

November 5, 2023
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Sermon Notes
Revelation: The Trumpets S3/E4 – The Little Scroll
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Revelation 10:1-11

1 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."

A Pause before the 7th Trumpet

KEY WORD: MYSTERY

Who is this Mighty Angel? Vs. 1 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.

- In the Hebrew Bible, "angel" translates as "messenger" and can refer to both human and divine messengers. This is not true in the Greek where ang'-el-os means only messenger. (**Hebrews 1:4-5** ¹)

Main Points:

- 1. God holds unchallenged dominion over creation.**
 - 2. In Christ, we walk by faith, not by sight of the divine blueprint.**
 - 3. The message of God is bittersweet.**
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- 1. God holds unchallenged dominion over creation. Vs. 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**.
 - Rev. 13:1 The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea.
 - Rev. 13:11 Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon
 - 2. In Christ, we walk by faith, not by sight of the divine blueprint. Vs. 3-4** 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.**"
 - The word mystery is used in the bible 26 times 20X in the New Testament and 6X in the book of Daniel.

- In the New Testament, the term "mystery" is most often used in the context of divine truth that was once hidden but has now been revealed through Christ and the gospel.
 - **The mystery of God will be revealed: Vs. 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."
- 3. **The message of God is bittersweet. Vs. 10-11** 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."
 - a. The word of God is not something you read, but rather consume.
 - b. The true messengers of God proclaim both the bitter and the sweet.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. How does the imagery of the mighty angel in Revelation 10:1-2, with its cosmic scale and authority, shape our understanding of God's sovereignty over creation as well as your life?
2. Discuss the significance of the command to "seal up" the words of the seven thunders (Revelation 10:4). How does this reflect the theme of "walking by faith, not by sight" when it comes to the mysteries of God?
3. Have you ever been disappointed by God when you thought he had told you something and it turned out to be different than you thought? How did you cope with this?
4. Reflect on the bittersweet experience of John eating the little scroll (Revelation 10:10-11). How does this metaphor relate to the complexities of receiving and sharing God's message? Can you share personal experiences where God's word has been both comforting and challenging?
5. Pastor Adam spoke about the pauses in the Book of Revelation. They are there for a reason. How do you deal with it when God pauses something in your life that goes against your timing?

So, he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs ⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"