

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

CHAPTER 10-11:14

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Welcome back to our study of the Book of Revelation. We recommend that you begin by reading Revelation Chapters 10 and 11. (*Note: All Scriptures are KJV unless otherwise noted.*)

AN INTERLUDE

Between the 6th and 7th trumpet judgments, an interlude occurs in Chapter 10 and goes through Chapter 11:14. There is a long pause between judgments, and it is the longest of the five interludes in the Book of Revelation, listed below:

1. Revelation 7:1-17
2. Revelation 10:1-11 through 11:1-14
3. Revelation 14:1-20
4. Revelation 17:1-18
5. Revelation 19:1-10

This interlude is written for the encouragement and comfort of the Tribulation saints in a dark and terrifying world. It reminds us that God is sovereign and loves the Tribulation saints remaining on the earth.

What are Parentheticals and Interludes?

Parenthetical refers to remarks or a passage that departs from the theme. It is an amplifying or explanatory word that departs from it, a digression.

The term “interlude” refers to a pause during the unveiling of a mystery. It is an interval, a peaceful pause between battles.

A MIGHTY ANGEL

What Did John See?

1 “And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven...”

Revelation 10:1

Note: After Chapter 10, John does not say, “*I saw*” again until Revelation 13:1 when he sees a beast rising out of the sea.

Revelation 10 introduces us to a mighty and glorious angel, described by John. Let’s look closely at this mysterious angel to determine who he is. From all indications, it appears that it could be Jesus. The following terms describe this angel: “Clothed with a cloud,” “a rainbow upon his head,” “a face like the sun,” and “feet as pillars of fire,” as well as “right foot is upon the sea,” “left foot on the Earth,” “cries with a loud voice that sounds like a lion roaring,” “lifts his hand to Heaven,” and “swears by Him who lives forever and ever and said, ‘*There will be no more delay!*’”

There is no more sublime apocalyptic vision imaginable or conceived than this one! This angel has been admired and studied by scholars down through the years!

Consider and Compare

The ASPECT: His face shines like the sun, and his feet burn like pillars of fire.

His APPAREL: Clouds clothe him, draping his being. A rainbow forms the diadem adorning his head.

His ATTITUDE: He has one foot in the sea and one foot on the land. The earth and ocean waters are pedestals for his feet.

His ACTIONS: His hand is lifted toward the starry heavens, and his mighty voice sounds like a lion's roar. A peal of seven thunders spread an alarm, preparing the universe to receive his orders.

This angel came down from Heaven. He is a heavenly being, a representative of Heaven who has the power of judgment in the earth. This sounds like a description of Jesus, BUT I do not think it is. Let me show you some strong reasons why.

1st Reason

All of Chapter 10 is a vision Jesus gives to John.

2nd Reason

This angel comes down and stands on the earth between the 6th and 7th trumpets. Jesus does not return to Earth until His Second Coming in Revelation Chapter 19.

3rd Reason

John uses the word "*another*" to describe the angel. Look again at **Revelation 10:1**.

1 "And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud."

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus is described as the Lord of the angels. He uses angels to execute His judgments on Earth. There were times in the Old Testament when Jesus did appear and was called "*The Angel of the Lord*." This does not mean that Jesus is an angel. Jesus is God and is superior to the angels.

Before Jesus was born of a virgin (the incarnation), He made appearances and was called "The Angel of the Lord." This is called a Christophany. A Theophany is an appearance of God, but in the Book of Revelation, Jesus is never referred to as "*The Angel of the Lord*." In Revelation, He is called "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah," "a Lamb," "The King of Kings and Lord of Lords," and "The Alpha and Omega."

The main reason that I do not believe this angel is Jesus is because, in Verse 1, John uses the Greek word "*allos*," which means another of the same kind. John did not use the Greek word "*heteros*," which means another of a different kind. "Heteros" describes something different from what has already been mentioned. If John were describing Jesus, he would have used the word "*heteros*" to show that this is another angel of a different kind ("*The Angel of the Lord*"), but John used the word "*allos*."

So, this mighty angel is another angel of the same kind that we have already been reading about in Revelation, such as **Revelation 5:2**:

2 *“And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?”*

(In this verse, the strong angel is more than likely Gabriel because this angel is proclaiming.)

If the angel in Revelation 10:1 is NOT Jesus, who is he, and does it matter who he is? In the Book of Revelation, the man child is not named, the two witnesses are not named, and this mighty angel is not named. We are left to try and identify these characters. A good argument can be made that this angel might be Michael, the mighty archangel. Why? Michael, as an archangel, is superior to other angels. He represents God’s presence, power, and authority.

9 *“Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”*

Jude 9

The name Michael means “*who is like God,*” and, as we saw earlier, this angel’s description in Revelation 10 is very similar to the Lord’s description.

SEVEN THUNDERS

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

Revelation 10:3

When the angel cried with a loud voice, seven thunders sounded. This is a great mystery among Bible scholars. I believe the seven thunders are God’s voice. David describes God’s voice seven times in Psalm 29. These verses in Psalms are significant.

3 *“The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the Lord is upon many waters. **4** The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. **5** The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. **6** He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn. **7** The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire. **8** The voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness; the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. **9** The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.”*

Psalm 29:3-9

John was told to seal up and not write what he had heard uttered.

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.”*

Revelation 10:4

THE LITTLE BOOK (SCROLL)

8 *“And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which 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 10:8-11

The opened little book in the hand of this angel is the scroll that was once sealed with seven seals. The scroll had the terms of the redemption of planet Earth. The seals are now broken off of it. With his feet on land and sea, this angel has been given total authority!

THE UNIVERSE WAS CREATED BY AND FOR JESUS CHRIST

15 *“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **16** For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:”*

Colossians 1:15-16

Satan came as an interloper and stole it. The Book of Revelation is about how times of heartache, grief, death, and sorrow are about to be destroyed. Satan will be evicted. The rightful Lord and King will reign. A new world is coming, a benedictory gift from God to His Son, in whom He is well pleased! Jesus is the Kinsman Redeemer who was worthy to open the seven-sealed scroll and redeem creation.

Michael is sent with the open scroll to reclaim the earth for the Lord. His feet are on the sea and the land. Look what God told Israel in the Old Testament about their feet.

23 *“Then will the Lord drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. **24** Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be. **25** There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the Lord your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.”*

Deuteronomy 11:23-25

1 *“Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ minister, saying, **2** ‘Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. **3** Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. **4** From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. **5** There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.”*

Joshua 1:1-5

When the angel Michael puts one foot on the land and the other on the sea, he is reclaiming the Earth for Christ. This is God's mighty angel sent to do God's business.

No More Delay!

Michael proclaims that there will be NO MORE DELAY!

6 "And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: **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 hath declared to his servants the prophets."

Revelation 10:6-7

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,"

Revelation 10:6 NKJV

John Is Required to Eat the Scroll

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 10:9-11

John is told to spread this word of revelation to all people everywhere. This causes John to prophesy. The judgments in the Book of Revelation are bitter and sweet—bitter judgments with sweet results.

Look at these Old Testament passages:

1 "Moreover He said to me, 'Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.' **2** So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll. **3** "And He said to me, 'Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you.' So I ate, and it was in my mouth like honey in sweetness. **4** Then He said to me: 'Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.'"

Ezekiel 3:1-4 NKJV

The psalmist said,

103 "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

Psalms 119:103

CHAPTER 11

THE TEMPLE

John was given a measuring stick to measure the Temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. This Scripture shows that the Temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt. John sees a Temple standing, but there has not been a Jewish Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem since the destruction of it by the Roman Empire in 70 AD. John is writing the Book of Revelation toward the end of the first century AD, around the 90's. At that time, there had not been a Temple in Jerusalem for over 20 years.

John is instructed NOT to measure the court outside the Temple because it will be given over to the Gentiles, and they will trample the Holy City for 42 months. Let's look at it.

2 "But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months."

Revelation 11:2

Forty-two months is three-and one-half years!

THE TRIBULATION AND THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Before we proceed any further, I want to explain some terminology:

1. The Tribulation is the entire seven-year time period.
2. The Great Tribulation is the last three-and-one-half years of the seven-year Tribulation.

THE ANTICHRIST

Look at what the Book of Daniel says about the Antichrist.

27 "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

Daniel 9:27

The Antichrist makes a covenant with Israel for one week (seven years). During the first three-and-one-half years, the Jews will have their Temple. However, in the middle of the week, the Antichrist turns on the Jews, betrays them, and breaks this covenant with them. The Antichrist will sit in their Temple and declare that he is God.

Israel will suddenly know they have been deceived! The Great Tribulation will begin!

If the Great Tribulation is not cut short, no flesh will survive. Remember, halfway through the Tribulation, there are already less than a few billion people left on Earth. The Antichrist and the False Prophet make life hellish during the final three-and-one-half years. Since the start of the Tribulation, God has been trying to get all people left on Earth to repent, but these last three-and-one-half years of the Tribulation are designed to break Israel so they will turn to Jesus and repent of their sins.