

Who are the two witnesses in Revelation 11?

This is one of the most heavily debated topics in prophecy, but there are specific fingerprints that drop clues for all three candidates of **Moses, Elijah, and Enoch**.

The Case for Elijah (*The Most Unanimous Candidate*)

Almost all scholars agree Elijah is one of the witnesses because the text mimics his ministry exactly.

- **The Fire Keyword:** Revelation 11:5 says fire proceeds from their mouths to destroy enemies. This directly mirrors Elijah calling down fire on the soldiers sent to arrest him (2 Kings 1:10).
- **The Drought Keyword:** Revelation 11:6 states they have power to "shut heaven, so that no rain falls." This matches Elijah's 3.5-year drought in Israel (1 Kings 17:1, James 5:17).
- **The Prophetic Timeline:** Malachi 4:5 explicitly promises: "Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

The Case for Moses (*The Law & The Plagues*)

Most people couple Elijah with Moses because they represent "The Law and the Prophets" (who also appeared together with Jesus at the Transfiguration).

- **The Water-to-Blood Keyword:** Revelation 11:6 says they have power over waters to "turn them to blood." This is the exact first plague Moses struck Egypt with (Exodus 7:20).
- **The Plagues Keyword:** The text says they can strike the earth with "all plagues, as often as they desire." This heavily points to the Exodus narrative and Moses' unique administrative role in divine judgments.
- **The Body Mystery:** Jude 1:9 mentions a supernatural dispute between Michael and Satan over the body of Moses. This suggests God preserved Moses' body for a future earthly purpose.

The Case for Enoch (*The "Appointment with Death" Argument*)

The argument for Enoch usually replaces Moses, pairing Enoch and Elijah together based on a strict legal principle found in the New Testament.

- **The Death Keyword:** Hebrews 9:27 states: "It is appointed for men **to die once**, but after this the judgment."
- **The No-Death Exception:** Enoch (Genesis 5:24) and Elijah (2 Kings 2:11) are the *only* two human beings in history who were raptured to heaven without ever experiencing physical death.
- **The Logic:** Since the Two Witnesses must literally be killed by the Beast and lie dead in the street (Rev 11:7-8), this view argues that Enoch and Elijah must return to earth to fulfill their "appointment" with physical death. Moses already died once, so making him die twice would violate Hebrews 9:27.