

2 WITNESSES



PLUS 1

**¹Then 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. ²But leave out the
court which is outside the temple, and do not
measure it, for it has been given to the
Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city
underfoot for forty-two months.**

REVELATION 11:1-2



“¹Then 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. ²But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. ” (Rv.11:1-2)

- This is a Temple on the earth.**
- The outer court was the area designated for Gentiles. It is not to be measured.**
- The focus is on the spiritual condition of the nation of Israel.**
- The Gentiles will have 42 months remaining to tread upon Jerusalem.**



THE TEMPLE

- ☞ The Millennial temple will be here on the earth, but church believers we will not worship there.
- ☞ The church believer will worship in the New Jerusalem where there will be no temple (Rv.21:22).

ORTHODOX JEWS CELEBRATE THE TEMPLE

- **When does the Temple get built? It must exist prior to the mid-point because this is when the man of sin sits in the Temple and declares himself God.**
- **To the Jews they would consider this a great success to finally, in their minds, follow the Mosaic law again.**
- **The Temple and the sacrifices will be blasphemous. There is no need for animal sacrifices if they would believe on Christ.**



TWO WITNESSES OPPOSED BY THE ORTHODOX JEWS

- **The unbelieving Jews will oppose the two witnesses (Rv.11:5).**
- **The orthodox Jews will be celebrating, while the 2 Witnesses will oppose it.**
- **The 2 Witnesses will proclaim that Jesus is the Messiah.**
- **The 2 Witnesses will be hated by the unbelievers, as well as the orthodox Jews.**



TIMES OF THE GENTILES

Da.2:32-43; Da.7:2-8

❖ The time of national discipline upon Israel which began in 70AD will be completed at the end of the 70th Week (Rv.11:2).

❖ “And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Lk.21:24).

❖ Luke 21:24 and Rev.11:2 refer to the same trampling of Jerusalem by Gentiles. Luke refers to the beginning and John refers to the end the times of the Gentiles.



MINISTRY OF THE TWO WITNESSES — 1260 DAYS

**START
OF 70TH
WEEK**

**ABOMINATION
OF DESOLATION**



RAPTURE

**144,000
SEALED**

**END
OF 70TH
WEEK**

First Half of Daniel's 70th Week

Great Tribulation
(Unknown Duration)

Day of the Lord
(Unknown Duration)

BOWLS

3½ Years

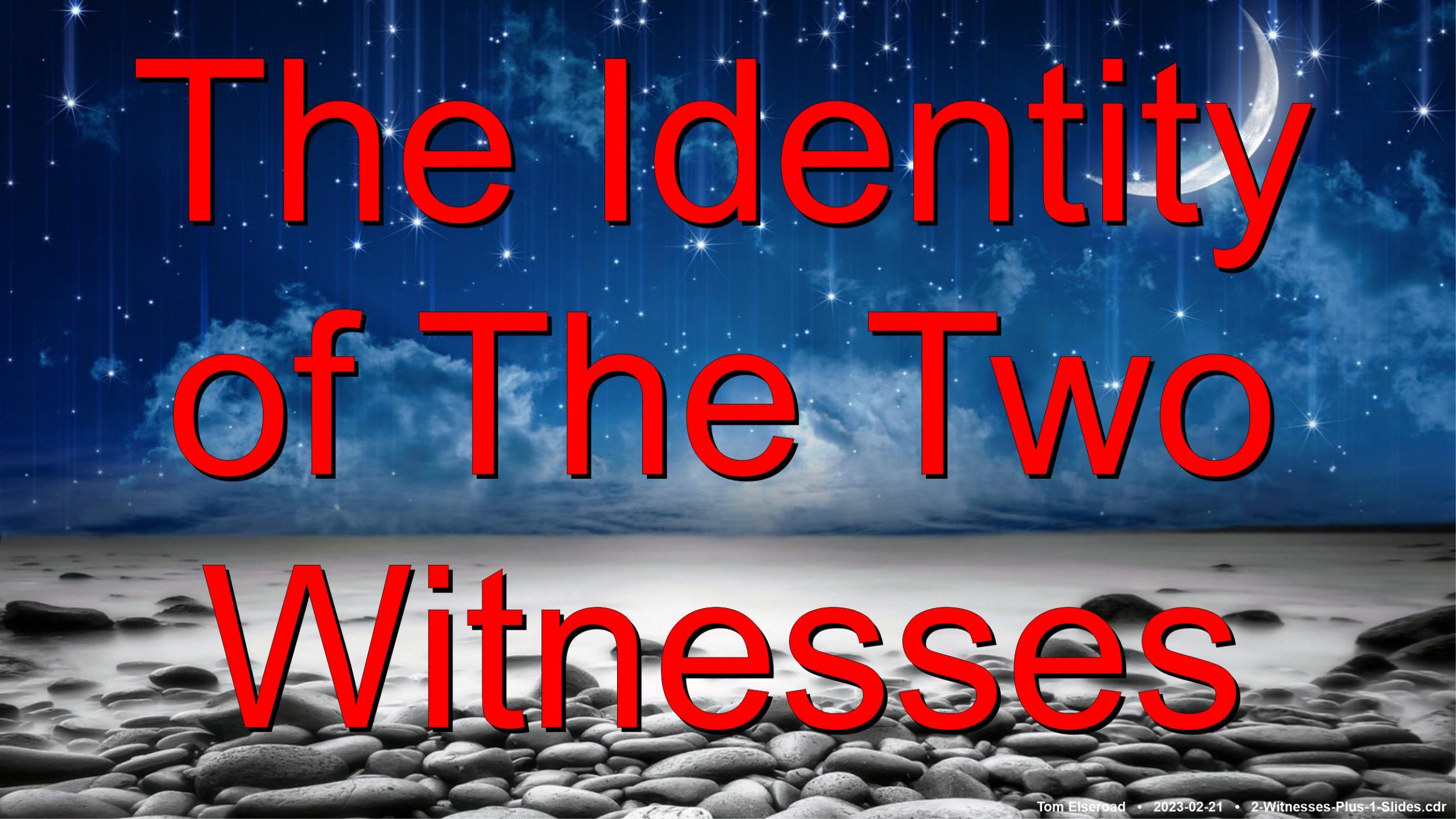
THE 2 WITNESSES
1260 Days (Rv.11:3)

+3½
Days

- Prophesied in sackcloth (Rv.11:3)
- Pictured as 2 Olive Trees & 2 Lampstands (Rv.11:4)
- Fire proceeds from their mouths (Rv.11:5)
- Power to prevent rain (Rv.11:6)
- Power to turn water into blood (Rv.11:6)
- Power to smite the earth w/ plagues (Rv.11:6)

**³And I will give power to my two
witnesses, and they will prophesy one
thousand two hundred and sixty days,
clothed in sackcloth. ⁴These are the
two olive trees and the two lampstands
standing before the God of the earth.**

REVELATION 11:3-4

The background of the slide is a composite image. The upper portion shows a deep blue night sky filled with numerous bright, multi-pointed stars. A thin, white crescent moon is visible in the upper right quadrant. Below the sky, there is a dark, silty beach with many smooth, rounded stones of various sizes. The water is dark and calm, reflecting some of the light from the sky. The title text is overlaid on this background.

The Identity of The Two Witnesses



**“³And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.
⁴These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.” (Rv.11:3-4)**



- **The witnesses are wearing sackcloth which is uncomfortable to wear. Mostly made of goat's hair.**
- **It is associated with mourning when bringing bad news, and a call for repentance from their wicked ways.**



IDENTITY: TWO WITNESSES

ENOCH & ELIJAH

- Both were taken to heaven by God w/o experiencing death (Ge.5:23; 2Ki.2:11)
- The fact that John the Baptist “could” in some sense be a fulfillment of “Elijah” (Mt.11:13-14) implies that it does not need to be Elijah himself.



MOSES & ELIJAH

- Both appeared at the transfiguration of Christ (Mt.17:3; Mk.9:4; Lk.9:30)
- MOSES' miracle of turning water into blood (Ex.7:14-11:10) is done by the two witnesses
- ELIJAH'S miracles of fire from heaven and no rain for 3 1/2 years is done by the two witnesses
- Malachi 4:5 says God will send Elijah before the Day of the Lord

2 FUTURE PROPHETS

- There is no indication that assumes a famous identity of the 2 Witnesses
- God can take ordinary believers and enable them in the power of the Holy Spirit to perform miracles
- The fact that God gives us the DURATION (1260 days) of their ministry, makes this more important than WHO they are.





OLIVE TREES:
Empowered by
the Holy Spirit

LAMPSTAND:
Light to Israel

ZECHARIAH 4:2-14

**¹³Then he answered me and said,
"Do you not know what these
are?" And I said, "No, my lord."**

**¹⁴So he said, "These are the two
anointed ones, who stand beside
the Lord of the whole earth."**

ZECHARIAH 4:13-14



**“¹³Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."¹⁴So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."
(Zc.4:13-14)**

- Zechariah 4 gives a vision to his day, but also has a future significance.**
- There are two olive trees linked to this Menorah.**
- The high priests and the governor are spoken of as two olive trees.**
- God is clearly standing in the midst of these olive trees (Zc.4:14 and Rv.11:4, “beside the Lord”)**



TWO WITNESSES BACKGROUND – ZC.4

- The description of the two witnesses as olive trees and lampstands has an Old Testament background (Zc.4:2-14).
- The two olive branches (Zc.4:12) are the two men who occupied the supreme positions in those offices at that time:
 - **ZERUBBABEL** as Governor and descendant of David
 - **JOSHUA** as the High priest and descendant of Eleazar
- God is clearly standing in the midst of these olive trees (Zc.4:14 and Rv.11:4, “beside the Lord”)
- The length of ministry for the two witnesses is 1,260 days. This is the same time period the AC will have power.



⁵And 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. ⁶These 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.

REVELATION 11:5-6



“⁵And 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. ⁶These 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.” (Rv.11:5-6)

- These two witnesses are anointed by God, who is in their midst, for a specific purpose.**

2

**The Two
Witnesses**

+

1

**The Lord
Himself**



The background of the slide is a composite image. The upper portion shows a deep blue night sky filled with numerous bright, multi-pointed stars. A thin, white crescent moon is positioned in the upper right corner. Below the sky, there are wispy, light blue clouds. The lower portion of the image shows a dark, calm body of water meeting a shoreline covered in smooth, dark grey and black stones of various sizes.

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

(1Ki.18)

³⁶ And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. ³⁷ Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

1 KINGS 18:36-37



³⁸Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"

1 KINGS 18:38-39



⁴⁰And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.

⁴¹Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain."

1 KINGS 18:40-41

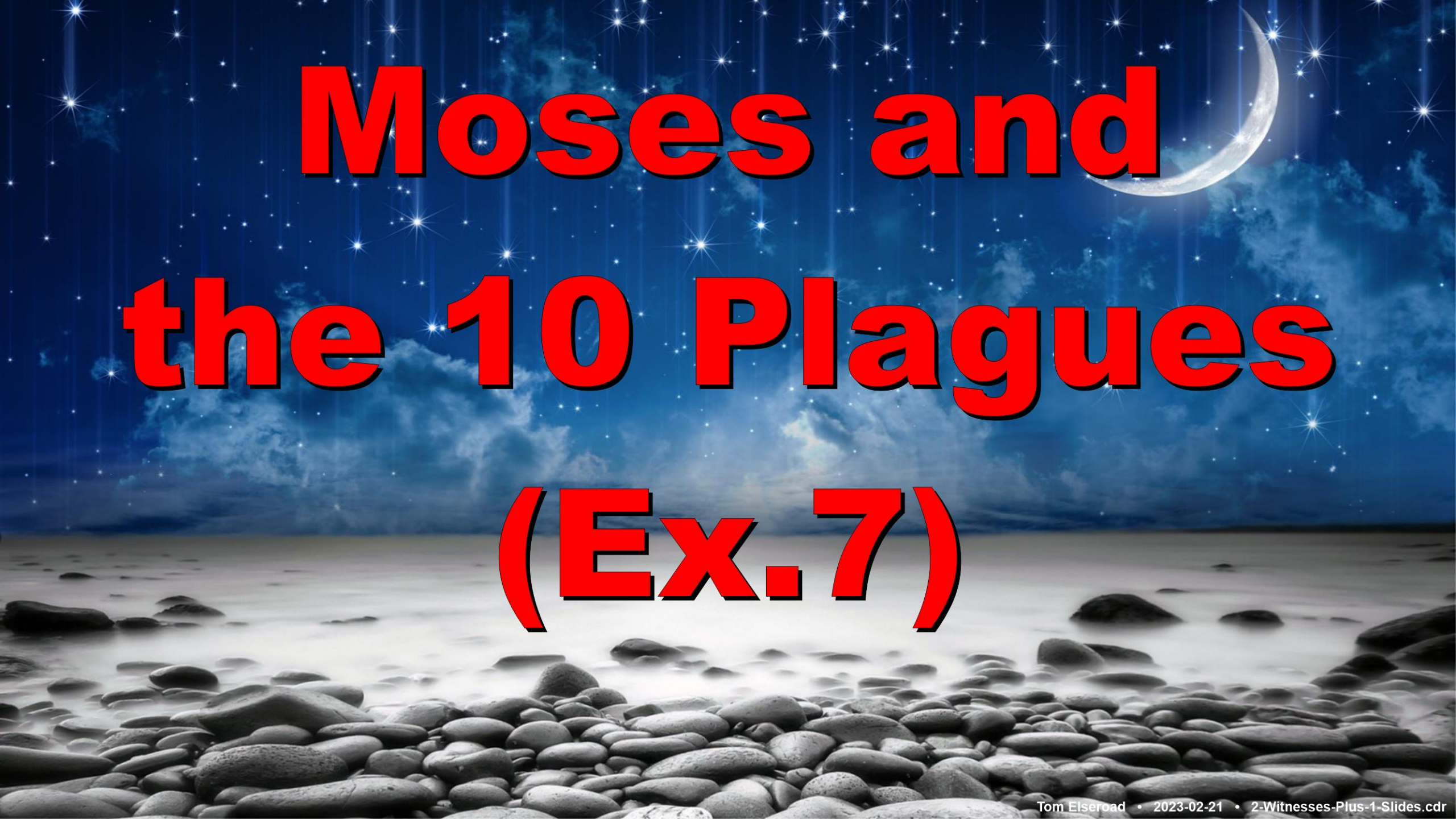




“So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.” (1Ki.19:8)

- Elijah flees from Jezebel, south to Mount Sinai (“the mountain of God”) and hides in a cave.**
- Elijah is fed there, and he goes on a journey for 40 days and 40 nights.**
- Elijah has an encounter with God in a cave. Someone else had an encounter with God on that same mountain.**



The background of the slide is a composite image. The upper portion shows a deep blue night sky filled with numerous bright, multi-pointed stars. A thin, white crescent moon is positioned in the upper right corner. Below the sky, there is a layer of soft, white clouds. The lower portion of the image depicts a beach at night, with a foreground of dark, smooth, rounded stones. The ocean is visible in the distance, with gentle waves washing onto the shore.

Moses and the 10 Plagues (Ex.7)

¹⁴So the LORD said to Moses: "Pharaoh's heart is hard; he refuses to let the people go. ¹⁵Go to Pharaoh in the morning, when he goes out to the water, and you shall stand by the river's bank to meet him; and the rod which was turned to a serpent you shall take in your hand. ¹⁶And you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has sent me to you, saying, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness"; but indeed, until now you would not hear!

EXODUS 7:14-16



¹⁷Thus says the LORD: "By this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which are in the river with the rod that is in my hand, and they shall be turned to blood. ¹⁸And the fish that are in the river shall die, the river shall stink, and the Egyptians will loathe to drink the water of the river."

¹⁹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, over their rivers, over their ponds, and over all their pools of water, that they may become blood. And there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in buckets of wood and pitchers of stone.'

EXODUS 7:17-19



²⁰And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the LORD commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. ²¹The fish that were in the river died, the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink the water of the river. So there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

EXODUS 7:20-21





“Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.” (Ex.19:20)

- ◉ **Moses, like Elijah, had a mountain top experience with God on Mount Sinai.**



¹Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ²and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. ³And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

MATTHEW 17:1-3



**⁴Then Peter answered and said to Jesus,
"Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish,
let us make here three tabernacles: one for
You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."⁵While
he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud
overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice
came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My
beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
Hear Him!"**

MATTHEW 17:4-5



⁶And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” ⁸When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

MATTHEW 17:6-8



⁹Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead." ¹⁰And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

MATTHEW 17:9-10





**“⁹Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead.”
¹⁰And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” (Mt.17:9-10)**

- Notice that Moses and Elijah are together alongside of Jesus (Zc.4:14; Rv.11:4, “standing before the God of the earth”).**
- Jesus was clothed in white light with the glory of His face shining.**
- Peter asked to build three structures to house the glory like in the Temple.**



OCCURRING BEFORE THE DOTL

- **Sun, Moon, Stars Signs (Jl.2:30-31)**
- **Elijah the Prophet (Ml.4:5)**
- **The Falling Away (2Th.2:1-3)**
- **Man of Sin Revealed (2Th.2:1-3)**
- **Man of Sin Declares To Be God (2Th.2:1-4)**
- **Peace And Safety (1Th.5:2-3)**
- **Believers Mocked For Believing The Lord's Coming (2Pe.3:3-4,9-10)**

**DAY
OF
THE
LORD**

⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

⁶And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.

MALACHI 4:5-6



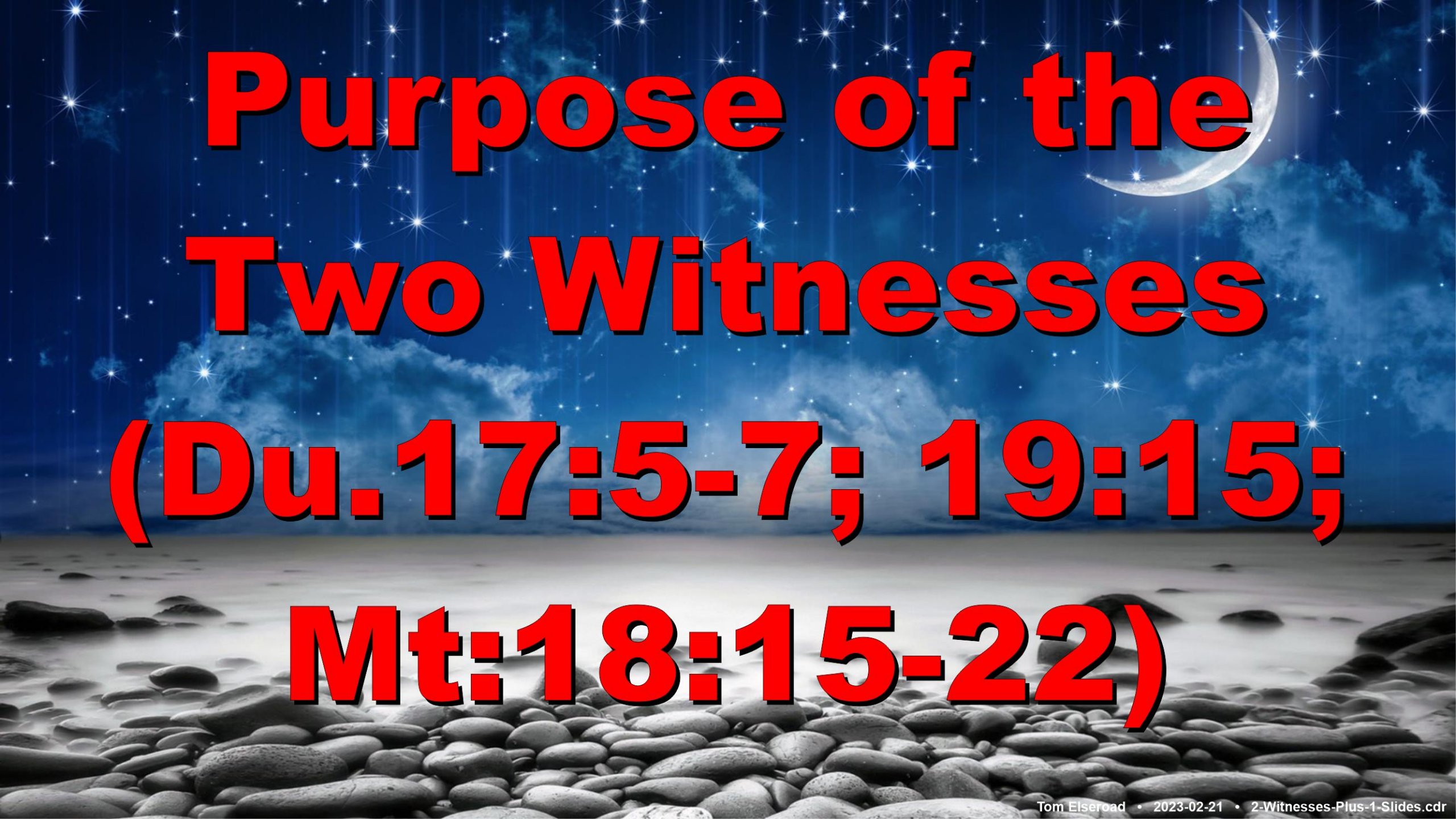


“⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.” (Mt.4:5-6)



- Notice that Moses and Elijah are together alongside of Jesus.**
- Before the start of the Day of the Lord, ‘Elijah’ will come to the earth.**



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Purpose of the Two Witnesses (Du. 17:5-7; 19:15; Mt: 18:15-22)

⁵then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has committed that wicked thing, and shall stone to death that man or woman with stones.

⁶Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.

DEUTERONOMY 17:5-6



**“⁵then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has committed that wicked thing, and shall stone to death that man or woman with stones.
⁶Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.” (Du.17:5-6)**

- If someone has done something wicked, at the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter can be settled.**
- If there are not 2 or 3 witnesses the wicked one shall not be put to death.**



**The hands of the witnesses shall
be the first against him to put him
to death, and afterward the hands
of all the people. So you shall put
away the evil from among you.**

DEUTERONOMY 17:7

**One witness shall not rise against
a man concerning any iniquity or
any sin that he commits; by the
mouth of two or three witnesses
the matter shall be established.**

DEUTERONOMY 19:15



“One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.” (Du.19:5)

- **One witness is insufficient evidence to convict.**
- **2 or 3 witnesses are sufficient to convict and bring judgment.**



¹⁵Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.'

MATTHEW 18:15-16



¹⁷ And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

MATTHEW 18:17-18



¹⁹Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.

MATTHEW 18:19-20





“¹⁹Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (Mt.18:19-20)

- This pictures the Menorah (Jesus) in the midst of two witnesses (two olives trees) anointed by Jesus.**
- In Revelation 11 there are 2 witnesses who are “standing before the God of the earth” (Rv.11:4)**

2

**The Two
Witnesses**

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WHY TWO WITNESSES?

God's Grace Provides Opportunity for Israel to Repent

- **God required two witnesses for competent legal testimony to secure a conviction (Du.17:6; 19:15; Nu.35:30).**
- **Their witness is mostly prophetic, yet their judicial testimony cries against the nation of Israel.**

**²¹Then Peter came to Him and said,
"Lord, how often shall my brother
sin against me, and I forgive him?
Up to seven times?" ²²Jesus said to
him, "I do not say to you, up to
seven times, but up to seventy
times seven.**

MATTHEW 18:21-22





“²¹Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.” (Mt.18:21-22)

- We are talking about forgiveness of a brother and the question comes up how many times to forgive.**
 - Does 70 times 7 sound familiar? Think Daniel 9.**
 - 490 years is the prophecy of Daniel.**
 - Jesus is saying, “I will continue to forgive as many times as necessary.” Not merely 490 times. But what happens after the 490 years? No forgiveness.**
- 

⁷When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸And 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.

REVELATION 11:7-8



**“⁷When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.
⁸And 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.” (Rv.11:7-8)**

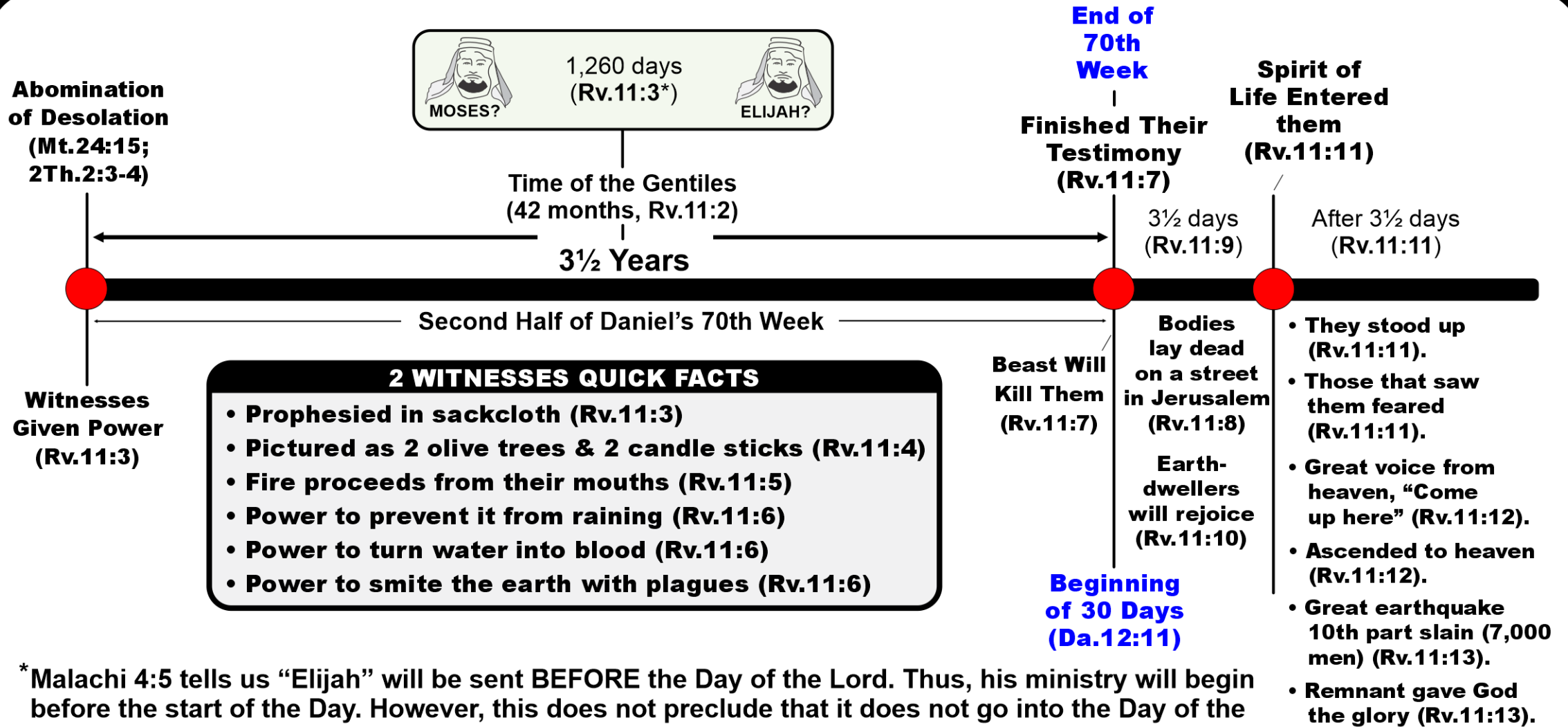
- Their testimony is “repent or you will be judged.”
Their message brought them ‘torment.’**
- One witness is not enough to condemn. God plays by the rules He setup.**
- The two witnesses are also to witness what God is about to do is righteous and just.**

MOSES: the premier law giver

ELIJAH: the premier prophet



THE 2 WITNESSES — Rv.11:1-14



*Malachi 4:5 tells us "Elijah" will be sent BEFORE the Day of the Lord. Thus, his ministry will begin before the start of the Day. However, this does not preclude that it does not go into the Day of the Lord. It certainly appears he will minister till the end of Daniel's 70th week.

¹Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete. ²And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

REVELATION 15:1-2



³They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! ⁴Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested.

REVELATION 15:3-4



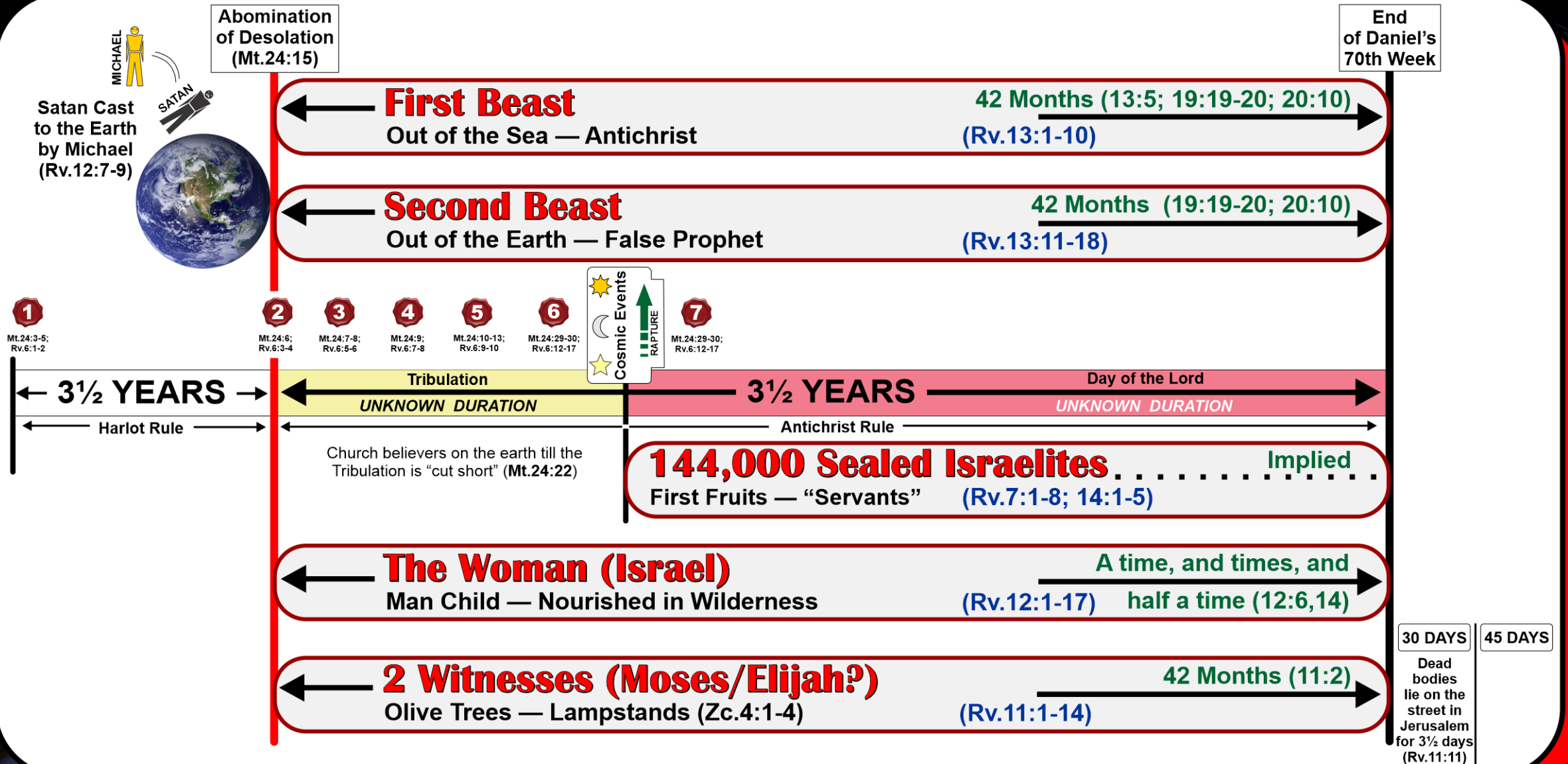


“³They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: “Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! ⁴Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested.” (Rv.15:3-4)

- God will have two witnesses that are there with Him to confirm that the wicked of the earth deserve the judgment of a holy God.**
- The bowl judgments begin at the end of the 490 years (end of Daniel's 70th Week).**
- No more forgiveness. It has passed at that time.**



FAMOUS PROPHETIC PEOPLE



2 WITNESSES



PLUS 1