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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **July 28, 2021** |

Title: *“This Just Got Real”*

Scripture: Revelation 11:1-14

 *Chapter 11 continues the interlude from Chapter 10, a break between the 6th & 7th Trumpet Judgments*

Message: **1.** **The Timeline** *(1-3)*

1 I was given a reed (reeds grew along the banks of the Jordan River, usually reaching 6-8 feet...lightweight and straight often used as a measuring stick) like a measuring rod and was told, “Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, with its worshipers. 2But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. (John’s measurement is to include: the temple, the altar, and the interior court where the Jews worshiped) They will trample on the holy city (Jerusalem-under Gentile rule during this period) for 42 months (3 ½ years “The Great Tribulation”…when the antichrist announces he is God). 3And I will appoint my two witnesses (appears from the context of the passage that they very well could be Elijah and Moses…the 144,000 have been martyred therefore these two witnesses are empowered by God to be mighty witnesses), and they will prophesy for 1,260 days (3 ½ years), clothed in sackcloth (coarse black cloth made of goat hair worn by those in mourning…the witnesses are mourning over the condition of Israel calling them to repentance).”

 **2. The Testimony** *(4-12)*

4They are “the two olive trees (symbolizes power of God through the Holy Spirit – Zechariah 4:6)” and the two lampstands (symbolizes light…they are to bring the light of God’s Word during the dark days of the Great Tribulation), and “they stand before the Lord of the earth.” (they are under the watchful eye of God) 5If anyone tries to harm them (doing harm in any form – character, person or property), fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies (they are protected by God until their mission is finished…those that tries to harm them will be consumed, there will be no evidence of that person left). This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. 6They have power to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying (they have the power to prevent rain from falling during these 3 ½ years); and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want (these actions on their part are necessary in order to preserve their lives until their ministry is finished). 7Now when they have finished their testimony (All the forces of Hell will not be able to stop the two witnesses until God is finished with them), the beast (antichrist) that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. 8Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city (He will leave their bodies to decay on the streets of Jerusalem)—which is figuratively called Sodom (represents the sexual perversion) and Egypt (represents the violence, oppression and wickedness of every sort)—where also their Lord was crucified (instead of being the “Holy City” as God intended it to be, Jerusalem will be full of wickedness). 9For three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation (the entire world) will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial (probably via internet/tv/social media or all the above). 10The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth (the hatred of these witnesses becomes so strong that their death prompts a worldwide holiday where people will give each other gifts). 11But after the three and a half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them (they are rejoicing over the death of the two witnesses and suddenly, before their eyes, they are resurrected…they are filled with terror that these two witnesses will once again torment them with their preaching and their plagues). 12Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. (the two witnesses are not resurrected to continue their preaching, for their mission has been completed)

 **3. The Terror** *(13-14)*

13At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed (to add to the terror of the witnesses’ resurrection, a great earthquake will be sent from God…1/10 of the city of Jerusalem will be destroyed in the earthquake). Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven (not a genuine repentance, but recognition that these actions were a result of God). 14The second woe (6th trumpet judgment) has passed; the third woe (7th trumpet judgment) is coming soon.

Application:

* This Just Got Real
* The Timeline: The Tribulation is 7 years long with The Great Tribulation being the later 3 ½ years of the Tribulation
* The Testimony: Until you aren’t afraid of death, you cannot begin to live in Christ, when God is finished with us, He will call us home and not before…this world hates the Gospel and their hatred towards us will continue to grow…may we not fear what’s to come so that we can live abundantly in Christ
* The Terror: People can recognize God all day long, but still not make Him the Lord of their lives even in the midst of God’s terror upon them