The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 10:1-11

- Great tribulation has started, and after natural catastrophes, astronomical phenomena, and demonic infestations has severely depleted the earth of both its resources and its population, mankind has still chosen not to repent of its evil. One would think that after witnessing horses who kill with their mouths and wound with their tails there would be a thought of I've had enough, God I'm sorry, but not man.

V1-11

- **V1-3** in the midst of the seven trumpets, after the fifth and sixth trumpet were blown and the bottomless pit was opened and locust shaped like horses with the power of scorpions came out and tormented the earth and people for five months. Things are so bad that people attempt suicide but couldn't die, as scripture says death ran from them, afterward a sixth trumpet sounds and four fallen angels who were reserved specifically for this time to kill a third of all mankind.

- They each had a portion of an army of two hundred demonic beings who are riding on horses who have heads like a lion, mouths in which out came fire, smoke and brimstone, and if that wasn't enough they also had tails like scorpions to sting and wound. Before the seventh trumpet sounds an interlude occurs, and in the midst of this space between judgments a mighty angel comes down from heaven clothed with a cloud, a rainbow on his head, face like the sun, and feet like pillars of fire.

- Its interesting that in Revelation alone there are more than sixty references to angels, they are God's army sent to accomplish His purposes on earth. Most believers today seldom think of the important role they play in our daily lives, but **Heb 1:14** says they are ministering spirits, sent forth by God to minister for those who will inherit salvation or eternal life, that is you and me people. One day in heaven we will learn about all that they did for us here on earth.

- Here this angel is described as having some of the characteristics associated with our Lord and Savior Jesus, could this be Him? As He has a face that shines like the sun like the description of Jesus in Rev 1:16 and Math 17:2 during the

transfiguration, we saw a rainbow around the throne of God in Rev 4:3, now it sits like a crown upon the head of this messenger.

- Also he is clothed with the clouds, which are often identified with God as He led Israel by one signifying His presence among them, and He appeared to Moses in a cloud of glory in **Ex 24:15**, **Ps 104:3** says He maketh the clouds His chariots, and it's a cloud that received Him when He ascended to heaven after His resurrection, and when He returns its with the clouds in **Revelation 1:7**, so can this be Jesus?

- Spoiler alert **V5** tells us this angel swears by Him Who lives forever and ever, and Who created the heavens, the earth, the sea, and the things that are in it, and He doesn't swear or take an oath by anyone or anything to affirm that His words are true > **Heb 6:13** says because He could swear by no one greater, that He swore by Himself. This is not Jesus it is a mighty angelic being but not our Lord.

- He has a little book that has a record of the impending judgments yet to come, he sets his feet on both the sea and the land showing God has complete authority over the entire earthly situation. When he cries out the seven thunders utter their voices, its like what's described in **Ps 29:3** its like an echo from heaven testifying that whatever he is saying is true and everyone needs to listen and obey.

- **V4-7** John is ready to write all that he sees and hears but is commanded not to write what the thundering voice says wow! Its similar to when Paul was taken to the third heaven and saw things that were he couldn't repeat to anyone else > **2 Cor 12:2-4**. Some things God will show you that is just for you and not anyone else!

- In swearing an oath the mighty angel declares that there will be no more delay and absolutely no turning back upon the judgments that will occur on the earth. For the mystery of God will be finished and His will is revealed through what is happening. A mystery in biblical terms isn't something no one knows, it's something no one could know, unless it was revealed to them by God through His word and His Spirit.

- In scripture we have several things called a mystery > **1**. The ultimate conversion of the Jewish people is called a mystery > **Rom 11:25**, **2**. God's purpose for the church is called a mystery > **Eph 3:3-6**, **3**. The Living presence of Jesus in a

believer is called a mystery > **Col 1:27**, **4**. The gospel itself is called the mystery of Christ > **Col 4:3**.

- **V8-11** then John is instructed to go to the mighty angel and take the little book from his hand, and he obeys and approaches the angel asking for the book, and he says take it and eat it, but he warns him that although it will be sweet as honey in his mouth it will make his stomach bitter.

- A couple of points > **1st** this shows that God never forces His revelation on anyone, we always must be willing to take what He has offered, **2nd** the hearing and reading of God's word may be sweet but the application of it causes problems later on. **Ezek 3:1-3** the prophet was told to eat the scroll or word, the revelation of God to Israel, upon its inception it was sweet, but to declare the judgment to the people bitter.

- I love God's word, and I love to see people get saved, I have had the privilege to lead some to Christ, and when I read what the bible has to say about us it moves me like nothing else in this world. But what I have to go through to see people get saved, grow in His Word, see the power and authority of God's will happen in our church, a family, community, its hard, and often bitter, but it is always worth it amen!