

# Revelation 10

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## Revelation 10

YouTube Prayer Link

### Revelation Chapter 10

Chapter 10 of the Book of Revelation is about a little book that makes John's mouth bitter. There are 11 verses in this chapter, recording the angel's delivery of the little scroll to John. Verse 2 "He held a little scroll in his hand, which was open. His right foot was on the sea, and his left foot on the earth." The original text of "little scroll" here uses different words from the previous "scroll" in Chapter 5, Section 1. The Little Scroll is obviously different from the Big Scroll. The Little Scroll is "open" and John is commanded to eat it. The Big Book records the end destiny of the world, and the Little Book records the end destiny of the church.

During the disaster of "seven trumpets", God began to judge all creation in the universe. In the disasters in which the first four angels sound their trumpets (the former group), the object of judgment is nature, and humans are only indirectly punished, while in the disasters in which the last three angels sound their trumpets (the latter group), judgment is directly issued to mankind. During the tribulation when the fifth angel blew his trumpet (fifth trumpet), God's people were protected from the locusts. In the Tribulation of the Sixth Angel's Trumpet (Trumpet 6), God punishes the world with war against those who worship idols. When the seventh angel sounds (the seventh trumpet is sounded), the final stage of the world has been reached.

### Revelation Chapter 10

Verse 1 "Covered with clouds, with a rainbow over his head": The original text of "Covered with clouds" is "wrapped in clouds", that is, being in clouds, and "with a rainbow over his head"

means that He will remember when He is executing judgment. It is a covenant made by God (see Genesis 9:8~17), and He will keep it. "His face was like the sun, and his feet were like pillars of fire": "His face was like the sun" signified that He was the Sun of righteousness; "His feet were like pillars of fire" signified that He would unswervingly execute righteous and holy judgments. In verse 2, this angel's "right foot is on the sea and his left foot is on the earth", which may mean that the message in the "Little Scroll" is about all the churches in heaven and earth.": "Footstep" signifies possession; the sea and the earth have been stolen by Satan, and now He will come back to regain His original dominion over the entire earth.

Verse 3 "Shout with a loud voice like a lion roaring. When you have finished shouting, seven thunders will sound." These "seven thunders" are not just sounds, but also meaningful words. "The sound of the seven thunders" signifies the complete wrath of God and the Lamb. "You shall seal up what the seven thunders have spoken," indicating that the contents of the "seven thunders" will surely come to pass. The seven thunders speak as sealed words (v. 4): Revelation is in principle an open book, but nevertheless, in some respects, Revelation is still closed, not to be known. Therefore, when the apostle John received a revelation and wanted to write it down, the seven thunders uttered their voices and forbade him not to write it down. Sometimes, because God's time has not yet come, God will ask them to hide God's words first.

(v.5-6) "No more time" can also be translated as no more delay, that is, God's final judgment is coming soon. There will be no chance to repent then, and now is the last time.

Verse 7 "But when the seventh angel sounds his trumpet, the mystery of God will be completed. This time is "the time when the seventh angel sounds his trumpet." This is the time when God's plan of redemption is accomplished, and it is also the time when all the nations on earth become the kingdom of God the Father and the Lord Christ. It is also the time of God's judgment. At that time, the hard-hearted people of the world will no longer have the opportunity to repent. .

There is no more time: emphasizing that as long as the seventh angel blows his trumpet, God's mystery will be accomplished without delay. The mystery of God: refers to God's grand plan in the last days, which officially begins with the seven bowls of judgment that unfold with the seventh trumpet. The period when the seven bowls of plagues come is the last three and a half years of the seven-year tribulation; it is the period when God's third plague comes, and it is also the period when Satan and his followers finally confront God and persecute believers.

. John Devours the Little Book (10:9-11)

I took the little scroll and ate it all. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth. After eating, my stomach felt bitter. God also commanded the prophet Ezekiel to eat the words of the Lord as food. God said to Ezekiel: "Eat what you have got, eat this scroll, so that you can go and speak to the house of Israel," and I ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. The prophet "felt bitter in his heart." God wanted Ezekiel to digest God's word before preaching it to God's people. Now God also wanted John to digest God's word before prophesying to "many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings" when God wanted to use him. When disasters come to judge this Godless world, they are terrible. John feels bitter when he sees the wrath and judgment.

today's Christians, on the one hand, God's grace and promises make God's children feel sweet, but on the spiritual battlefield and in the field of service, they will experience a lot of suffering. It was after John finished eating the Little Book that he received power from God. John's "mouth as sweet as honey" shows that God's people are preserved. His "bitter stomach" indicates that God's people will suffer persecution, even become discouraged and suffer martyrdom.

Let us pray together:

Abba, Heavenly Father, thank you and praise you. Thank you for letting us see your plan through John's record, letting us know that we "have no more time", and letting us understand that we will still face difficulties before we can achieve your kingdom. Great persecution, but we are on your list and will be saved. Please also strengthen our hearts so that in the face of persecution, we can still praise you and wait for the achievements of your final kingdom.

In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

Revelation 10

21st Century King James Version

1 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.

2 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,

3 and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth. And when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

4 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."

5 And the angel, whom I saw standing upon the sea and upon the earth, lifted up his hand to heaven.

6 And he swore by Him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are therein, and the earth and the things that are therein, and the sea and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer,

7 but that 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.

8 And the voice which I heard from Heaven spoke unto me again and said, "Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who 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.

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

Revelation 10 is a key chapter in the Book of Revelation in the New Testament, which describes John's vision of a mighty angel and a mysterious little scroll. This chapter serves as an interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpets. It features symbolic imagery and prophetic messages about the unfolding of God's final judgment and the coming of His kingdom.

Summary of Revelation 10:

**The Mighty Angel (verses 1-3):** John describes a powerful angel descending from heaven. The angel is clothed in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, his face shining like the sun, and feet like pillars of fire. He holds a small scroll that is open in his hand. This angel stands with one foot on the sea and the other on the land, symbolizing authority over all creation. The angel cries out with a loud voice, and in response, the seven thunders utter their voices.

**The Seven Thunders (verses 3-4):** As the angel cries out, seven thunders speak, but John is forbidden from writing down what they say. This section emphasizes the mystery and secrecy surrounding part of God's plans.

**The Angel's Oath (verses 5-7):** The angel raises his right hand to heaven and swears by God, the Creator of heaven, earth, and sea, that there will be no more delay. This signals the culmination of God's mystery, which will be fulfilled when the seventh trumpet sounds, bringing to completion the final phase of God's plan for human history.

**John Eats the Little Scroll (verses 8-11):** John is instructed to take the open scroll from the angel and eat it. The scroll tastes sweet in his mouth but becomes bitter in his stomach. This signifies that the message of the scroll, which represents God's prophetic word, is sweet in the sense that it is a message of victory and the coming of God's kingdom, but it is also bitter because it involves judgment and suffering. John is then told that he must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings.

Important Verses:

Revelation 10:1:

"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."

This verse introduces the mighty angel, who represents God's majesty, power, and authority over the earth.

Revelation 10:4:

"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.'"

This highlights the theme of mystery, with God withholding certain aspects of His plan from being revealed.

Revelation 10:6-7:

"And he swore by Him who lives forever 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! 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.'"

These verses declare the coming fulfillment of God's mystery and the end of waiting for judgment.

Revelation 10:9-10:

"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.' 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."

This is symbolic of the bittersweet nature of prophecy—God's word is sweet because it reveals truth, but it also involves judgment and suffering.

Themes and Symbolism:

The Mighty Angel: The angel represents divine authority and the power of God's plan, standing over land and sea, symbolizing universal dominion.

The Little Scroll: The scroll likely contains further revelation about God's plan for judgment. Its sweetness and bitterness indicate the dual nature of God's word—offering salvation to the faithful and judgment to the wicked.

The Seven Thunders: These represent divine utterances or judgments that are kept secret, symbolizing that not all of God's plans are fully revealed.

Prophecy and Judgment: The chapter emphasizes that God's judgment is both imminent and inevitable, but it also acknowledges the continued need for prophetic witness to all nations.

Revelation 10 serves as a bridge between the events of judgment in the previous chapters and the culmination of God's plan in the seventh trumpet, providing both comfort and solemn warning about what is to come.

Revelation 10 is rich in theological significance and spiritual insights. It serves as a key transitional chapter in the unfolding apocalyptic vision of John and offers profound themes that touch on the nature of divine mystery, God's sovereignty, judgment, and the responsibility of the prophetic witness.

Theological Thought in Revelation 10:

The Sovereignty of God:

The chapter underscores God's absolute control over time, history, and creation. The mighty angel, standing with one foot on the sea and one on the land (Revelation 10:2), symbolizes God's authority over all of creation, indicating that no part of the universe is beyond His dominion.

The angel's declaration that there will be "no more delay" (Revelation 10:6) signifies that God's plan will unfold exactly as intended. The timing of the end, and the unfolding of divine purposes, rest solely in God's hands.

Divine Mystery and Revelation:

The mention of the "mystery of God" (Revelation 10:7) relates to God's hidden plan for the world, which has been progressively revealed through Scripture and is now nearing its culmination. This plan involves the ultimate establishment of God's kingdom, the defeat of evil,

and the redemption of creation. The fullness of this mystery will only be fully realized with the blowing of the seventh trumpet.

The sealing of the seven thunders' message (Revelation 10:4) highlights the reality that not all divine knowledge is meant to be disclosed to humanity. Some aspects of God's plan remain shrouded in mystery, affirming the transcendence of God and the limits of human understanding.

The Sweetness and Bitterness of God's Word:

The act of John eating the scroll (Revelation 10:9-10), which tastes sweet but turns bitter, provides a powerful theological image of the prophetic calling. The word of God, particularly the message of judgment and salvation, is sweet because it reveals truth and offers hope of redemption, but it is also bitter because it entails the suffering and judgment that accompany the final consummation of God's plan.

This dual experience reflects the tension inherent in the Christian witness—proclaiming the gospel of salvation while recognizing the inevitable reality of divine judgment.

Prophetic Responsibility:

Revelation 10 places renewed emphasis on the prophetic mission of the Church. After consuming the scroll, John is told he "must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings" (Revelation 10:11). This reiterates the global scope of God's redemptive plan and the need for continued witness and proclamation.

The chapter reminds believers that their task is not only to announce salvation but also to testify to God's impending judgment, which calls people to repentance and faith.

Imminence of Judgment:

The angel's pronouncement that "there will be no more delay" (Revelation 10:6) signals the approaching end of human history. This emphasizes the urgency of repentance and readiness for the final judgment. The "mystery of God" being fulfilled at the sounding of the seventh trumpet (Revelation 10:7) points to the imminence of Christ's return and the completion of God's purposes for the world.

This chapter invites reflection on the tension between God's patience (seen in the earlier delays of judgment) and the certainty that judgment will come, encouraging a posture of spiritual readiness.

Spiritual Influence:

Trust in God's Sovereignty:

Revelation 10 encourages believers to trust in the sovereignty of God amidst chaos and uncertainty. The imagery of the angel standing over land and sea reassures Christians that even in the face of impending judgment and suffering, God remains in control of the cosmos. This message inspires faith in God's ultimate plan, even when it is not fully understood.

#### The Call to Prophetic Witness:

Just as John was called to prophesy again, Christians are called to continue the work of spreading the gospel to all nations. This chapter serves as a reminder of the Church's mission to be God's voice in the world, proclaiming both the message of salvation and the reality of judgment. It calls believers to be faithful witnesses, especially in the face of adversity.

The bittersweet nature of the scroll resonates with the Christian experience of sharing the gospel—joyful in the hope of salvation, yet aware of the challenges and resistance that may come.

#### Embracing Mystery:

Revelation 10 teaches believers to accept that not all of God's ways and plans are fully revealed. There is comfort in knowing that some things are beyond human comprehension and are part of God's sovereign mystery. This calls for humility and faith, trusting that God's hidden purposes will ultimately be for the good of His people.

It challenges a modern mindset that seeks full understanding and control, reminding the faithful to rest in the mystery of God's will.

#### Spiritual Readiness:

The announcement that there will be "no more delay" and the impending sounding of the seventh trumpet inspire a sense of urgency and readiness in believers. It calls the Church to spiritual vigilance, reminding Christians that the return of Christ is imminent, and they must live in anticipation of the final fulfillment of God's plan.

This anticipation of judgment also encourages a life of holiness, aligning one's life with God's purposes and being ready for Christ's return.

#### Conclusion:

Theologically, Revelation 10 reinforces God's sovereign control over history and the necessity of both proclaiming His word and living in readiness for the end times. Spiritually, it calls believers to trust in God's timing, engage in faithful witness, and remain vigilant as they await the final fulfillment of God's plan.



It invites a faith that embraces both the sweetness of God's promises and the bitterness of the challenges ahead.