

# Revelation Chapter 10.

## Chapter 10

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### **The Angel with the little scroll**

*And I saw another mighty Angel come down from Heaven clothed with a white cloud and a rainbow on his head and his face was as it were the sun and his feet as pillars of fire.*

There is an interlude between the sixth and the seventh trumpet judgments, during which God confirms to His people that He is still, in spite of the mayhem all around in total control of the situation and He still shows His mercy.

This Angel is said to be a mighty Angel and some have said this is the Christ. I am not of this view because the verse starts I saw *another* Angel and there is only one Christ, so there must have been another Angel similar to this one on the scene earlier where was that? If we go back to Chapter 5 v 2 we find the Angel that proclaimed with a loud voice “Who is worthy to open the Book”. This Angel was classed as a strong Angel, all Angels are said to be strong according to Psalms 103 v 20: but a few are stronger yet.

*Bless the Lord you His Angels who excel in strength who do His commandments hearkening to the voice of His Word.*

Also in Daniel 19: 12 -14

*Then said he unto me, fear not Daniel: for from the first day that you did set your heart to understand and to chasten yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I am come for your words. 13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: But lo Michael, one of the Chief Princes came to help me and I remained there with the kings of Persia. 14. Now I am come to make you understand what shall befall your people in the latter days for yet the vision is for many days.*

This mighty Angel may well be a high ranking Angel as shown by the splendour, the brightness, and strength together being wrapped in a cloud. The cloud of the

presence of God is mentioned in Exodus 13; 21, 40:28-34, Job 37: 15-16, Mathew 26:64 and others. And remember that Moses having been in the presence of God in the tent of meeting the people saw his face shine because he had been with the Lord face to face. (Exodus 34:29)

This Angel also had a rainbow about his head reminding the people of the flood and that God would show mercy and not flood the earth anymore. And even in this torment and woe God would yet show mercy if they would repent of their sins. Christ is never called an Angel in the New Testament and although this Angel is mighty Jesus is Almighty and King of kings and Lord of lords. The next time Christ comes to earth will be at His second coming, so I don't believe this to be the Christ but a mighty Angel just as the Bible says reflecting Christ's glory as the moon reflects the glorious light of the sun. Once again if you believe this will be the Christ and not an Angel then again I respect your view.

#### Verse 2

*And he had in his hand a little book open and he set his right foot upon the sea and he set his left foot on the earth. And cried with a loud voice as when a lion roars and when he had cried seven thunders uttered their voices.*

We are not told what is written in the book but no doubt it was the Word of God; no other message would be worth reading in the middle of such chaos and horrific scenes. The same applies to us in the middle of our own problems that greatly disturb us; we would do well to keep the word of God in our hand. However this Mighty Angel demonstrated the absolute sovereignty of his master Almighty God over the earth. One foot on the land the other on the sea. Showing Satan God had total control of him and his little demons and a direct challenge to Satan who told God he had been walking to and fro going up and down in the earth seeking who he may devour as the god of this world. We are also told the Mighty Angel had a thunderous voice and when he called out seven thunders sounded. These seven thunders indicated more powerful storms of judgment were on the way. They were not just atmospheric thunders but were understandable uttering's, apparent from the next verse.

#### Verse 4

*And when the seven thunders had uttered their voice 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 could understand what the thunders had said but was told not to record them.

The fact there were seven thunders and seven is God's perfect number, confirms that they announce more divine judgment.

#### Verse 5

*And the Angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to Heaven. And swear by Him Who lives forever and ever, Who created Heaven and the things that are, and the Earth and the things that are, and the sea and the things that are therein that there should be delay no longer.*

The phrase "no more delay" is much closer to the Geek text and indicates that when the seventh Angel sounds the seventh trumpet (Chapter 11.15) the seven bowl judgments will soon begin. But a lot will happen before then.

#### **That little book**

The little book held up by the Angel may well be an oath or some legal document confirming Psalm 24:1 which states "*The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof*". Also this act could be the fulfillment of the Lord's Prayer when He said "Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven". The earth and sea and all that is in it that the Lord's feet are standing on is about to be given back to the rightful owner.

#### Verse 7

*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 declared to His servants the Prophets. (Isa. 14:12-20; Ezek. 28; 11-19).*

This mystery of God dates back to the time when Satan thwarted Gods plans and when he was thrown out of heaven. Satan still wanted God's throne so he was doing his very best to discredit God and become master of the earth. Well as we have found out (Job 1) he was competing for God's people and be the ruler of the earth and he took with him many millions of Angels. Millions have made Satan their king and worship him. His plan is to take to hell as many as he can to a lost eternity. But Jesus had a plan to redeem the world back to God through His death at Calvary. No one in the fallen spirit world (not one of the demons) could understand that the shedding of blood could do that, and at the cross even Satan realised he had lost and screamed when he saw the shed blood of Christ. What a mystery.

2 Corinthians 4: 4.

*In whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them which believe not; lest the light of the Glorious Gospel of Christ Who is the Image of God should shine unto them.*

This plan of God, but a mystery to those whose minds have been blinded by Satan, for thousands of years, slowly but surely throughout the centuries, sometimes one by one souls have been snatched from the jaws of hell but now this mystery should be finished because Satan will be no more and the Light of the world has come fulfilling all prophecy and completing His Fathers plan. Christ will reign victoriously praise His name.

Verse 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.*

The voice that John heard told him to take the scroll from the Angels hand and eat it, warning him it would taste sweet on his lips but bitter in his stomach; so it was John's experience as he ate the scroll which is the Word of God.

Psalm 119. 103.

*How sweet are your Words unto my taste? Yea sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

Ezk. 2:8 and 3:11.

The Psalmist and Ezekiel were given the Word of God to eat, which is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest what God has to say. Ezekiel was to warn Israel of God's disapproval of their rebellion towards Him. There were serious consequences for their disobedience and rebellion and they had been given so many chances to repent but they were an independent and arrogant nation. When Ezekiel ate the Word of God he tells us in verse 3 of chapter 3 it was sweet as honey just the same as the Psalmist. In both cases when the Word was digested it became bitter, why was that?

I think Jeremiah explains his experience very well,

Jeremiah 15; 16

*Your words were found and I did eat them; and Your Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by your name, O Lord God of Hosts.*

As Jeremiah preached God's Word to the people he found himself alone, the people mocked him and rejected his message even his own family turned against him along with the Priests and the Prophets. In verse 18 he even felt God had forsaken him, his heartache was such that he questioned if God was a liar referring to God's promised protection which he felt he did not get.

We cannot go much deeper into this we must get back to Revelations, but before we do I would like to encourage those who are under dark clouds, deep depression, or you are sick with pain and have called on the Lord with little or no result. I have told you before in another study that I live with great pain, and have done for some 14 years. The most serious is my spine which is crumbling; I have a MRI scan that shows the lower part of my spine simply collapsed and an absolute mess. When the consultant showed Pauline and I the pictures for the first time Pauline said but where is Bill's spinal cord? He hesitated and pulled a face then put his finger on the base of my spine and said in the middle of that lot.

Mornings are the worst and I have got up and hobbled into my study, laid my head on my Bible and cried in agony, one time I pleaded with God to ease the pain I cried "no more Lord no more" "I can't take anymore", I know God can heal, I have seen him heal through the ministry of my Grandfather and my father and others, I have been brought up surrounded by healings so I questioned God why not me. Read Jeremiah 15 v 18, he says "*why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuses to be healed? Will You be altogether unto me as a liar*". Those not suffering great pain may not understand the words of Jeremiah, I know exactly how he felt when the Lord withholds his healing hand.

One day feeling that the Lord had abandoned me, not getting any answers to my prayers nor the prayers of my dear wife and tremendous support Pauline, I sat at my desk ready to continue our study on Revelations and I said Jesus I want some encouragement from your Word before I start, I seldom do this but I opened my Bible and read the first words I saw. It was Proverbs Chapter 2 verse 1 which starts "MY SON" I immediately felt the presence of my Father and even now as I write this, tears fill my eyes at the wonder that he calls me His son and knows what we go through, when we suffer and He is with us all the time encouraging us to overcome and receive a crown of Life. I have had the Job's comforters; you know "There must be sin in your life" "You don't truly believe" and "your healing is up there all you have to do is claim it" I know they mean well but if you meet someone in serious pain, or going through some difficulty don't come out with all these clichés. Tell them you will stand with them in prayer until it is passed...and mean it! There is a lot to learn in suffering.

Remember The Lord told Peter "*Satan has desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat but I have prayed for you that your faith fail not*". Jesus could have

stopped Peter's trial. He could have saved Peter from being tempted but He didn't, He allowed Peter to go through that test for Peter's betterment, to be an overcomer, to persevere, to be worthy of a crown of life. He prayed for Peter that he would not lose his faith telling Peter He would walk with him to victory. All through your particular problem, in the depth of your pain Jesus is praying for you that your faith fail not. He knew what Peter was going to experience, He knew what the outcome would be so He prayed for him and stood by him so Peter's faith would not fail under Satan's temptation. That is how we should encourage our fellow brothers and sisters who are being tormented by Satan, not bash them over the head with condemnation, do it like Jesus did.

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Be blessed

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