

KING OF THE JUNGLE

GOD'S LAST DITCH DUO

REVELATION 11:1-19

When you think of American Independence and the Revolutionary War, certain documents come to mind...

The most famous was drafted by the Continental Congress in 1776, “[The Declaration of Independence.](#)”

But there're numerous others... Thomas Paine's popular pamphlet, “[Common Sense.](#)” Patrick Henry's published speech, “[Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death.](#)”

And there was one, very important document, that's been all but forgotten. “[The Olive Branch Petition](#)” was ratified by Congress on July 5, 1775, and sent to King George III of England. It was the Colony's last ditch effort to avert all-out revolt from the British monarchy.

With the petition, the Colonies tried one final time to extend an olive branch of peace. Yet sadly for England, George refused to even read their petition. Instead, on August 23 he signed a “[Proclamation of Rebellion](#)” against the Colonies. It was a declaration of war...

Yet the Petition served a vital role in the Colonies resolve. Their final overture for peace was rejected.

Now their only choice was surrender or revolution.

The King's unwillingness to even consider their Olive Branch showed they were past the point of no return.

Well, in a sense this is what happens in Revelation 11. Even in the midst of awful judgments, the Lion in Heaven - the roaring Lamb - still has hopes for peace and salvation. He wants the rebel planet to repent.

So He extends an Olive Branch of peace - not in the form a petition - but in the ministry of two people. In verse 4 John introduces these two witnesses as *"The two olive trees... standing before the God of the earth."*

Yet, rather than take heed to the message of these men, the world despises them and wants to kill them. Eventually, they're slaughtered in the streets, and this treason against Christ gets turned into a celebration...

Proving to all Heaven that we're now way past the point of no return! It's time to bring down the hammer.

The events that take place in Revelation 11 assure us of two truths... First, **God's love for us is incurable.**

You can make God angry... grieve Him, provoke Him, and push Him into a corner where He has to judge you and sentence you to your own foolishness. *But you'll never cause God to stop loving you!*

And the second truth this chapter teaches us is **the inevitability of Christ's triumph!** Revelation 11 teaches that you don't side against Jesus and win.

You'd think the initial salvos of judgment would prove the inevitability of the Lion's victory - *famine, death, earthquakes, meteorite showers, tsunamis, a burning mountain (or asteroid) falling out of the sky, locust-like demons from the bottomless pit - feeding on men and women...* Call it, **“God’s terrible wake-up call!”**

But Chapter 11 proves man's rebellion is strong and determined. It doesn't give up easily. Though Heaven sees the handwriting on the wall, Earth is still brazen.

Even when God extends His two Olive Trees, and offers peace - a stubborn mankind lashes out at His overtures of grace, and it seals their ultimate fate.

And this future tragedy begins in a Temple that's yet to be built! In verse 1 the Apostle John sets the stage...

“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.” The Revelation was given to John around the year, 95 AD - *long after the Romans destroyed the Jewish Temple.*

John had frequented the Temple since he was a tot.

He'd offered sacrifices in the Temple. In the Temple precincts Jesus taught and performed miracles. John was shocked when Jesus predicted its destruction. Yet true to His word the Romans topped the Temple. Not one stone was left upon another... Yet now when John gets this glimpse into the future he sees a new Temple.

For the last 1942 years the Jews have been without a Temple. Currently, their sacred site - Mount Moriah or the Temple Mount - houses several Muslim structures.

It's assumed that the Islamic Dome of the Rock was built over the foundation slab of the Holy of Holies - the site where the glory of God hovered over the Ark of the Covenant. The Temple was God's throne on Earth.

Apparently, John's vision of the Temple is for a time still future. He sees a Temple that's yet to be rebuilt.

After the Roman destruction of the Jewish Temple, Emperor Hadrian replaced it with a temple dedicated to Jupiter. This meant a Roman idol now stood where the presence of God once rested. *This was blasphemy.*

A Jewish revolt took place in 135 AD. A zealot named Bar Kochba launched a guerrilla war against the Roman occupiers. After Rome squashed the uprising, they outlawed the Jews from even entering Jerusalem.

In the early fourth century when the Roman Emperor Constantine embraced Christianity, his mother, Helena, came to Jerusalem. She had the pagan temple to Jupiter torn down, and built a church on Mount Moriah.

The church stood until the 7th century when Muslims conquered Jerusalem. In 691 AD, Muhammed's successor, Caliph Omar, built a monument on what he believed was the foundation stone of the Jewish Temple. Today, the golden dome is known as "The Mosque of Omar" or "The Dome of the Rock."

Though the city of Jerusalem is never mentioned in the Quran - and though Muhammed never actually visited the city - Islam now claims the Temple Mount as its third most holy site behind Mecca and Medina.

Supposedly, Muhammed had a vision where he rode his horse to Heaven. Muslims say his launching pad was the rock that lies under the shiny gold dome. They claim its four holes are the horse's four hoof-prints.

For 1300 years, with a brief exception during the Crusades, the Temple Mount remained under Islamic control - *until today*. In June, 1967 - during the famous Six Day War - Israeli paratroopers led by General Moshe Dayan stormed East Jerusalem and took control of the Temple Mount. For the first time in nearly 2000 years the Jews had access to their sacred site.

In the days following, 200,000 Jews worshipped at the last remaining vestige of the Jewish Temple - a piece of the retaining structure called *The Wailing Wall*.

For the first time since 70 AD the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple was within the realm of possibility.

Yet sadly, Dayan chose to placate the Arabs by assigning the muslim religious authority administration of the sacred site. Today, Jews worship at the Wailing Wall west of the mount - and Israeli soldiers patrol the 35 acre platform on top - but all religious activities on the mount itself need the approval of the Muslim Waqf.

Most days the muslims open the Temple Mount for tourists, but both Jews and Christians are forbidden from praying, or singing, or even carrying a Bible.

Frankly, I like to defy their authority and smuggle a Bible onto the Temple Mount in my pants. It's risky, but proper to read God's Word where God's Temple stood.

But understand, this is all that stands in the way of the Jews rebuilding their Temple. Several years ago Orthodox Jewish leader, Nahman Kahane, made this statement, “All Jewish history as far as we are concerned is one big parenthesis until the Temple is returned. Life without the Temple is not really living.”

There is strong sentiment in Israel today for a rebuilt Temple. Jewish yeshivas are training future priests.

Several years ago, a group called the Temple Mount Faithful tried in vain to lay a foundation stone.

When we visit Jerusalem we always go to the Temple Institute where Jews are fashioning the tools and implements that'll be used to offer the sacrifices.

Former Nazi hunter, Zev Golan, speaking on behalf of the Temple Institute, commented, “Our task is to advance the cause of the Temple and to prepare for its establishment, not just talk about it... We believe all of our hopes and all of our attempts... will cause some activity in the heavens, and with God's help, the day will come soon when we will build the Temple.”

He also said, “No one can say how, and no one wants to do it by force. But sooner or later, in a week or in a century, it will be done. And we will be ready for it.”

Understand, logistically it would be easier for the Jews to build their Temple across town in West Jerusalem, but Jewish Law demands the Temple to be built on the parcel David purchased for that purpose.

Thus, a stand-off! Jews want to build a Temple, but the muslims sit on the property. If the Jews try to remove the Muslim shrines they'll create a Jihad, a holy war - every muslim nation will attack overnight.

Actually, since 1967 there have been multiple attempts by Jewish radicals to blow up the shrines.

In 1983, police arrested 45 Israelis with rifles and crowbars who planned a raid on the Temple Mount.

In 1985, a small group known as the [Lifta Band](#) snuck onto the Temple Mount with 30 lbs of explosives. They were caught before they could do any damage.

In the Gulf War of 1991 Jewish hopes ran high that Iraqi tyrant, Saddam Hussein, would accidentally blow up the Dome of the Rock with an errant scud missile.

Historian, Israel Eldad, stresses the urgency Jews feel to build a Temple. [“From David’s liberation of Jerusalem until the construction of the Temple by Solomon, only one generation passes. So it is with us.”](#)

When asked what will become of the mosque, Eldad replied, [“Who knows? Perhaps, an earthquake.”](#)

I believe a more creative solution will be found...

Notice, in verse 1 John is told to measure the Temple, but he gets further instructions in verse 2, [“But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles.”](#)

The Temple’s outer court is given to the Gentiles.

According to both Jewish and Islamic tradition the Dome of the Rock was built on top of the stone where the Ark sat in the Holy of Holies in the Jewish Temple.

But in the March, 1983 issue of Biblical Archeology Review, a Hebrew University scholar, Asher Kaufman, advanced a different theory. He believed the true site of the Hebrew Temple was 300 yards north of the Dome of the Rock directly across from the Eastern Gate.

The Jewish Mishnah said the priest standing in the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement could look through the veil, out the doors, and see the East Gate.

When we go to the Temple Mount I can't wait to get to the little gazebo, northwest of the Dome of the Rock.

Muslims call it “The Dome of the Tablets” or the “The Dome of the Spirit” – both fitting names for the site of the Temple. Under the cupola is a slab of bedrock. For me this the actual location of the Holy of Holies.

One year after my explanation, I walked in and stood on the gazebo's bedrock. A guy in our group was noticeably uneasy. He understood the OT, and knew I wasn't a Levitical priest. He worried that if I was trespassing on the Holy of Holies, God would be inclined to strike me dead. *He was keeping a distance!*

But I quoted him the NT - Hebrews 4, “Seeing that we have a great High Priest... Jesus the Son of God. Let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

In Christ I had every right to tread where Jews feared to go. Through Jesus we have unlimited access to the Almighty. For my friend it was a faith-building moment.

Along with Asher Kaufman I believe that the little gazebo, 300 yards from the Dome of the Rock, will figure in mightily to future negotiations. If the Jews become convinced it's the foundation for their Temple, that would put the muslim shrine in the outer court.

In Revelation 11 the angel tells John to measure the Temple - all but the "*outer court*" - and why? It'll be "*given to the Gentiles.*" Perhaps the rider on the white horse - the first seal - the man who brokers a false peace will do so by striking a deal allowing for both a Jewish Temple and a muslim mosque side-by-side.

With the developments in Israel today we can see how the stage is being set for *God's last ditch duo.*

Verse 1 **sets the stage.** Verse 2 **sets the time...**

Of the Gentiles mentioned in verse 1 we're told, "*And they will tread the holy city underfoot for 42 months.*"

Here is the first mention in Revelation of a timetable. And this harkens back to a famous biblical time frame.

In Daniel 9, God designates 70 weeks of 7 years, or 490 years, to determine the plight of Jerusalem and the Jews. And God has ambitious objectives for this time...

He sets it aside “to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy...” All His promises to Israel will be completed in this 490 years.

Daniel 9 goes on to carve up this timeframe into two main intervals - the first 483 years, and a final 7 years.

This first 483 years begins with the Persian’s decree to rebuild the ruins of Jerusalem. It concludes with the coming of the Messiah. *This is a fabulous prophecy!*

God pinpointed 500 years in advance the very day Jesus would present Himself to the nation Israel.

King Artaxerxes’ ordered reconstruction on March 14, 445 BC. Count 483 years, or 173,880 days, and you come to April 6, 32 AD - the exact day Jesus rode His donkey into Jerusalem to the cheers of the crowd.

And the final seven years is marked out with the same exactness. We’re not told when it begins - it’s still future - but we do know what will start the clock.

This final seven years begins when a Roman leader signs a treaty with Israel. It ends with the consummation of God’s plan for the current age.

And in between - the midpoint - the 42 month mark - events occur that relate to the rebuilt Jewish Temple.

The Roman leader who signs the treaty betrays the Jews. He desecrates their Temple. As the Romans of old, he erects an idol in its precincts. It’s a blasphemy.

The Gentiles will *“tread the holy city underfoot”* for the last half of these seven years - or for *“42 months.”*

The compromises that allow the Jews to build their Temple will be replaced with a policy of oppression.

Verse 3 **sets in motion** God’s last ditch duo... *“And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy 1260 days, clothed in sackcloth.”* 1,260 days is another way to count 42 months or half of 7 years...

Two witnesses will minister in Jerusalem either for the first half of the Great Tribulation or for its last.

These two men will literally be God’s dynamic duo.

Along with the 144,000 witnesses - and the angels in the heavens - they preach God’s final offer of salvation.

These men are clothed in sackcloth not Gucci suits. They oppose all that this materialistic world values.

They call the Earth to repentance and faith in Jesus, the true Christ. And this draws the ire of a false Christ.

These men are a display of God’s insuppressible desire to forgive and save - not condemn and destroy.

They’re the equivalent of the **“Olive Branch Petition”** sent to King George by the American Colonists.

They're ministry is an expression of God's desire for peace, and its proof of the world's decision to rebel.

Verse 4 tells us, "These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth." This is an allusion to Zechariah 4. There the prophet saw two lamps whose light was fueled by a perpetual flow of olive oil. Each of the two lamps drew their olive oil straight from one of two olive trees.

The lamps represented two of Israel's leaders at the time - *Joshua the priest* and *Zerubbabel the governor*.

The olive trees represented the power that fueled them. Zechariah 4:6, "This is the word of the LORD... 'not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit...'"

The two men in Zechariah's day, as well as the two witnesses of the last days... as well as, all God's witnesses, even today - are empowered by His Spirit.

Ever notice how a single candle can light an infinite number of other candles without diminishing its own light or lifespan? This is why Revelation 1 referred to all churches as *a candlestick* - or a *lamp stand*.

Christian witness is fueled by the Holy Spirit. A Spirit-filled person is a source that never runs dry.

There's a perpetual spring of vitality, and love, and goodness, and joy, and power running under the surface of this person's life. It's true of all witnesses.

And it was true of the dynamic duo in chapter 11...

But verse 5 tells us more. “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.” These are not your ordinary Christian soldiers. These men are special ops.

They’re in a secret program - “Witness Protection.”

Jesus told *us* in the Sermon on the Mount, “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.” We’re called to have thick skin - to even turn the other cheek.

Today, the Lord’s workers come and go, yet His work continues. But at this crucial juncture in history these two men have no back-ups. Nobody is on the bench.

They can’t be struck down until the job is finished.

Often times between services I go to the bathroom and brush my teeth. I don’t want to talk to someone or pray with someone, and offend them with bad breath.

But these witnesses defend themselves with bad breath. They have a lethal case of halitosis. If someone tries to harm them they call down fire from heaven.

Remember, these men aren’t just two pastors on church business. They are forerunners of judgment.

They’re more *OT prophets* than *NT pastors*. They’re God’s last call. As I’ve said, they’re *His last ditch duo*.

They’re *a warning to the world*, and **a witness to Israel**... In fact, that bears repeating... these two men have **their sites set on Israel**. They target the Jews.

Remember they're in Jerusalem, at the Temple.

This is why their ministry takes on the characteristics that it does. They have a special appeal to the Jews.

Verse 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.” If you know the OT, torching enemies and shutting off the rain sounds like Elijah. Changing water to blood and calling up plagues is from Moses' arsenal.

It's possible that the two witnesses of Revelation 11 will be a guest appearances by Moses and by Elijah.

And this is the perfect pair to reach Jews. Moses represents the Law - while Elijah was the chief prophet.

Recall Matthew 17. Jesus climbed to the top of Mount Hermon. He brought Peter, James, and John along. And on the mountaintop something happened.

His countenance changed. It was as if His humanity was peeled back, and His glory peeked through. His face was bright as the sun. His clothes sparkling white.

And guess who appeared alongside Him... Moses and Elijah - two witnesses who spoke about His death.

Moses and Elijah are accustomed to the Lion's roar.

Of course, there are other theories as the identity of these two witnesses. But *who they are* is not the point... it's *what they do* and *why*, that's so strategic.

They are [God's last ditch duo](#).

And understand where this phrase, "[last ditch](#)," originates. In ancient times when a city, or castle came under attack, you dug moats or ditches around what it was you were trying to defend. Hopefully, the enemy was unable to breach the first ditch, but when they got to *the last ditch*... you were in a desperate situation.

Anyone who's read Revelation 11 will know that when these two witnesses appear judgment is at hand.

But right now no one knows what constitutes God's last ditch effort. If you die today - *my feeble preaching may turn out to be God's last ditch try to speak to you*.

Here's the policy we should observe... whenever we hear of God's grace and truth we need to pay attention.

When we read Revelation we sometimes get fixated on the wild and wooly judgments - the asteroids and locusts and hailstones... or its cast of characters - the four horsemen, the 144,000, the two witnesses...

But remember this is the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

Every chapter, every scene reveals Jesus, and chapter 11 is no different. Here we see our Lord's heart for His own people. Realize, Jesus was Jewish!

Yet all too often He's depicted in the arts as Anglo-Saxon - or a red-headed Irishman. In the over one-thousand movies made about Jesus, I can't remember a single movie where He's actually played by a Jew.

Yet John 1:11 says of Jesus “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.” While on Earth Jesus made it clear that He came first to the Jews, and then to the Gentiles. His priority was the nation Israel.

After the Jews corporate rejection of Jesus, He birthed the Church. He opened the door of salvation to all races, and tribes, and nations - to the Gentiles.

And that’s His strategy again in the Great Tribulation.

Remember, in the eyes of God three groups of people exist on planet Earth... The Church, the Jews, and the wicked. And He has a plan for all three. After the Church is raptured, the judgment God pours out on the Earth will *punish the wicked*, but *purify the Jew*.

And what happens next in verse 7 is sure to have a sobering effect... “When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them...”

Chapter 11 has **set** the stage, **set** their time, **set** in motion, **sets** their sites - and now there’s **a set up...**

A hellish Beast ascends from the bottomless pit. We’ll talk more about this future ruler in chapter 13.

He’s the rider on the white horse who brokers the false peace in Revelation 6. Elsewhere he’s referred to as the Antichrist. Here he’s a Beast who reveals his fangs, and takes a bite out of God’s two witnesses.

Apparently, the Beast will send out his hit squads to harm God's messengers, but God has them in *witness protection*. It's only now that their testimony is finished and their job is done - that He removes the firepower.

Actually, this should be comforting to you and me. As long as we have a work to do for God we're invincible.

It's God, not the devil, that decides when we die.

It's a jungle out there. And a beast is on the loose. Just remember that Jesus is the King of the Jungle!

Verse 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." The dead bodies of these two witnesses will lie in the same streets through which they carried Jesus' dead body.

This city is God's "*holy city*" - Jerusalem!

Yet what strange nicknames for a supposedly holy city. "*Sodom*" was notorious for *immorality and sexual perversion*. "*Egypt*" was the hotbed for *idolatry and spiritual perversion*... Jerusalem is holy in name only.

Last time I was in Jerusalem I was walking the streets of the Old City, and a Arab kid came around the corner, spit in my face, and ran off... I'm thinking, *is this the holy city?* That's what people will think when they see the blood of these witnesses turn the streets red.

"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."

The Beast - this self-proclaimed King of Jerusalem - keeps the bodies on ice as an example to anyone else who dares to call for repentance and faith.

He uses their corpses as a global deterrent. The 3.5 days may be to commemorate his own 3.5 year reign.

But notice the technology this anticipates...

All the *“nations will see their dead bodies.”* Prior to 1962 and the first satellite TV broadcast, this was impossible. *How could this be?* Now there's CNN Live.

That's why we logged on earlier to the Wailing Wall webcam. Just 25 minutes ago we saw the general vicinity where these corpses will lie. There's now a 24 hour picture streaming continuously over the internet.

And along with an Antichrist, in verse 10 we get an *Anti-Christmas*. *“And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another...”* I once saw a Christmas card that depicted a happy family around the Christmas tree. It then quoted verse 10, *“make merry, and send gifts to one another.”*

The quote was an accurate, but the context was all wrong... Here God's servants are murdered in the streets - possibly at the Temple - and people around the world go *caroling, drink eggnog, exchange gifts...*

It's the Anti-Christmas for an Antichrist world.

And here's why they celebrate... *“because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.”* The faithfulness of two men tortured the souls of all men.

God's two witnesses will witness of His truth...

Marriage is between one man plus one woman... Life begins at conception... The only one way to God is through Jesus... Islam is false... All paths don't lead to God... The Bible is more important than your opinion... Morality isn't open to everyone's private interpretation.

These positions are hated now, and they will be in the future. They'll cause the death of God's servants.

What a stark contrast between God and man.

It's obvious there's a disconnect... Man responds to God's last ditch effort to avert judgment - by murdering God's messengers, and celebrating their own rebellion.

Imagine, Antichrist is throwing a party. The world is tuned in. It's like Time Square on New Year's Eve.

Everybody's glass is raised. It's time for a toast.

When suddenly the camera spins around and focuses on the corpses of the two dead witnesses.

Verse 11, **“Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet...”** Imagine hearing... **“Wolf Blitzer live from Jerusalem...”** Then suddenly two corpses stand to their feet. I'm afraid Ole Wolf might swallow his microphone.

The world was at a party, hoping to see the apple drop - but God warns them the hammer is about to fall.

And the result, “and great fear fell on those who saw them. 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.”

This will force Diane Sawyer to really sober up.

Verse 13, “In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake 7000 people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.”

The Lion shakes up Jerusalem in a couple of ways.

Figuratively, Jesus puts the fear of God in them when He raises the two witnesses from the dead.

And literally, the Lion of Judah will rock the city with an earthquake. If you’ve been to the Old City you’ve seen the tight quarters. Imagine the devastation that will occur when walls crumble and the roofs cave in.

Yet this is what it’ll take for many of the Jews to be saved. Remember the ministry of the two witnesses is targeted toward Israel. During the Great Tribulation a vast spiritual awakening will occur among the Israelis.

They’ll suddenly see the Antichrist as the false-christ. Their error will be obvious, and they’ll consider Jesus.

Paul predicted this in Romans 11:26. He foresaw that in the end “all Israel will be saved.” Every Jew still alive at the end of the Tribulation will embrace Jesus as their Messiah. *This event may be the turning point...*

Verse 14, "The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly." A 7th trumpet is about to blow.

"Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

In the Greek language there's a way to speak of a future event in the past tense - so when you hear it you realize the person has total certainty of the outcome.

You say, "it's Greek to me," but it's a proper usage.

And that's the language of Heaven in verse 14.

Heaven is beginning to anticipate the final victory. It's inevitable. All that opposes Jesus will lose. His kingdom is about to swallow up the kingdoms of man.

The beasts are on the prowl. It's time for the King of the Jungle to show His superiority and cage them all.

Heaven is gearing up for the final showdown!

Verse 16, "And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned." Again, it's not just that Jesus will reign. He is reigning right now. He has the open scroll in His hand.

The title deed to the universe already belongs to Jesus! He did the heavy-lifting on the cross. The Lion became a Lamb. Now all that's left is to evict the rebels and repo the planet. *We're getting closer to the end...*

Here's where we're at in the battle of the ages...

The polls have closed. Though the results are being tabulated, the exit data is clear... *"The kingdoms of the this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"*

But don't expect a concession speech from the opposition - *not without some coercion*. Verse 18, *"The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come..."*

Here's man's problem... *none of us like being told what to do*. We want to call our own shots. Even after the results are in... we refuse to acknowledge that Jesus has won - that Jesus is King! It's not King Me.

And after humbling angry nations there's more on Jesus' to-do list... Read the rest of verse 18, *"the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth."*

Here's God's to-do list at the end of the age... Before it's all over Jesus *puts the arrogant nations in their place - judges souls who died without Christ - rewards God's servants and saints - and destroys those who's rebellion caused God to destroy His own creation...*

How's that for a full day at the office!

The chapter ends with verse 19, *"Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple."* From beginning to the end Revelation 11 revolves around the Temple.

With the death of God's two witnesses there's chaos and carnage in the Jewish Temple. But all is in its proper place in Heaven's Temple. God is on the throne.

The Earth has rebuffed God's last ditch duo.

Now the dye is cast. The inevitability of judgment is sinking in. God's love is forever, but not His pardon. Reject God long enough, and He'll honor that decision.

Thus, Revelation 11 closes with a prelude of what's on mankind's horizon... **“And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.”**

And when will you realize that the triumph of Jesus is inevitable? Why not commit your life to Him today!