

Revelation 10:1-11 **The Little Book**

Introduction:

As we read and study the book of Revelation we have learned that the book is not written chronologically. It is rather a book of repetition of the major theme of Christ with His church's victory over Satan and his demons. The book has different camera perspectives and angles that make this revelation given to John most fascinating. Along with the repetition (recapitulation) there is a real continuity. Its various facets are connected. For example: seven thunders precede the seventh trumpet along with the first seals and first six trumpets. The judgments take place throughout the course of time, so that these preliminary judgments apply to the people in John's day as well as ours.

Thunder is associated with God the Father's voice – See John 12:28-32

I. The Revealed and Hidden Things – v.1-7

A. Interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpet

B. Revealed:

1. The God of creation has made Himself known through the brilliance of the gospel – II Cor. 4:6; John 17:3
2. This mighty angel is clothed with “a cloud” which is a symbol of God's majesty and in particular the coming judgment. Psa. 97:2
3. God reveals Himself through this mighty angel by a “rainbow”
4. The angel reveals Christ's face that was like the brightness of the sun – Turn To: Matthew 17:1-9 (II Pet. 1:16)
5. The strong angel again representing Christ speaks of His feet “like pillars of fire” – Isa. 46:10
6. The strong angel posture – “one foot on the sea and one foot on the land”
Josh. 10:24; Psa. 110:1; I Cor. 15:

C. God's Secrets – v.3-7; Psa. 77:19; Isa. 45:15

II. The Bitter and Sweet Book – v.8-10

A. Heaven directs John to do two things:

1. Take the book from the angel
2. Take it, and eat it

B. Three questions arise:

1. What is the little book?
2. What is signified by John eating the little book?
3. What is the meaning of the sweet and bitter effects?

C. Answers to three questions:

1. The little book is the Word of God – Ezekiel 3:1-3; Jer. 15:16; Psa. 119:103; Psa. 34:8; Jer. 20:8,9
2. The eating of the little book is the need to internalize the gospel not merely to listen – Jam. 1:22-24; Eph. 3:17,18; Col.3:16
3. The sweet and bitter are the two reactions of hearing the gospel and the scriptures:
 - a. Sweetness - Song of Sol. 2:3
 - b. Sourness – Matt. 16:24; Turn To: Romans 7:13-25; John 15:20; Luke 15:7 (Pilgrims Progress, John Bunyan)

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