

Revelation 10

In chapter 9 we dealt with six of the seven trumpet judgments of God that will take place on the earth during the time of tribulation. We also dealt with the first and second woes, which are an indication of an escalation of judgment.

Here in chapter 10 we're in transitioning to the middle of the tribulation/ great tribulation period. Today I'll talk about the angel that descends from heaven, the seven thunders, the bitter sweet book and how these events affect the earth and man.

Revelation 10:1-2 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,

The angel placing his left foot upon the land and his right foot upon the sea indicates that what is about to be said will affect the entire earth.

The identity of the mighty angel is unclear, due to his description (as rainbow, sun, and fire):

Some believe this angel is Jesus so let us talk about this theory by comparing what John sees in chapter one of Revelation.

In Revelation 1:13, John says he seen one like unto the Son of man clothed with a garment down to his feet and a golden girdle. Here in Revelation 10:1 this mighty angel come down from heaven clothed with a cloud.

In Revelation 1:14, John says the hairs on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, his eyes were like a flame of fire. No comparison in Revelation 10.

Revelation 1:15, His feet looked like fine brass as if it were burned in a furnace compared to Revelation 10:1 that says his feet as pillars of fire.

Revelation 1:15 says his voice were as the sound of many waters (or I see that word waters like or in comparison to many languages). In Revelation 10:3 the angel cries with a loud voice.

Revelation 1:16 says his countenance was as the sun shines in its strength compared to Revelation 10:1 which says this angels face were as it was the sun.

Revelation 1:17, John also stated that he fell down at His ('His', being the Lord) feet as if he were dead which is not the case in Revelation 10:1.

This angel does say in Revelation 11:3, 'I will give power unto My two witnesses.' So, here is the Angel of the Lord, coming to announce that God is about to work speedily and finish His purposes on the earth. Some say that because scripture say's "My two witnesses" that this is Christ. I will call this Angel what the Bible calls this Angel and that is an Angel.

The angel had in his hand a little book that is already open (v.2). The book reveals judgements that is about to happen.

The angel stands with one foot on land and the other upon the sea representing that judgement is about to happen over the entire earth, both land and sea.

Revelation 10: 3-4 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

John was about to write what the seven thunders said however, he was instructed not to do so.

The first half of the tribulation has taken place, but the second half will literally be worse.

Revelation 10:6-7 And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: (v7) But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

The phrase, "there should be time no longer" means "there shall be no further delay".

When the seventh trumpet sounds ... the Lord will perform a quick end (v. 7)

The seventh trumpet is about to sound.

The seven vials will be poured out on the earth.

The second part of the tribulation (great tribulation) is about to take place quickly.

Judgment will escalate and will come to an end as Jesus returns to establish His millennial kingdom (Revelation 20:1-6)

The mystery of God will be finished soon (v. 7)

God's plan will be completed.

Revelation 8-10 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. 9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. 10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.

John is told to eat the book

It was sweet in John's mouth in the sense that it involves the mystery of God being fulfilled, Jesus return, salvation for the redeemed and the reign with God forever. It was bitter in the sense of the judgment against sin and the loss of so many lives.

Revelation 10:11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.