



Interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpets **Revelation 10:1 – 11:14**

- **Chapter 10:1-11:14** gives us a break from the seven trumpet judgements.
- We have already looked at 6 trumpets in **Revelation 8 & 9**)
- We will see the contents of Trumpet 7 beginning in 11:15.
- In chapter 10:1-11:15, we will be given the answer to the question
- “Why does God send His wrath upon lost mankind at His second coming?”

People’s understanding of Revelation throughout the history of the Church:

- The early Church in the 1st & 2nd centuries viewed Revelation as **predictive prophecy**.

- Then there was the period of **allegorical interpretations**.
- Followed by the **symbolic treatment** of John’s Revelation. .
- Now we are on the other end of the scale.

OVERVIEW

- ☞ John is told that history’s predicted end will unfold – **Rev 10:1-7.**
- ☞ John is handed a scroll and asked to prophecy – **Rev 10:8-11.**

THE BEGINNING OF THE END – Revelation 10:1-11

- ☞ **Who is this angel?** Probably Jesus! Why?
 - A description of this mighty angel is symbolic of who Christ is:
 1. His deity, His faithfulness, and His justice.
 2. Christ’s feet are planted firmly on the sea and earth, symbolising His sovereignty, His ownership and His control over all creation.

A MIGHTY ANGEL APPEARS WITH A SMALL SCROLL

v:1- 4. 1. This angel is “descending from Heaven.” “draped in a cloud.”

- This angel is coming to declare judgement on the earth.
- Angelic beings clothed in a cloud are **rare in apocalyptic literature**.
- Cloud - **Glory** – (Cloudy pillar! during the day)
- A cloud is often associated with **the glory of God**.

2. This mighty angel has a “rainbow above his head.”

- Rainbow – (Mercy) - (Rainbow after flood)
- **Ezek 1:28. Revelation 4:3** alluded to Ezekiel’s vision.
- The rainbow carries **the symbolism of God’s covenant.**
- God’s judgement is about to be unleashed **in keeping with God’s covenant** that he made with his people.
- Similar description of the Son of Man in **Revelation 1:15-16.**

3. This mighty angel’s face is “like the sun.”

- Sun – Divinity, glory – (Mt. of Transfiguration.)

4. Legs of fire – **Judgement!** (No winking at sin! anymore)

- This Mighty angel walked here, lived here, died here, Rose again here, ascended to heaven from here.
- He has watched this world persecute His saints, devastate His world, and turn a deaf ear to His consistent calls.
- But, He is coming back! No meek, mister nice guy this time. He comes in wrath!

Why would He swear by Himself?

- a. Because there is no one greater than Himself... He is God!
- b. He is swearing that time is running out, referring to His imminent coming & eternal kingdom.
- c. This Kingdom will no longer be limited by time as we know it.

This same Christ is seen holding a “little scroll”

- a. This reveals that the contents of this “little scroll” is ultimately **under His control alone.**
- b. The contents of this scroll are revealed in **Revelation 11:1-14**
- c. This little scroll is “open”, helping us to see that its message is ready to be received by John
- d. Unlike the seven sealed scroll whose contents will not be revealed to John until all seven seals are opened.

John hears the voices of seven thunders

- a. These are the announcements of the coming 7 bowl judgements.
- b. God’s merciful restriction of evil, and a loving hindrance of judgement, will end – **Revelation 10:5-7.**
- c. This is the only picture we have in the book of Revelation of information that remains sealed

John is given a Four-fold responsibility:

1. To receive the message of the little scroll
2. To eat it, and digest it. (**Obvious analogy to Ezekiel 3**)
3. To be completely familiar with it and the understanding of it.
4. Finally, John was to share this message with his readers by recording it as a part of this Revelation.
 - John is told that once he received this message:
 - It would make his “belly bitter” although it would be “sweet as honey” in his mouth. (Sweet & sour)

Two basic contents of this scroll:

- a. A message that includes:
 - ☞ **God's grace, mercy, love, salvation and blessings,**
 - Pleasing to those who read it.
 - It also includes:
- b. A message about:
 - ☞ **Sin, God's wrath, spiritual darkness,** and the **abuse of God's people,**
 - All this is bitter in the stomach of those who serve Christ.

Chapter 11, reveals the contents of this little scroll.

- ✓ Two **courageous witnesses** dressed in sackcloth testify against mankind for a period of time predicted in Daniel – **Rev 11:1–6.**
 - a. Measuring the Temple of God – **Rev 11:1–2.**
 - Rejection of genuine worship of God
 - b. Do the people of God measure up? (**2 Kings 21; Zech 2; Rev 21**)
- ✓ The witnesses are killed, raised again to life and taken away into heaven – **Rev 11:7–14.**
 - b. Ministry of the Witnesses– **11:3–13.**
 - They are mourning for the sins of the nation of Israel,
and for the sins of all God's people,
 - Rejection of the messengers of God

- c. Preparation for the 7th Trumpet – **11:14.** (The Third Woe)

- ✓ There is rejoicing for God has begun to reign – **Rev 11:15–19.**

- d. The Seventh Trumpet – **11:15–19.**
 - The completion of God's wrath at His second coming
 - (detailed in Rev 16:)

“The Mystery of God would ultimately be revealed and fulfilled one day”

Take away:

- a. We are presently living in the last of the last days.
- b. Let us pray, study and witness so that we may live and work for Jesus until He comes.
- c. Are you ready to meet God?

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Beaconsfield Baptist Church