

REVELATION 10

Revelation 10:1-11 (NIV) "Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars.

2 He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land,

3 and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.

4 And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down."

5 Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven.

6 And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, "There will be no more delay!

7 But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets."

8 Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: "Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land."

9 So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, "Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey."

10 I took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.

11 Then I was told, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings."

REVELATION 10

1-21-24

Intro: Six trumpet judgments have been blasted across the face of the earth. The earth has been hit with...

- industry and shipping commerce.
- a meteoric mass that contaminated one third of the water supply.
- an astronomical eclipse that temporarily wiped out one third of the daylight.
- a demonic-like locust attack that caused unbearable torture upon the ungodly of the earth.
- a second demonic-like military attack that killed one third of the ungodly and evil of the earth.

Rev. 10 speaks during an interlude between the 6th & 7th trumpets. **Before the** seventh trumpet blasts, revealing more judgment, we wonder, with so much horror and destruction that has hit the earth that the human heart cries out, "Is there no hope? Is the earth doomed? Is it to be a dead planet? **Is it to** be nothing more than a ball of molten lava floating through space like so many other dead planets and stars? Is all life to be destroyed? Is the earth and all those on it doomed?

No! A thousand no's! All the destruction and devastation will take place upon earth, but there is to be a final triumph over evil and destruction. **This is the** great announcement in Rev. 10. God's eternal plan for salvation and for a new heavens and earth will come to pass!

Revelation 10:1-11 (NIV) "Then I saw another mighty [forceful] angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars.

This mighty angel came from the very presence and throne of God Himself! He was clothed in the cloud of the majesty and glory of heaven. The great announcement was coming from the majesty and glory of heaven.

The messenger had a rainbow upon his head: this symbolizes the glory and mercy of God. This is seen in that a rainbow is part of the glory of the throne of God (**Ezekiel 1:28 (NLT2)** "All around him was a glowing halo, like a rainbow shining in the clouds on a rainy day. This is what the glory of the LORD looked like to me. **When I saw** it, I fell face down on the ground, and I heard someone's voice speaking to me.),



and it was the sign of God's mercy shown to Noah

Genesis 9:12-16 (NLT2) "Then God said, "I am giving you a sign of my covenant with you and with all living creatures, for all generations to come. ¹³ **I have** placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth... ¹⁶ **When I see** the rainbow in the clouds, I will remember the eternal covenant between God and every living creature on earth."

The angel's "face...like the sun" symbolizes the brightness & glory of God, from whom he came. **His legs**, "like FIERY PILLARS." Symbolized the holiness, purity, and strength of the messenger.

² **He was holding** a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, ³ **and he gave** a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.



This angel—mighty, set foot on both sea and land...as if claiming the whole world for the Lord!

This angel—shouted like the **roar of a lion** (audio w/ pic)—a message from Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. **Amos 3:8a** "The lion has roared—who will not fear?"

SEVEN THUNDERS – NOT lightning & thunder. These are voices, thundering out a message!!! **Stops people in their tracks!**

It's as if the Lord is saying---ENOUGH! ⁴ **And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down."**

John, being faithful, prepares to write down the message when a voice from heaven says NO! Seal it up!

All other messages in Rev that mention thunder...indicate wrath and the judgments of God.

DON'T WRITE IT DOWN--SEAL IT UP—some of the things coming we have not been told about ahead of time.

⁵ Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven. ⁶ And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, "There will be no more delay!" ⁷ But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets."

The angel, as if taking an oath--with a message from the Eternal God, says, **THERE WILL BE NO MORE DELAY!**
THE MYSTERY OF GOD WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED [EXECUTED, BROUGHT TO COMPLETION]!

This mystery had been previously announced to God's prophets. The reference, therefore, is not to hidden truth but to the fulfillment of Old Testament passages which refer to the glorious return of the Son of God and the establishment of His kingdom of righteousness and peace on the earth.

We should all know that whatever comes our way on this earth will be temporary!

⁸ Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: "Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land." ⁹ So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, "Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey." ¹⁰ I took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.

Both here with John and in Ezekiel 3 (w/ Ezekiel), the men of God are called to eat the scroll/book. It will be sweet as honey, yet bitter in your stomach. Dr. Henry Ironside says, "It is only as we feed upon and digest the Word of God, that we ourselves are nourished and built up in the truth of our most holy faith, and in a right condition of soul to use that Word for the help and instruction of others."

Yet, the Word reveals the truth about our sinfulness... it calls us to separation ... it makes demands. We love its promises... but must also taste it's bitterness when it calls us to die to self.

The crowds loved when Jesus did all the miracles... but when He talked about the cost of following Him... many went away. In today's church world...give them the sweetness...but don't call them to the cross – NO!

It's like the same parent who nurtures and raises a child—constantly giving/serving...that child loves being given to, then when the parent wants to instruct, discipline, hold responsible... it tastes bitter.

And...the same as a pastor serves God by serving people. People appreciate that, yet when the pastor needs to rebuke or correct ... it tastes bitter. Some will reject its taste and seek someone, somewhere else who will offer them sweet words w/o the call to die to self.

Yet, a parent must do what a parent should be doing—looking out to help a child mature.

A pastor must do what a pastor should be doing—looking out for the soul of people...helping them mature in Christ-like living.

Isaiah 30:8-14 (NLT2) Now go and write down these words. Write them in a book. They will stand until the end of time as a witness ⁹ that these people are stubborn rebels who refuse to pay attention to the LORD's instructions. ¹⁰ They tell the seers, "Stop seeing visions!" They tell the prophets, "Don't tell us what is right. Tell us nice things. Tell us lies. ¹¹ Forget all this gloom. Get off your narrow path. Stop telling us about your 'Holy One of Israel.'" ¹² This is the reply of the Holy One of Israel: "Because you despise what I tell you and trust instead in oppression and lies, ¹³ calamity will come upon you suddenly— like a bulging wall that bursts and falls. In an instant it will collapse and come crashing down. ¹⁴ You will be smashed like a piece of pottery— shattered so completely that there won't be a piece big enough to carry coals from a fireplace or a little water from the well."

¹¹ Then I was told, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings."

John was called to proclaim both the sweet and the bitter of God's Word. Both the grace and judgment of God... as are parents... as are pastors, etc. He is to proclaim the bitter with the sweet, the salvation AND the judgments. The final days of human history are coming, are about to begin—the days of the seventh trumpet. The days are to include some judgments beyond anything ever experienced before: these judgments and the glorious promise of a new world are both to be proclaimed by John. He is to hold nothing back. He is to proclaim the full message!

With religious leaders and the government against the apostles because they were drawing crowds as God was healing many, an angel opened the doors of the jail they were in and instructed the apostles, "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people the full message of this new life." Acts 5:20 (NIV)

Titus 2:15 (NIV) "These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority [authoritativeness]. Do not let anyone despise you.

Encourage – "parakaleo" – to call near... as if to put your arms around someone and encourage/comfort
Rebuke – "el-eng'-kho" – tell one's fault, reprove; People need to be told the truth, rebuked and put under conviction by our rebuking them in the grace of God.

Despise – Don't let anyone intimidate you, or make you feel the message is unimportant so you hold back.

Ezekiel 2:4-8 (NIV) The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says.' ⁵ And whether they listen or fail to listen--for they are a rebellious house--they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, though briars and thorns are all around you and you live among scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or terrified by them, though they are a rebellious house. ⁷ You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious. ⁸ But you, son of man, listen to what I say to you. Do not rebel like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."



Ezekiel 3:17 (NIV) "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me.

CONCLUSION – Here's John, exiled on Patmos...in his 90's. In a way...left to die. All his fellow apostles were dead—most of them martyred. The angel is telling him...keep declaring the whole counsel of the Word of God.