

6

WEEK SIX

REVELATION 10-11

**JESUS
SENDS
AND
RESURRECTS
HIS OWN**

10 THE MIGHTY ANGEL AND THE SMALL SCROLL

Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head. His face was like the sun, his legs were like pillars of fire, ²and he held a little scroll opened in his hand. He put his right foot on the sea, his left on the land, ³and he called out with a loud voice like a roaring lion. When he cried out, the seven thunders raised their voices. ⁴And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven, saying, “Seal up what the seven thunders said, and do not write it down!”

⁵Then the angel that I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven. ⁶He swore by the one who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, “There will no longer be a delay, ⁷but in the days when the seventh angel will blow his trumpet, then the mystery of God will be completed, as he announced to his servants the prophets.”

⁸Then the voice that I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, “Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”

⁹So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, “Take and eat it; it will be bitter in your stomach, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth.”

¹⁰Then I took the little scroll from the angel’s hand and ate it. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I ate it, my stomach became bitter. ¹¹And they said to me, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings.”

11 THE TWO WITNESSES

Then I was given a measuring reed like a rod, with these words: “Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count those who worship there. ²But exclude the courtyard outside the temple. Don’t measure it, because it is given to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. ³I will grant my two witnesses authority to prophesy for 1,260 days, dressed in sackcloth.” ⁴These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵If anyone wants to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and consumes their enemies; if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. ⁶They have authority to close up the sky so that it does not rain during the days of their prophecy. They also have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every plague whenever they want.

THE WITNESSES MARTYRED

⁷When they finish their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war on them, conquer them, and kill them. ⁸Their dead bodies will lie in the main street of the great city, which figuratively is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. ⁹And some of the peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will view their bodies for three and a half

days and not permit their bodies to be put into a tomb. ¹⁰Those who live on the earth will gloat over them and celebrate and send gifts to one another because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.

THE WITNESSES RESURRECTED

¹¹But after three and a half days, the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet. Great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹²Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” They went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them. ¹³At that moment a violent earthquake took place, a tenth of the city fell, and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake. The survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴The second woe has passed. Take note: The third woe is coming soon!

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

¹⁵The seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying,

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom
of our Lord and of his Christ,
and he will reign forever and ever.

¹⁶The twenty-four elders, who were seated before God on their thrones, fell facedown and worshiped God, ¹⁷saying,

We give you thanks, Lord God, the Almighty,
who is and who was,
because you have taken your great power
and have begun to reign.

¹⁸ The nations were angry,
but your wrath has come.
The time has come
for the dead to be judged
and to give the reward
to your servants the prophets,
to the saints, and to those who fear your name,
both small and great,
and the time has come to destroy
those who destroy the earth.

¹⁹ Then the temple of God in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant appeared in his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and severe hail.

• The Danger of Distraction

• The Flow of the Text

1. A Mighty Angel Appears with a Scroll (Revelation 10:1–7)
2. John Eats the Scroll and Is Recommissioned (Revelation 10:8–11)
3. The Temple Is Measured (Revelation 11:1–2)
4. Two Witnesses Prophesy (Revelation 11:3–6)
5. The Beast Kills Them (Revelation 11:7–10)
6. The World Celebrates (Revelation 11:9–10)
7. God Raises the Witnesses (Revelation 11:11–12)
8. Judgment Falls (Revelation 11:13–14)
9. The Seventh Trumpet Declares God's Reign (Revelation 11:15–19)

• A Handful of Debated Points



• One Main Point: Living on Mission in a Resistant World



1. We Are Given a Message to Carry (Revelation 10)
2. We Are Called to Be Faithful Witnesses (Revelation 11:1–10)
3. We Are Promised Vindication and Victory (Revelation 11:11–19)

• Living in the Tension

	THE CONSUMING AND INGESTION OF THE SCROLLS IN EZEKIEL (EZEKIEL 2:9-3:5) AND JOHN (REVELATION 10:8-11)	
	Ezekiel 2:9-3:5	Revelation 10:8-11
Giver of the Scroll	God Himself	Christ or Christ's representative
Description of the Scroll	Writing on the front and back	"Writing on both sides." (Revelation 5:1)
Command with the Scroll	"...Eat this scroll..." (Ezekiel 3:1)	"...Take and eat it..." (Revelation 10:9)
Effect from the Scroll	"...it was as sweet as honey in my mouth." (Ezekiel 3:3)	"...It was as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I ate it, my stomach became bitter." (Revelation 10:10)
Scope of the Scroll	"...go to the house of Israel and speak my words to them." (Ezekiel 3:4)	"...You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings." (Revelation 10:11)

Adapted from Jim Hamilton’s commentary on Revelation

	THE WITNESS OF CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH	
	Christ	Revelation 11
Proclamation	"...Jesus went to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God..." (Mark 1:14)	"...prophesy for 1,260 days..." (v. 3)
Persecution	At least eight recorded Gospel accounts	"...the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war on them..." (v. 7)
Death in Jerusalem	"...he went out to what is called Place of the Skull, which in Aramaic is called <i>Golgotha</i> ." (John 19:17)	"Their dead bodies will lie in the main street of the great city...where also their Lord was crucified." (v. 8)
Length of Death	"...be killed, and be raised the third day." (Matthew 16:21)	"But after three and a half days..." (v. 11)
Rejoicing by the World	"...but the world will rejoice..." (John 16:20)	"Those who live on the earth will gloat over them and celebrate and send gifts to one another..." (v. 10)
Resurrection	"...saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus." (John 20:14)	"...the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet..." (v. 11)
Vindication by Ascension	"...he was taken up as they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight." (Acts 1:9)	"...They went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them." (v. 12)

“The pattern of the narration of the witnesses’ career in 11:3–12 is intended as a replica of Christ’s proclamation and signs resulting in Satanic opposition, persecution (John 15:20) and violent death in the city where Christ was crucified, followed by the world looking on their victim (Rev. 1:7), the world’s rejoicing (cf. John 16:20), and then resurrection and vindication by ascension in a cloud.” — (G.K. Beale)

Life Group Discussion Guide

WEEK SIX

RHYTHM REMINDER



 **Serve the Community**

LEAN IN

Think of a time you had to deliver a difficult or uncomfortable message to someone.

What made it hard, and how did you handle it? _____

LOOK DOWN

Read Revelation 11:1-15 (pg. 86). In Revelation 11, two witnesses prophesy boldly, are killed by their enemies, and are then raised from the dead and taken up to Heaven. What does their story tell us about the pattern God's people should expect when they faithfully proclaim His truth in the world? _____

LOOK OUT

The two witnesses are killed for their testimony, yet God vindicates them publicly and dramatically. How does the world today respond to Christians who take a public stand for their faith? What does God's vindication of the witnesses say to those who feel marginalized or silenced for their beliefs? _____

LOOK IN

Close your time by talking as a group about one specific way you could serve your city, or even your neighborhood, together. Then pray for boldness to be witnesses—not just in words but in action—in your community. _____

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.