

## The Book of Revelation - Session 23: The Little Book

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#### **Revelation Chapter 10**

Revelation chapters 10-14 are informational chapters. They share information about events and personalities. They are not necessarily in chronological order.

Revelation 10:1-4 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.

Here we see God using angels again to carry out the plan of God and to minister to man.

Notice John sees another great angel, the word another here implies one like something mentioned before. In this case the great angel mentioned in Revelation Chapter 5:2.

This angel is called a mighty or great angel which lets us know that some angels are created with greater abilities and have higher rank than others.

This angel has similar features as Jesus Christ, but he is not Jesus Christ and here are a couple reasons why.

- 1. No where in the book of Revelation or in the New Testament does Jesus identify Himself as an angel.
- 2. This angel comes to the earth and has one foot on the land and another on the sea. Jesus doesn't come back until the end of the tribulation period at the Battle of Armageddon.
- 3. This angel raises his hand and swears to the creator of the one who made the heavens and the earth. ...raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever.

**Rev 10:2** He had a little book open in his hand. What is in the little book? It's probably the rest of the judgements that are to come upon the earth in the last two woes!

And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, Spanning the earth and the sea symbolized this angel's sovereignty and authority over the whole world.

It conveys the image of taking possession. This angel is claiming the world for Christ. God is going to take back what is rightfully His.

Rev 10:3 and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices.

The loud voice of this angel is likened to a roaring lion, suggesting a cry of vengeance.

God's anger is described in several places in the bible as the roaring of a lion. Prov 19:12; Joel 3:16.

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Rev 10:4 Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

Some suggest that the seven thunders are the voice of God coming from his throne. Since the voice tells John to seal up what is said.

There are several places in the bible where the voice of God is described as thunder.

[When the Father spoke to the Lord Jesus on the earth, "The people that stood by heard it and said it thundered" (Jn 12:28-29), (Exodus 19:16-20).

Revelation 10:5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven 6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,

When the angel says, "there will be delay no longer," he means that once the seventh trumpet has sounded, God will act swiftly to establish His righteous rule on earth.

Evidently, the seal and trumpet judgments will take some time to unfold, giving earth-dwellers time to repent, but the bowl judgments will come very quickly allowing little or no time for repentance. The period of God's patience is over.

"Delay" no longer. He has been delaying His full judgments so that lost sinners will have time to repent (2 Pet 3:1-9). Time's up. The answer to the prayers of the martyred saints (Rev 6:10-11) are about to be completed.

We All must remember God is a long-suffering God, but he is not a forever suffering god and his patience will soon come to an end.

7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

When the sounding of the seventh trumpet takes place, the mysteries of God are things known by God only, until He decides to reveal them.

Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

This mystery is announcing the conclusion of God's total plan that has been partially hidden from humanity, from genesis through the revealing of the new Heaven and the new Earth.

The mystery of God is the revealing of Gods plan of total redemption of mankind, the doing away with evil and the total establishing of Gods kingdom on the earth for ever and ever.

Ephesians 1:7-11 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10

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# that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth — in Him.

The problem is, evil has been permitted to increase until the world is ripe for judgment this mystery is about to come to fruition.

2 Thessalonians 2:7-11 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

The establishing of the Kingdom from Heaven over all other kingdoms.

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

It may come as a surprise to learn that God has never reigned on the earth. Surely, He is, indeed, the sovereign King over all the universe. Over both heaven and earth. He has ruled, overruled, and intervened upon the earth. But He governs in a manner that seems remote and incomplete.

He has never used His absolute power and authority to bring about an end to demonic evil, human rebellion, and global injustice and suffering.

And He does not receive the worship and honor that is His due. That is all about to change. That is what we pray for when we pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Rev 10:8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth." 9 So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book." And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth." 10 Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

This little book is the last portion of the word of God written in the seventh seal.

Jeremiah 15:16 Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

The word of God is always sweet to a person when they first come to Christ but then gets bitter to the flesh when it starts to convict it.

We must understand as we eat the whole word of God there are times it becomes very bitter to our old nature.

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There is pain in change, and anguish in true obedience to our old flesh.

God does not expect to convert the world through judgment. His plan is to save us through His grace.

Yet His forthcoming judgment should cause us to listen and to think soberly and seriously. It should melt pride, silence our excuses, and prepare our hearts to humbly receive His grace.

Grace is sweet to the soul, but Judgement is sour to the flesh!!!

Rev 10:11 And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."