

Rev 11:1-2 Then there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it. (2) "Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months.

Not the Herodian temple, but a vision

Matt 27:53 and coming out of the
tombs after His resurrection they
entered the holy city and appeared
to many.

We see a picture in v. 1-2, earthly
Jerusalem - what does it mean?

-- John saw 7 golden lampstands

Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands

- that is the picture -- but what is the meaning?

They represent the 7 churches

Rev 1:20 "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

The sanctuary of God is the true church, the Holy City -- all who worship him in spirit and truth

Matt 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.

John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

They are safe - not from earthly tribulations, but from eternal doom!

This protection does not extend to the court!

The court of the Gentiles - a place for Gentiles to worship -- today a place of nominal worship, e.g., the “Christian religions” of the world, where worldly church members welcome the ideas of the world, feel at home with the world, where voting for political office are prompted by worldly considerations—

occurs throughout 42 months -- i.e., the gospel age

The temple (Sanctuary in some versions) of God
common name for church

1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

2 Cor 6:16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

court - cast out (given to nations) - thus sanctuary
is true Christians

Eph 2:19 ... but you are fellow citizens with the
saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been
built upon the foundation of the apostles and
prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner
stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted
together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;
22 in whom you also are being built together into a
dwelling of God in the Spirit.

altar of incense symbolizes the saints and their
prayers--all true Christians

Rev 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand. Rev 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

Rev 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

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Christians

Rev 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and from where have they come?" 14 And I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 "For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne shall spread His tabernacle over them.

true believers are known to God

Rev 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were
sealed, ...

Rev 7:11 And all the angels were standing around
the throne and around the elders and the four living
creatures; and they fell on their faces before the
throne and worshiped God,

true believers are known to God

Rev 7:13-14 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?" (14) I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

all who worship are measured

John 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

Rev 11:3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

2 witnesses symbolize militant, missionary church
with OT and NT

Rom 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times
was written for our instruction, that through
perseverance and the encouragement of the
Scriptures we might have hope.

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Rom 16:4 who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles;

to guide lost and to guide saved – for 1260 days or 42 months -- time, times and half a time 3 ½ times or 42 months – the gospel age!

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

The elders and evangelists who use the OT and NT
are the olive trees

Rom 11:17 But if some of the branches were
broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were
grafted in among them and became partaker with
them of the rich root of the olive tree,

Gentiles brought in NT from outside; lampstands
OT and NT showing the way to heaven , the light
to bring in and to retain

Zech 4:2 And he said to me, "What do you see?"
And I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of
gold with its bowl on the top of it, and its seven
lamps on it with seven spouts belonging to each of
the lamps which are on the top of it; 3 also two
olive trees by it, one on the right side of the bowl
and the other on its left side. "

The church will judge

1Co 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

Rev 11:5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. (6) These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

Some may think that they have destroyed the true church, but the true church always remains on the earth in the gospel age

Rev 11.7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. 8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. (9) Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. (10) And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

Church and its missionaries are persecuted but their words condemn the unbelieving world.

The gospel torments the unbeliever and the world rejoices over the afflictions of the church .

2 Thess 1:6 For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

9 And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

The church's labor is not in vain

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my
beloved brethren, be steadfast,
immovable, always abounding in
the work of the Lord, knowing
that your toil is not in vain in the
Lord.

Rev 11:11 But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. (12) And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them. (13) And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Those who have seen the might hand of God are
terrified and repent (v.13)!

Rev 9:20 And the rest of mankind, who were
not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the
works of their hands, so as not to worship
demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and
of brass and of stone and of wood, which can
neither see nor hear nor walk; 21 and they did
not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries
nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Those who destroy the church or its evangelists
are destroyed by God!

Rev 6:10 and they cried out with a loud voice,
saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt
Thou refrain from judging and avenging our
blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

God lives in the hearts of the oppressed in Viet
Nam, Russia, China etc.

the end will come

Jerusalem crucified the Christ and thought
the church would die! Leaders silenced only for a
short period

Matt 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall
be preached in the whole world for a witness to all
the nations, and then the end shall come.

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, 8 and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. 9 And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

Homosexuals now celebrate at the death of morality in the church but Christ will preserve His people!

Rev 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded; 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."

Dan 2:44 "And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

Jesus reigns Not over the world but over his church -
- the kingdom.

Dan 7:14 "And to Him was given dominion, Glory
and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations, and
men of every language Might serve Him. His
dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not
pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not
be destroyed.

Ps 8:4 What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him? 5 Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God, And dost crown him with glory and majesty! 6 Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet,

Luke 1:33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and His kingdom will have no end."

Rev 11:16 And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, (17) saying, "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.

Acts 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Rev 11:18 "And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

Judgment begins!

We must be members of the kingdom.

Rev 11.19 And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

Ex 25:22 (NIV) There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet with you

... a place of rest for the children of God and a place of wrath for the unbelieving world