by sight (**2Cor 5:7**) rather than by the Spirit (**Gal 5:25**).

For the Two Witnesses to be able to enter the inner court of the Temple, they must be <u>spiritually</u> <u>circumcised</u> (converted) so as to become <u>spiritual Jews</u>.

# Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

After this spiritual change occurs within the Two Witnesses, they will be the spiritual descendants of Abraham and will receive their promised inheritance of salvation (the Promised Land).

Gen 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, 6 So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Gen 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates...

### Gal 3:18 For if the inheritance is of the law (man's works), it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

Even the physical offspring of Abraham will not be allowed to enter the inner court of the Temple until they are spiritually circumcised. Until they are converted, they are considered <u>spiritual</u> <u>Gentiles</u> and not spiritual Jews.

<u>Verse 2</u> continues by saying that the Holy City is tread under foot for <u>42 months</u>. The Holy City is the New Jerusalem which is from <u>above</u>. It represents the converted Elect/the Bride of Christ. It is tread under foot at this time because the Elect (the Two Witnesses) are still being governed by their marred spirit which has a carnal and religious spiritual nature. They are not walking by faith or by the Spirit.

The symbol "<u>42 months</u>" represents the time an unconverted (uncircumcised) believer (babe) will spend between receiving the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit. It is not a literal 42 months of time.

The "42 months" comes from the remaining amount of time of Daniel's Seventy Weeks Prophecy in which Christ has been allotted to "put an end to sin and bring in everlasting righteousness" (**Dan 9:24**) for the OT Faithful and the Elect. It is also the same period of time as Elijah's 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  years of drought when a babe dwells in the wilderness (apostate/where Satan dwells).

During the time of the 42 months, the Two Witnesses will remain unconverted and will tread the outer court of the Temple under foot.

## Rev 11:3 And I will give power unto My <u>two witnesses</u>, and they shall prophesy days, a <u>thousand, two hundred, sixty</u>, arrayed with sackcloth.

In verse 3, the prophecy introduces the Two Witnesses who represent the Elect. When they are given "power", it is referencing the time when the Two Witnesses are given a <u>measured amount</u> of the Holy Spirit ("power"). This is the <u>Early Rain of the Spirit</u>.

During the 1,260 days (same as the symbol 42 months), the Two Witnesses will prophesy and teach their carnal understanding of God's Word. They will also be clothed in <u>sackcloth because</u> they are in a state of mourning during the entire 1260 days they remain unconverted.

The scripture below is teaching about the conversion of the Elect. When they are converted, their time of mourning will be ended because the child of God has been born.

Isa 60:19 The (natural) sun (Satan) shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the (natural) moon (Old Covenant/bondwoman) give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. 20 Thy (spiritual) sun (Christ) shall no more go down; neither shall thy (spiritual) moon (New Covenant/freewoman) withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

So why are the Two Witnesses shown to be clothed in sackcloth and in a state of mourning while they remain unconverted? The verse below gives us the answer:

Jer 6:22 Thus saith the LORD, <u>Behold, a people cometh from the north country</u>, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth. They shall lay hold on bow and spear; <u>they are cruel</u>, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion. 24 We have heard the fame thereof: our hands wax feeble: <u>anguish hath taken hold of us</u>, and pain, as of a woman <u>in travail</u> (the Elect waiting for their new birth). 25 Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side. 26 O daughter of my people, gird thee with <u>sackcloth</u>, and wallow thyself in ashes: make thee <u>mourning</u>, <u>AS FOR AN</u> <u>ONLY SON</u>, most bitter lamentation: <u>for the spoiler (Satan) shall suddenly come upon us</u>. 27 I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way. 28 They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters. 29 The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain: for the wicked are not plucked away. 30 Reprobate silver shall men <u>call them</u>, because the LORD hath rejected them.

The Two Witnesses are clothed in sackcloth & are in mourning because Satan (the spoiler) will suddenly come upon them during the time they spend in between the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit (1260 days). Satan and his army (apostate church) will spiritually kill them (make them unfaithful) through their marred spirit (Old Jerusalem/Sodom & Egypt). The Two Witnesses are mourning for the child of God (still in the womb) who will be killed.

Later, Rev 11:7 presents the death of the child of God.

## **Rev 11:4** These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

Christ is the God of the Earth.

# Gen 24:3 "and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the <u>God of the</u> <u>earth</u>, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell;

The Two Olive Trees and Two Candlesticks are symbols which represent all the Elect (the Two Witnesses).

## Rev 11:5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

At this point in the life of an Elect believer (a babe), they are spiritually blind, carnally minded and unconverted. In this spiritual condition, they will improperly use the Word of God to harm their enemies rather than to bless their enemies (**Mat 5:44**). Peter "typed" this truth in the scripture below:

# John 18:10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. 11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

The spirit word "sword" represents the Word of God. When Peter used his sword, it represented Peter mis-using God's Word (the sword of his mouth) to harm his enemies. The sword striking the ear of the high priest's servant represented that when God's Word (the sword) is misused, it will make others deaf and will keep them from being able to receive the truth of God's Word. When Christ saw Peter misusing his sword, Christ immediately chastised Peter and told him to put his sword away.

In the same way that Peter improperly used the Sword, so will all the other unconverted Elect believers.

The truth taught by Peter & his sword is also taught in Jer 5:1-14. Below are the last three verses of that scripture:

Jer 5:12 They have lied about the LORD, And said, "It is not He. Neither will evil come upon us, nor shall we see sword or famine. 13 And the prophets become wind, <u>For the word</u> <u>is not in them</u>. Thus shall it be done to them." 14 Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts: "Because you speak this word, Behold, <u>I will make My words in your mouth fire, And</u> <u>this people wood, And it shall devour them</u>.

In short, Rev 11:5 is showing that the Two Witnesses (as babes) are mis-using God's Word to harm their enemies rather than to bless them.

#### Rev 11:6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

Because the Two Witnesses (as babes) are unable to understand and teach the truth of God's Word, they have power to shut heaven and to stop the Latter Rain from falling which would heal their spiritual blindness. They also have power to turn water into blood which means rather than preaching about the life-giving water of the New Covenant, they have turned the water into blood which only produces death.

The plagues that they use to "smite the (old) earth" (marred spirit) are the false teachings of Satan which makes a believer sick/sinful. These plagues teach the marred spirit (Great Harlot) to mix man's works with the works of Christ. The is the crooked way and is the same way that mankind calls "religion".

### Rev 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

After the Two Witnesses have finished their testimony, Satan will indwell them with the spirit of anti-Christ. This will cause the Abomination of Desolation <u>within</u> the Two Witnesses and will

make them an even worse child of the devil than they were before ("worse than the first", **Mat 12:43-45**). This is when Satan spiritually kills the Two Witnesses and causes them to become a man of sin.

## Rev 11:8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Now that the Two Witnesses have been spiritually killed, their dead bodies will lay in the streets of Old Jerusalem to show what was really responsible for their spiritual death.

Old Jerusalem (like Sodom & Egypt) represents mankind's marred spirit which has a carnal and religious spiritual nature. When Satan indwelt the Two Witnesses with the spirit of anti-Christ, Satan completed his deceptions within them through their marred spirit. For this reason, the Two Witnesses are shown to lay dead in the streets of Old Jerusalem.

Eve is a type for the marred spirit and that is why Satan approached her with his deceptions in the Garden of Eden.

The parable of the leavened bread also applies:

# Mat 13:33 Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven (lies), which a woman (marred spirit) took (from Satan), and hid (represents deception) in three measures of meal (God's truth), till the whole was leavened.

This leavened bread is what all the Elect will consume at some point during their 1260 days/42 months while they tread underfoot the Holy City.

Another symbol for mankind's marred spirit is the Great Harlot.

The scripture below also places the blame for the spiritual death of the Two Witnesses on their marred spirit (Great Harlot/Old Jerusalem):

Rev 17:1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the <u>Great Harlot</u> that sits upon many waters (all mankind): 2 With whom the kings of the earth (thoughts and beliefs of the carnal mind) have committed fornication (followed the harlot ways), and the inhabitants of the earth (babes in Christ) have been made drunk with the <u>wine of her</u> fornication (man's works/religion).

### Rev 11:9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies <u>three days and a half</u>, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

The "people and kindreds and tongues and nations" is a symbol for the worsened carnal mind of the Two Witnesses who have now become a <u>Man of Sin</u>. When the Man of Sin sees the dead bodies of the Two Witnesses for 3 ½ days, it represents the period of time that the Two Witnesses remain an apostate believer and are fully under the control of the spirit of anti-Christ (Satan).

The Man of Sin also does not suffer their dead bodies to be put into graves. This represents that even though the Two Witnesses are spiritually dead, they are not physically in the grave yet. They are back to their original spiritual state (only worse than the first) when they were spiritually dead but physically alive.

This verse applies:

### Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

The child of the devil/Old Man (who is spiritually dead but physically alive) received a deadly head wound by the sword of Christ when the Two Witnesses received the Early Rain of the Spirit. But because Satan strengthened the marred spirit of the child of the devil via the spirit of anti-Christ, the Two Witnesses were never converted into a child of God. This caused the child of the devil/Old Man's deadly head wound to be healed so that the child of the devil would continue on as before but in a worsened spiritual condition.

# Rev 11:10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

"They that dwell upon the earth" (other apostate believers) will rejoice that they have successfully added to the numbers of the apostate church (believing that it is the true church).

The Two Witnesses, who are now fully under the influence of Satan, will begin "dwelling in peace and safety" (**1Thes 5:3**) alongside the other Elect believers who were killed as they were:

Rev 6:10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, <u>How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost</u> <u>thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth (apostate believers)?</u> 11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, <u>UNTIL their fellow servants and their brethren</u> (the rest of the Elect), <u>that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled</u>.

In verse 11, it says that "white robes" were given to the Elect who were spiritually killed. This act represents that the Elect have just received the Latter Rain of the Spirit and have been made "ready" (faithful) for the Day of the Lord which will complete their conversion. They are no longer spiritually dead. This event is shown in the next verse of the prophecy.

## Rev 11:11 And after three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

When the Two Witnesses' predetermined time  $(3 \frac{1}{2} \text{ Days})$  as a Man of Sin is finished, the Second Coming of Christ will <u>suddenly</u> arrive. At this time, the Two Witnesses will receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit, be restored to faith and made spiritually alive again ("stood upon their feet").

#### Rev 11:12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

With the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the Two Witnesses are made faithful again. Christ will then gathered them to heaven:

Mat 24:29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and <u>they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other</u>.

This verse also applies:

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I will call unto the LORD, and <u>he shall send thunder</u> (voice of God) <u>and Rain</u> (Latter Rain); that ye may <u>perceive and see</u> (spiritual blindness healed) that your <u>wickedness is great</u> (have become apostate/man of sin), which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

The <u>enemies</u> who witness the spiritual restoration of the Two Witnesses are the apostate believers who are under Satan's control (just as the Two Witnesses used to be). These apostate believers used to have fellowship with the Two Witnesses before they were restored to faith. But now, fellowship between the two is no longer possible because a "great gulf" has been fixed between them (it separates light from darkness, faithfulness from unfaithfulness).

Luke 16:26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.

### 2Cor 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Another way to show the separation between darkness and light is by where a person <u>spiritually</u> <u>dwells</u>. An apostate believer is said to dwell on the earth, while a child of God is said to dwell in heaven.

Lastly, the apostate believers do not understand what has just happened to the Two Witnesses. The apostate believers' spiritual blindness (represented by the cloud) veils them from knowing the truth about what the Two Witnesses just experienced.

Rev 11:13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the <u>tenth part of the</u> <u>city fell</u>, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the rest were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

After the spiritual restoration of the Two Witnesses (made faithful), the Day of the Lord (judgment) will commence and bring sudden destruction to the worsened child of the devil within the Two Witnesses.

## 1Thes 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then <u>sudden destruction cometh</u> <u>upon them</u>, as <u>travail upon a woman with child</u>; and they shall not escape.

**Note:** In the birthing analogy, the new birth does not occur until the Elect person has been judged and converted. Until that time, the child of God will remain in the womb of the freewoman. The point of conversion is when the child of God born.

A "tenth part of the city" is a symbol which represents the Two Witnesses.

The symbol of the 7,000 men who were slain is understood as 7x10x10x10. The number Seven represents <u>perfection</u> and the 10x10x10 represents a <u>complete spiritual process</u>. The symbol of the "7,000 men who were slain" represents the perfect and complete spiritual process of the judgment of the Man of Sin who was cast into the Lake of Fire for destruction (**Rev 19:20**). The Two Witnesses are now converted.

As a child of God, the Two Witnesses' spiritual makeup will be as follows:

### **NEW HEAVEN + NEW EARTH + HOLY SPIRIT = CHILD OF GOD**

With the Holy Spirit now governing the Elect believer's spirit, their spirit will have a divine spiritual nature and their carnal mind will be renewed into the mind of Christ.

After the Thousand Years Reign (Day of the Lord/judgment) is finished, the Two Witnesses will have experienced the <u>First Resurrection</u>. The First Resurrection is the spiritual resurrection which will make them ready to receive their new glorious spiritual body upon their bodily resurrection from the grave.

After the First Resurrection is complete, the Two Witnesses will experience a time of testing. To perform this testing, Satan will be released from the bottomless pit for a "little season":

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a <u>Thousand Years</u>, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the <u>Thousand Years</u> should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones; and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them; and the souls of those beheaded on account of the testimony of Jesus, and on account of the word of God; and those who had not done homage to the beast nor to his image, <u>and had not received the mark on their forehead and hand</u>; and <u>they lived and reigned with the Christ a Thousand Years</u>. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the <u>Thousand Years</u> were finished. <u>This is the First Resurrection</u>. Christ "typed" this time of testing that each of His Elect will experience just after He completed His 40 days of fasting in the wilderness. At that time, Satan came to Christ and tempted Him three times. And just as Christ passed His time of testing, so will the new son of God pass his time of testing.

#### **SUMMATION**

What I have presented above is the Pathway to Salvation that all of Christ's Elect will travel during their lifetimes. They must keep the <u>sayings of this prophecy</u> to be saved. Their pathway to salvation begins with the Early Rain of the Spirit and ends with the Latter Rain of the Spirit and Judgment. This whole process is called the First Resurrection (conversion).

In the final age, Christ will bring in the remaining harvest of mankind. First to be saved will be the remaining portion of physical Gentiles, followed by the remaining portion of the physical Nation of Israel:

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

In the end, this scripture will be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 <u>who will have all</u> <u>men to be saved</u>, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, <u>to be testified in due time</u>.