



## Sermon Discussion Guide<sup>1</sup>

Rev 11:1-14 | Kevin DeYoung

“Standing Up on Their Feet”  
Sunday Morning, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

*Big Idea:* “Even though the Church exists in deadly danger, she will always be divinely defended.”

1. What are some things that are difficult for you to get rid of?
2. **Rotten Tree:** Why do some think the Church is just a rotten tree ready to topple?
3. **Themes:** Can you name some biblical themes in this sermon series that keep coming up?
4. **Repentance:** Does *repentance* ever evade the conversation when we call people to Christ? Why is *repentance* so crucial?
5. **Trial:** “The world is on trial, not God.” How do you see the culture flip this around? What about Christians? How do *we* wrongly place God in the dock?
6. **Celebration:** The world hates Christians so much that they even have holidays and exchange presents in honor of their fall. In what areas have you seen celebration like this? How should we respond?
7. **Sodom and Egypt:** Compare Rev 13:5-8 with 11:7. How is “the beast” further described? What was the ultimate end of Sodom (Gen 19:23-28)? How has the history between Egypt and God’s people been repeated for generations (Exod 1:9-14)?
8. **“on their feet”:** Read verses 10-12. How do you think this encouraged the early church? How is this an encouragement to us?
9. **Days Ahead:** “The Church’s hardest days are ahead of her, and the church’s best days are ahead of her.” How does this truth our hope as believers?

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<sup>1</sup> SDGs are put together by Small Groups Ministry to aid group discussion. They are available every week on the [small groups page](#) of the church website. Please send questions or feedback to [calebjohnson@christcovenant.org](mailto:calebjohnson@christcovenant.org).

## General Outline

- I. Introduction
  - a. trees and mushrooms
- II. Verse-by-Verse
  - a. verses 1-2
    - i. measured (safe) v. unmeasured (unsafe)
    - ii. numbers: 42 months, 1,260 days, 3.5 years (time, times, and time and a half)
      - 1. Book of Daniel.
      - 2. 'Time, Times, and Half a Time':
        - a. near fulfillment: destruction of the temple in 70 AD.
        - b. far fulfillment: the church's continual opposition from the world.
  - b. verse 3 – Two Witnesses: Moses & Elijah (Law & Prophets), represented as the entirety of the witnessing community which is the Church.
  - c. verse 4 – Two Olive Trees: Zachariah 4
  - d. verses 5-6 – Their speech condemns the world before God.
  - e. verse 7 – The Beast unleashed to conquer and kill the Church.
  - f. verses 8-10 – The people of the earth hate the church.
  - g. verse 12 – Physical resurrection and ascension of believers? Rather, spiritual resurrection of the Church: Ezek 37:5.
  - h. verse 13 – 7000 killed.
  - i. verse 14 – 2<sup>nd</sup> woe passed.
- III. 3 truths we must not forget:
  - a. *Do not be surprised by the church's unpopularity.*
    - i. Message of Repentance
    - ii. "The world is on trial, not God."
    - iii. Holidays against God and his Church
  - b. *We must accept the Church's vulnerability.*
    - i. Postmillennialism
    - ii. Church's hardest days are ahead of her, and the church's best days are ahead of her.
  - c. *Believe in the Church's invincibility.*
    - i. Premillennialism
    - ii. "The Indefectibility of the Church"

### Potential questions for kids

- From which book of the Bible is Pastor Kevin preaching?
- What do you remember from the sermon?
- Can we be confident even though the world doesn't like Christians? Why?
- Who is the ruler of the Church?