

Jeff Cate**Who Was Crucified and Where? The Case for Kaikos in Rev 11:8**

The identification and interpretation of the “great city” mentioned in Revelation 11:3-14 has been the subject of much debate. In verse 8, the location is metaphorically referenced as Sodom and Egypt, which are prophetic allusions to wickedness and idolatry and not geographical markers. More specifically, the city is identified as “where even their Lord was crucified,” which makes historical reference to what seems to be Jerusalem and the death of Jesus. Such an identification, however, does not fit well with other details in the context. The manuscript evidence for these last six words in Greek is very limited since only four manuscripts (p47, 01, 02, 04) prior to the ninth century provide evidence for the wording, and yet these four witnesses have three different readings. This paper proposes a conjectural emendation for the accidental transposition of two letters in the text of Codex Sinaiticus which may resolve the geographical tension in the passage. Instead of reference being made to the crucifixion of Jesus in Jerusalem, reference would be made to an otherwise unknown execution of a Christian in Rome named Kaikos. The name Kaikos has connections back to the region of Asia Minor and Pergamum specifically, and the reference would then be similar to the mention of Antipas as a martyr in 2:13. The “great city” in 11:3-14 would then be Rome, not Jerusalem.