
EP89 Revelation 11 verses 10-11

Revelation 11:7-10

When they have finished their testimony, the beast that is now ascending up out of the abyss will make war with them and overcome them and kill them. And their dead body in the street of the great city which spiritually is **now** caused to be called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was caused to be crucified.

Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will **now** look at their dead bodies for **three and a half days** and will not **now** permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. And those who are **now** dwelling on the earth will **now** rejoice over them and **now** be caused to celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who are **now** dwelling on the earth.

In our last podcast, the two witnesses had just been killed by the Beast as a result of the war he wages with them, and for **3.5 days**, the peoples of the world were just staring at their dead “body” (singular) which was in the “street” or “way” (also singular) of the “*great city*.”

We have come to understand the mystery behind **3.5 years, 3.5 months**, and now there is the mysterious **3.5 days**. These are **3.5 days of light**—the last few days, immediately preceding the rapture, when the light of Jesus is in the world, after which, there will be only darkness.

Let’s pick back up with our discussion of these mysterious days.

The Days of Light

We must ask, who, if anyone, are these last **3.5 days** (in the literal sense of the image) targeted at or for whom are they intended to reach? Until the time that God removes the light entirely and turns the remaining time over to darkness, He still reaches out to those who have yet to embrace the lies of the Beast. This would be targeted at those who are deemed to be the “**Righteous**” – those who will inherit the kingdom of God if they endure to the end and refuse to take upon their being the mark of the Beast.

Keep in mind, once the Sanctuary is measured, no one else will be added to the collection of true believers. Therefore, once the “*reed like a rod*” is used to accurately complete the measurement, no one else will become a **Chosen** one (or better said, a **Chosen** of the Chosen). But all hope is not lost. The Spirit still reaches out to the **Righteous**.

We have discussed the “**Righteous**” on multiple occasions.¹ They have NOT been converted by God (they are not born-again), but they are protected by God because of how they treated His two witnesses. They cared for and loved on the **Chosen** sons of God and in turn, God will care for them. As Jesus said about these people:

¹ the “*Righteous*” are those who cared for and loved on the sons of God and refused to take the mark of the Beast (*Matthew 10:40, 25:34-40; Mark 9:37; Luke 9:48, 10:16; John 13:20; Revelation 14:9-12*).

Matthew 10:40-42

He who **now** chooses to be receiving you **now** chooses to receive Me, and he who **now** chooses to be receiving Me **now** chooses to receive Him who has been sending Me. He who **now** chooses to be receiving a prophet in the name of a prophet will choose to receive (in the *future*) a prophet's reward; and he who **now** chooses to be receiving a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will choose to receive (in the *future*) a righteous man's reward. And whoever in the name of a disciple shall give to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I now say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

The **Righteous** will receive their reward, for in choosing to even now be receiving the **Chosen**, they are receiving Jesus and the Father. And it's as if, even in these last **3.5 days of light**, that the Spirit is telling them to hold on and continue to endure to the end, for their reward will not be lost.

Matthew 25:34-40

Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are caused to be a blessing of My Father, *you are commanded to inherit the kingdom which has been caused to being prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I chose to be a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you chose to have visited Me; I chose to be in prison, and you came to Me.' "Then the **righteous** will be caused to answer Him, now saying, 'Lord, when did we see You now being hungry, and feed You, or now being thirsty, and give You something to drink? 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 'When did we see You now being sick, or in prison, and come to You?' The King will be caused to be answering and will say to them, '*Truly I now say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.*'

And because the Spirit used the *present* tense to speak of the reason why they will inherit the kingdom which has been caused to being prepared for them, from the foundation of the world, we know that the "**3.5 days of light**" are intended to preserve the **Righteous** in each and every generation—those who practically care for His "brethren" in that the **Righteous** feed them, give them drink, invite them in, clothe them, care for them in sickness and in imprisonment. Thus, this special time is to be understood as applying to our **now**, as well as to the "**now**" during the **End Times**

The Celebration**Revelation 11:10**

And those who are **now** dwelling on the earth will **now** rejoice over them and **now** be caused to

celebrate; and they will (*future*) send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who are **now** dwelling on the earth.

With the use of the *present* and the *future* and the *aorist* tenses, once again, the Spirit gives us a layered picture of time (**Now & Then**).

Who is Rejoicing?

In the previous verse, **11:9**, the Spirit made the point that it is the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations** who **now** look at the dead body. So why does he now add this additional phrase, “*And those who are now dwelling on the earth*”? Is He speaking of the same group, a different group, or is there just something He needed to clarify?

Those Who Dwell on the Earth

The phrase, “*And those who are now dwelling on the earth*” is **Code**.² We have discussed this before. This is a reference to those people whose entire identity and personhood are tied to this earth. The earth is their abode, and they seek all that they can find in this world by placing their hope and their faith in the promises of humanity. But there is more to it than that, much more.

The souls under the altar cried out for vengeance against “*those who are now dwelling on the earth.*” The **WARNING** regarding the blasts of the last three trumpet (5th-7th) was directed at “*those who are now dwelling on the earth.*” And all “*those who are now dwelling on the earth*” will worship the Beast because the False Prophet will deceive “*those who are now dwelling on the earth.*” They are those who get drunk with the wine of immorality (false religion), as they follow after the Woman who rides the Beast (the Spirit who presides over false religions). Yet, *those who are now dwelling on the earth* will be filled with wonderment when they see the Beast, that he was and is not and will come.³

But the single most defining description of this lot, which perhaps is the detail that separates them from the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations** is that twice we are told that “*their name has NOT been caused to be written, from the foundation of the world, in the book of life of the Lamb who has been caused to being slain.*”⁴

Twice, the Spirit makes this distinction. Thus, according to the **Code**, this group is distinct or **divided** from the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations**, and it is this division that provides a **witness** as to their true identity. Because *their name has NOT been written, from the foundation of the world, in the book of life of the Lamb who has been caused to being slain*, these are the **Accursed** of God—the “*vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,*” literally they have been prepared for the Beast, whose name is Destruction.⁵ They belong to him.

And since the *present active participle* is used to describe those who are **now** dwelling on the earth,

² “dwelling” is rendered in the *present active participle*

³ **Revelation 6:10, 8:13, 13:8, 12, 14, 17:2, 8**

⁴ **Revelation 13:8, 17:8**

⁵ **Matthew 25:41-46; Romans 9:19-24**

we know that the **Accursed** of God have been present every moment of “**now**” in each-and-every generation.

The Watchers

The first group that is present at the demise of the two witnesses are those from the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations**. They will **now** look at their dead body for three and a half days and will not **now** permit their dead body to be laid in a tomb.

The Partiers

The second group (the **Accursed**) are those who are **now** dwelling on the earth. They will **now** rejoice over them and **now** be caused to celebrate, and they will send (rendered in the *future* tense) gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who are **now** dwelling on the earth. And with “*tormented*” being in the *aorist active indicative*, we know that is what they have done. It is almost by their very existence they have tormented the **Accursed** all through the ages.

It is hard to imagine that murder will be cause for gift giving. Because we live in the **day**—in the light—and it is hard to fully grasp or understand the hatred and sheer vile which darkness engenders. Even with all the stories of terrible and unimaginable persecution that we can read in our history books, it is hard to comprehend that the heart of mankind can be so wicked, evil, soulless, and vicious. Yes, people even **now** rejoice at the death of believers; it literally makes them merry. However, one day, those who abide in darkness and have made their permanent abode in this world will literally exchange gifts in celebration. It will be party time and it is demented beyond measure.

The Torment – the Why

The Spirit adds something He did not give us previously when discussing the authority that was given to the two witnesses to turn blessings into judgments, to remove blessings, and to cause great calamity to strike the earth, and that is the ***intended target*** of these torments. It is clear that the Spirit wants us to understand that this torment that is brought forth whenever the two witnesses desire, is not just “willy-nilly” poured out upon the whole earth, as will be with the 7-Bowl judgments, but this torment is targeted at the **Accursed**. It is personal.

The first group of the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations** will undoubtedly be impacted by these torments. They will however be collateral damage, which is likely why they do NOT now permit the dead body of the two witnesses to be laid in a tomb. But they are not the intended target. These torments are for the **Accursed** and they know it; again, this is personal. This explains how they can be so morbidly cold hearted with their celebration and exchange of gifts.

When the two witnesses die, it will be a global holiday and a time to exchange gifts, celebrate, kick back, and watch some dead bodies (or as the Spirit says, the dead body). The whole scene is eerie, twisted, dark, and demonic. This should give us a feel for the intensity of the two witnesses’ authority to stop the rain, turn the water to blood, and to call for all manner of wounds or calamity, whenever they desire.

Once again, “*tormented*” is not in the *future* or the *present*, but the *aorist* tense, thus, this authority to bring forth this torment is something which the **Chosen** of God have always had the authority to exercise all throughout the years preceding the time of slaughter—throughout the *literal* and *figurative* **3.5 years**—

from the time of Christ and throughout the **3.5 days**. Thus, it is **NOT** just an **End Times** event, but it has always been an authority whose purpose is specifically to target the **Accursed**.

NOW & THEN

With the use of both the *present* and *future* tense, we see the layers in the cake as the Spirit is presenting to us aspects of our **NOW & THEN**.

NOW

*And those who are now dwelling on the earth will now rejoice or be cheerful because of the dead witnesses and now be caused to celebrate.*⁶ The Spirit is communicating that this is a present reality.

The thought of it all is sickening. And although, in your community, you may not have directly experienced this sort of relief and celebration over the death of believers, the groundwork has been laid. People rejoice when evil prevails, when legislation that is presented as the “new good” passes and promotes ideology that is in stark opposition to that of God. People rejoice when court cases elevate these types of ideologies as the new societal standard, and they ridicule and cancel those who do not comply. So, although in your community, you may not have directly experienced this sort of sick celebration, just give it time, you will. It is a new kind of expression of humanistic faith, and it is a **now** thing!

& THEN

“... and they will send (rendered in the *future* tense) gifts to one another ...” From the perspective of **then**, it is difficult to imagine the intensity of this scene. In a very brief period, the Beast consolidates his global power and then turns and wages war and kills the two witnesses that are destined or appointed by God to be killed. By the way, the **Codex** is clear that not everyone will be killed in this war, although most will be. However, we know there will be some who are alive and remain until the rapture.⁷

With the use of the *future* tense, the Spirit points us forward to this time when the Beast goes to war against the two witnesses. And in their rejoicing, they literally exchange gifts, as if it were Christmas time or everyone’s birthday. How sick is that? That is how depraved those who are now dwelling on this earth are, and it explains how desperate the **Accursed** are to remove out of their lives any vestige of **Yahweh**.

Resurrection: The Breath of Life

Revelation 11:11

But after the three and a half days, the breath [or Spirit] of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who are **now** watching them.

As we have learned, this phrase **3.5 days** is used *figuratively* to speak of the perfect (**3**) time of grace (**5**) when the light of God is still in this world (**days**), as well as *literally* to speak of these very final days

⁶ “celebrate” is rendered in the *present passive indicative*

⁷ **1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; 1 Corinthians 15:52-52**

when the citizens of this world rejoice over the demise of the two witnesses, as they gather around the world to stare at the dead body.

Great Fear

From the *literal* view, can you imagine the sheer terror of this event. The **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations** are now watching and the **Accursed** are in the midst of their celebration, when suddenly these dead witnesses stand up on their feet. “And **great fear** fell upon those who **now** are watching them.” Duh, they will be scared to death! They will likely be thinking, “Oh no, this cannot be good. They are going to be so angry. If they tormented us before, what they do to us now will be unfathomable.”

The Breath of God

The two witnesses are not resurrected by their own power, but their dead bodies are given life by the breath or by the Spirit of God; for it is the Spirit who gives life.⁸ This is a promise clearly communicated to us in the **Codex**. “But if the Spirit of Him who had been raising Jesus from the dead **now** dwells in you, He who had been raising Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who is **now** dwelling in you.”⁹

Who Else is Watching?

“... and great fear fell upon those who are **now watching** them.” As far as the **Code**, this passage is primarily presented in the *aorist* tense, just telling us what happens. However, “*watching*” is intentionally rendered in *present active participle*. They are even **now** watching.

Perhaps the reason the Spirit used the *present active participle* (those who are now watching), is because there are more beings watching this event than just the people all around the world—spiritual beings. There is a whole unseen world of demons, rulers, powers, authorities, thrones, and so on (including Satan), who have always been watching the people of God get slaughtered. They are the those who whisper in the ears of the **peoples** and **tribes** and **tongues** and **nations** and who direct the actions of the **Accursed**. And they have always celebrated the death of the Chosen of God. And this event is no different.

These spiritual beings will think they gained the ultimate triumph, but then, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, they will know they are doomed, and that once again they have been deceived by the lies of the dragon and they have let themselves be deceived by the lies of the dragon.

Hence, they are greatly afraid. In the same way that Jesus’ resurrection *chose to be disarming* these spiritual rulers and authorities and made a public display of them (He shamed them *triumphing* over them), so shall the resurrection from the dead of His two witnesses.¹⁰ Those in the unseen realm, the spiritual powers and authorities, will be totally caught off-guard and consumed by great fear knowing that

⁸ **John 6:63**

⁹ **Romans 8:11**

¹⁰ **Colossians 2:15**. Note: “disarming” is rendered in the *aorist middle participle* and “triumphing” is rendered in the *aorist active participle* – both are participles indicating ongoing action.

their own demise is just around the corner. This is simply not playing out the way they had been convinced nor how they had convinced themselves.

A Very Real Resurrection

Let's be clear, this will be a very physical resurrection. It is not a resuscitation; hence, the 3.5 days—the length of time plus a little extra thrown in there just to super-validate their actual death. And it is not their spirits that are rising up, but it is their physical **bodies** (*plural*). The breath [or Spirit] of life from God came into **them** (it is *plural*) and **they** (again, it is *plural*) literally stand on their feet. The body of Christ is resurrected to life.

The **Codex** provides us a foreshadow of this event, with the raising of Lazarus from the dead (Lazarus was a friend of Jesus). At that event, Jesus said, *"I am (present tense) the resurrection and the life; he who is now believing in Me will (future) choose to live though he may be dead, and everyone who is now living and is now believing in Me will never die."* ... *"Did I not say that if you believe, you will (future) choose to see the glory of God."*¹¹ This is the fulfillment of His words. The two witnesses (the friends of Jesus) die, they live, and they will soon reign with Him forever. They will see the glory of God!

The **Codex** is filled with amazing references to this day.

Daniel 12:1-3

...And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. **"Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life,** but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. "Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Isaiah 26:19

But those who die in the Lord will live; their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth will rise up and sing for joy! For your life-giving light will fall like dew on your people in the place of the dead!

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are now caused to be sleeping, so that you will not now be caused to grieve as do the rest who are now having no hope. For if we now believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have been caused to have fallen asleep in Jesus.

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are now living and are now caused to be

¹¹ John 11:25-26, 40

remaining until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have been caused to be sleeping. For the Lord Himself will choose to descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, **and the dead in Christ will choose to rise first. Then we who are now living and now caused to be remaining will be caused to be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air**, and so we shall always choose to be with the Lord. Therefore, you are commanded to comfort one another with these words.

And, if you can imagine, **Job**, which is by far the oldest book in the Bible (it is even pre-Judaism), also talks about this resurrection.

Job 19:25-27

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth. Even after my skin is destroyed, **yet in my flesh I shall see God; whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see** and not another. My heart faints within me!

Job declares accurately that even after he is dead, with his flesh he will see God. Like those who were slaughtered, even Job will stand up, as the dead in Christ will rise first. Their resurrection will immediately precede the rapture, then those who are now living and caused to be remaining, will also be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord.

And to put the icing on the cake, so to speak, **Micah** also captures this whole scenario, even the part about those who are in the temple at large (part of the apostate religious system), who turn against the two witnesses and become their enemy.

Micah 7:1-10

How miserable I am! I feel like the fruit picker after the harvest who can find nothing to eat. Not a cluster of grapes or a single early fig can be found to satisfy my hunger. *The godly people have all disappeared; not one honest person is left on the earth.* {Kind of feels that way even now, and it is getting worse it seems every day} ...

But your judgment day is coming swiftly now. **Your time of punishment is here**, a time of confusion. Don't trust anyone—not your' best friend or even your wife! For the son despises his father. The daughter defies her mother. The daughter-in-law defies her mother-in-law. Your enemies are right in your own household! As for me, I look to **Yahweh** for help. I wait confidently for God to save me, and my God will certainly hear me.

Do not gloat over me, my enemies! For though I fall, **I will rise again**. Though I sit in darkness, **Yahweh** will be my light. I will be patient as **Yahweh** punishes me, for I have sinned against him. But after that, he will take up my case and give me justice for all I have suffered from my enemies. **Yahweh** will bring me into the light, **and I will see his righteousness**. Then my enemies will see that **Yahweh** is on my

side. They will be ashamed that they taunted me, saying, "So where is **Yahweh** —that God of yours?" **With my own eyes I will see their downfall**; they will be trampled like mud in the streets.

Like Job, Micah also declares, "*with my own eyes.*" This means that our bodies, no matter what they do to them, will be resurrected; and it will be with our own eyes that we will see Jesus at the very next event, the rapture.

Resurrection then Rapture: The Loud Voice from Heaven

Revelation 11:12

And they heard a great voice from heaven **now** saying to them, "You are commanded to come up here." Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them.

The two witnesses, after having been killed and strewn in the street, all across the great city of religious apostasy, are first resurrected and then they are raptured out of this world and into heaven, into the presence of the Lord.

The **Codex** reveals this event as a promise in which all true believers can place their hope.

*Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all be caused to sleep (a metaphor for death), but we will all be caused to be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be caused to be raised imperishable, and we will be caused to be changed. For this perishable now must be caused to put on and choose to put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put be caused to put on and choose to put on immortality.*¹²

*"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with **the voice of the archangel** and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are now living and caused to be remaining will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, comfort one another with these words."*¹³

First the resurrection of the dead, and then the rapture. In the presence of their enemies (all those who are watching and celebrating), the two witnesses will rise to meet Jesus in the clouds, and their enemies will behold their physical bodies defy nature and rise into the heavenly realms. They will see it all happen right in front of their faces. And at that moment they will know that they chose poorly. They will know that the testimony of these two witnesses was true. They will know that Beast is a liar and that neither he nor the dragon is more powerful than the Lamb. They will know that divine vengeance is just around the corner, and that they are doomed.

You might be thinking it is odd that this great voice from heaven is even **now** saying to them, "*You are commanded to come up here.*" But just like so many of the great cries in **Revelation**, the Spirit rendered

¹² **1 Corinthians 15:51-53**

¹³ **1 Thessalonians 4:16-18**

this in the *present active participle* to assure us that this is our destiny. This cry is even now calling to us; we are always being called to “*come up here*” and be with Jesus.

All of this, including the sound of the trumpet (the 7th or the **last trumpet**) will all be detailed out in **Revelation 14:14-16**. And let me assure you, it is mind blowing. We will find that this captures the completion of this mystery as Jesus harvests from the earth those who are His and afterwards an angel harvest those destined for wrath and ushers in the time of Great Wrath.

But for those who are now overcoming, the dead in Christ shall rise first, and then those who are living and remaining will join them in the clouds in the air to meet Jesus.

This is all captured in the **Codex** as the prophet **Isaiah** addresses the resurrection, the rapture, and where it is that two witnesses will be during the time that God pours out His fury upon the earth.

Isaiah 26:19-21

Your dead will live; their corpses will rise. You who lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy, for your dew is as the dew of the dawn, and the earth will give birth to the departed spirits. Come, my people, enter into your **rooms** and close your doors behind you; hide for a little while until indignation {or wrath} runs its course. For behold, **Yahweh** is about to come out from His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed and will no longer cover her slain.

The **Codex** is amazing. It covers everything! The true church of Jesus Christ will rise to meet Jesus, in the sight of their enemies, and so they shall always be with **Yahweh**. And during this time of indignation or great wrath, those who are resurrected and raptured get to go home and stay in the Father’s house—in those “**rooms**” to which Jesus referred.

John 14:1-3

You are commanded to **now** not let your heart become troubled; believe **now** in God, **now** believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I **now** choose to go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will **now** choose to come again and in the future choose to receive you to Myself, that where I **now** am, there you may **now** be also.

Clearly with the interesting use of the **Code**, this passage is rich with so much more meaning than what we are addressing. But in short, the Lord’s bondservants will be hidden in the Father’s house until the time of indignation (the time of **Yahweh’s** great wrath) runs its course; all of which will happen during the second 3.5 years of the tribulation. During this time, a lot happens both in heaven and on earth, but for those details, we will just have to wait. But don’t worry, the **Revelation** narrative describes the events of this time of protection for the **Called and Chosen and Faithful** and indignation for those who are now not believing.

Let us stop here and we will pick up next week with a deep dive into this resurrection and rapture. Unfortunately, there are some licentious fictions that surround the resurrection and rapture of the two witnesses, but we will sort it all out to make sure we understand what the Spirit now says to those who are now having ears to hear what the Spirit now says to the churches.