



The REVELATION of JESUS CHRIST

Chapter 10

“The Mystery of God!”

> Revelation Outline:

(Section 1) - The Things Which You Have Seen! (1:1-20)

- *The Vision of the glorified Christ!*

(Section 2) - The Things Which Are! (2:1-3:22)

- *Letters to the Seven Churches (Counsel, Correction, Course of history and future)*

(Section 3) - The Things Which Will Take Place After This! (4:1-22:21)

- *Worship before God’s Heavenly throne (4:1-5:14)*

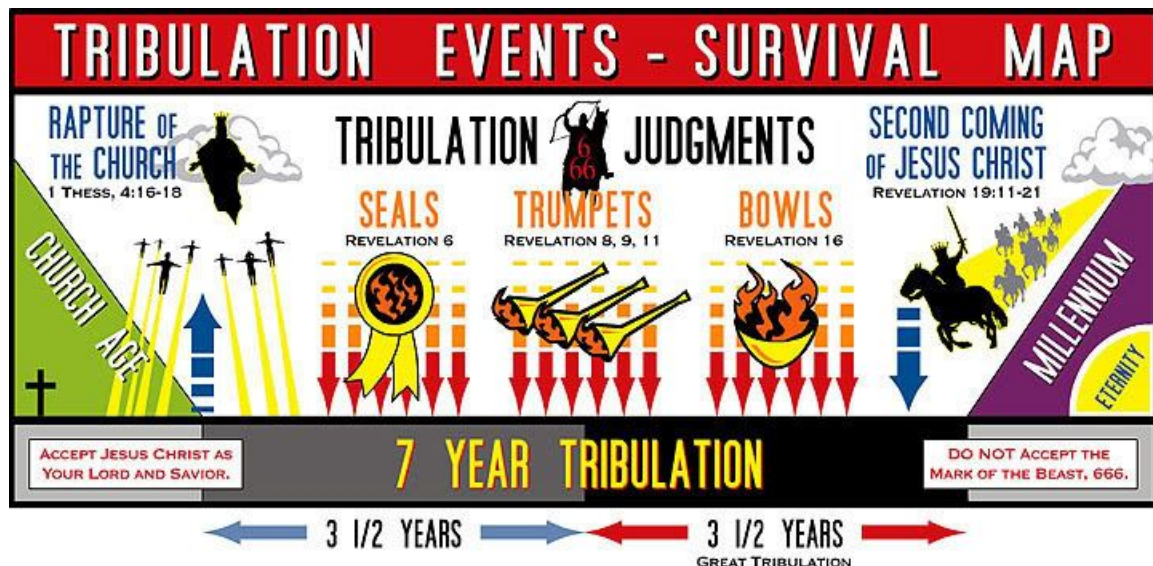
- *The Tribulation (6:1-18:24)*

- *The Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:1-21)*

- *The Millennium (20:1-10)*

- *The Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-15)*

- *The Eternal State (21:1-22:21)*



(v1-4) This is a description of the *mighty angel* – What does he look like? *Clothed in a cloud* (God’s divine directive), *a rainbow was on his head* (God’s divine mercy), *his face like the sun* (God’s divine holiness), *his feet like pillars of fire* (God’s divine judgment).

- What does he have? *A little book/scroll.*

- What happens when he cries out? *Seven thunders uttered their voices and were sealed.*

(v5-7) The angel answers the three greatest questions in all of human existence!

- Question #1 – How did we get here? God CREATED heaven, earth and the sea and all things in them.

- Question #2 – Why are we here? The *mystery of God*; what is the “mystery of God?” - Paul writes in Romans 16:25-27 - *Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith — to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen*

- Paul evangelizes via the “*mystery of God*” on Mars Hill in Athens, Greece according Acts 17:16-34 (Let us experience and learn how to evangelize!)

~ FYI - A “mystery” in Scripture is a previously hidden truth, now divinely revealed; but in which a supernatural element still remains despite the revelation.

- These great mysteries are:

(1) The “mystery of God even Christ,” i.e. Christ as the incarnate fullness of the Godhead embodied, in whom all the divine wisdom for man subsists Colossians 2:2; Colossians 2:9; 1 Corinthians 2:7.

(2) The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven Matthew 13:3-50.

(3) The mystery of N.T. church as one body composed of Jew and Gentile Ephesians 3:1-11; Romans 16:25; Ephesians 6:19; Colossians 4:3.

(4) The mystery of the church as the bride of Christ Ephesians 5:28-32.

(5) The mystery of the inliving Christ Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:26; Colossians 1:27.

(6) The mystery of the processes by which godlikeness is restored to man 1 Timothy 3:16.

(7) The mystery of Israel's blindness during this age Romans 11:25 (with context);

(8) The mystery of the seven stars Revelation 1:20.

(9) The mystery of the translation of living saints at the end of this age 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17.

(10) The mystery of iniquity 2 Thessalonians 2:7; Matthew 13:33.

(11) The mystery of Babylon Revelation 17:5; Revelation 17:7.

(12) The mystery of God is that “which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ” (Ephesians 1:9–10; cf. 1 Corinthians 2:7; Revelation 10:7). The mystery of God is the consummation of God’s plan in bringing His kingdom in Christ to fulfillment. The kingdom had long been prophesied, but the how and the when and the by whom was not clear until the time of Christ.

- Question #3 – Where are we going when we die? Jesus declares that He is the one and only Messiah, Christ, Savior in John 14:6 - *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

Jesus said in Luke 24:25-27 - *Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*

Jesus said in Luke 24:44-49 - *Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."*

John wrote in John 3:36 - He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.

(v8-10) What is this little book? This little book was sweet and bitter.

- The Expository Commentary reads, “God’s Word is compared to food: bread (Matt 4:4), milk (1 Peter 2:2), meat (1 Cor 3:1-2), and honey (Ps 119:103).

- The Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel were told to eat the Word of God - 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.*

- Ezekiel 2:9-3:4 - *Now when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. Then He spread it before me;*

and there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe. Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll. 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. Then He said to me: "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

The Prophets knew what it was to *"eat"* the Word before they could share it with others. The Word must always *"become flesh"* (John 1:14) before it can be given to those who need it. Woe unto that preacher or teacher who merely echoes God's Word and does not incarnate it, making it a living part of his very being.

God will not thrust His Word into our mouths and force us to receive it. He hands it to us and we must take it. Nor can He change the effects the Word will have in our lives: there will be both sorrow and joy, bitterness and sweetness. God's Word contains sweet promises and assurances, but it also contains bitter warnings and prophecies of judgment. The Christian bears witness of both life and death (2 Cor 2:14-17). The faithful minister will declare all of God's counsel (Acts 20:27). He will not dilute the message of God simply to please his listeners (2 Tim 4:1-5)."

- Could this *little book* be the book sealed in Daniel chapter 12 and now to be prophesied? Let us read Daniel chapter 12 and find out!

Daniel 12:4 – *"seal the book until the time of the end"* - C.I. Scofield writes, "In Daniel the expression *"the time of the end"* and its equivalent, *"in the end,"* occurs, Daniel 8:17-19; Daniel 9:26; Daniel 11:35; Daniel 11:40; Daniel 11:45; Daniel 12:4; Daniel 12:6; Daniel 12:9. Let us summarize *"the time of the end"*:

First, the *time of the end* in Daniel begins with the violation by *"the prince that shall come"* (i.e. *"little horn," "man of sin," "Beast"*) of his covenant with the Jews for the restoration of the temple and sacrifice Daniel 9:27 and his presentation of himself as God ; Daniel 9:27; Daniel 11:36-38; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 13:4-6 and ends with his destruction by the appearing of the Lord in glory. (2 Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 19:19; Revelation 19:20)

Second, the duration of the *"time of the end"* is three and a half years, coinciding with the last half of the *seventieth week of Daniel* (a 7-year period, which is the Tribulation, Revelation chapters 6 - 19). Daniel 7:25; Daniel 12:7; Revelation 13:5.

Third, this *"time of the end"* is the *"time of Jacob's trouble."* Jeremiah 30:7 *"a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation"* Daniel 12:1 *"great tribulation such as was not from the beginning*

of the world. . . nor ever shall be" Matthew 24:21. The N.T., especially The Book of Revelation, adds many details.

- Daniel 12:7 Notice *"that it shall be for a time (1 year), times (2 years), and half a time (6 months)"* which means three and a half years from the *"abomination of desolation"* performed by the Antichrist in the rebuilt Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (Mt. 24:22; Ro. 11:25-28; Rev. 11:2 12:6) . . . *"and the holy people (Israel) has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished."*

- FYI – Understanding the number of days:

(1) The Tribulation is 7-years in length;

(2) in the first three and half years of the Tribulation the Antichrist is ruling the world and the Jews will rebuild their Temple in Jerusalem;

(3) at the midway point the "abomination of desolation" will take place;

(4) then in 1260 days the Lord Jesus Christ will return to earth defeating His enemies at the Battle of Armageddon and then set up His 1000-year reign on earth;

(5) Daniel 12:11 lists 1290 days, of which the additional 30 days will be a time of mourning and cleansing;

(6) then in Daniel 12:12 we find 1335 days; most scholars believe this to be the time of separating the sheep and goats found in Matthew 25:31-46.

- Revelation 10:11 – The mighty angel said to John – *"You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."* There's more to come!

- What should we do? Every Christian must fulfill our Lord's *"Great Commission"* in these last days!

– Jesus said, *"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."* (Matthew 24:14)

- Jesus said in Matthew 28:19-20, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*