

ANOTHER MIGHTY ANGELS

REVELATION 10

Text: Revelation 10:1

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¹ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

Introduction:

We still find ourselves still in the middle of the tribulation period. At the beginning of this period the Antichrist began to make his conquest.

However depressing the events of the time may be God is not without a witness in this world. In revelation 10-11 we find three important testimonies from a mighty angel, from two special witnesses, and from the elders in Heaven. We will look at the first this evening, "This mighty angel from heaven."

1. THE VISION JOHN SAW

Revelation 10:1-4

¹ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: ² And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth, ³ And cried with a loud

voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. 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.

John sees a "**mighty angel**" descending from Heaven. We are not given the identity of this angel. However, I'm going to suggest that this angel is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ for several reasons.

A. His dwelling (1a)

Revelation 10:1

¹ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

B. His description (1-2)

Revelation 10:1-2

¹ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: ² And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth,

1. Clothed with a cloud

The cloud is garment of deity.

Psalms 104:3

³ Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who

maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

2. Has a rainbow upon His head

The rainbow is a symbol of the mercy and faithfulness of God.

3. His face shines like the sun

This is a description of His glory!

4. His feet are like pillars of fire

This is a picture of His judgment. He is coming to execute judgment on all those who have rejected Him!

The word “***pillars***” also brings to mind images of firmness, stability and strength.

We are looking at a God Who is rock steady and able to carry through with His mission. He is going to judge this world, the sinners in the world and Satan himself, and no being will be able to prevent Him from doing what He intends to do!

C. His dominion

Here is a wonderful picture of our Lord. He is standing with one foot on the land, one foot on the sea and He

has a little book in His hand. This is a picture of His dominion over the entire world.

2. THE VOICES JOHN HEARD (VS 3-7)

Revelation 10:3-7

³ And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. 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. ⁵ And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, 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.

This declaration can only cause us to stand in awe, not only because of what this angel declares, but also because of the way he declares it.

It is a solemn scene, with his hand lifted to heaven as though he were under oath.

A. The mystery (vs 4)

Why? Because there are some things that God doesn't want us to know.

Deuteronomy 29:29

²⁹ The secret *things belong* unto the LORD our God: but those *things which are revealed belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.

There are thousands of questions in life for which you and do not have answers. Why do good people suffer? Why do babies get sick and die? Why is there so much evil in our world? Why is living holy so hard? We will never have the answers to these and ten thousand other questions this side of Heaven. The best thing we can do is to leave the mysteries with the Lord and trust Him to do right.

Genesis 18:25

²⁵ That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

2 Corinthians 4:17

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

Psalms 18:30

³⁰ *As for* God, his way *is* perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he *is* a buckler to all those that trust in him.

B. The Manifestation (5-7)**Revelation 10:5-7**

⁵ And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, 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.

While the voices of the thunders remain a mystery, the next voice John hears brings a message that is crystal clear.

The Person John saw lifts His holy hands and makes a tremendous promise. He tells John that the days of waiting are finished. God is preparing to complete His work and complete His Word.

God is preparing to bring His work of judgment and redemption to an end.

3. THE VOLUME JOHN TOOK (vs 8-11)**Revelation 10:8-11**

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.

John is told to take the little book out of the hand of the Angel. He is told to eat it, but he is warned that the book will be sweet in his mouth and bitter in his stomach. John does as he is told and finds that the words of the Angel are true. The book was sweet as honey to his taste; but it was bitter in his belly. Then John is told that he is to take the message he has taken is and share it with others who need to hear.

What are the lessons from this?

A. The Word of God must be received

God's Word is compared to food.

Matthew 4:4

⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

1 Peter 2:2

² As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

1 Corinthians 3:1-2

¹ And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Christ. ² I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able.

Psalms 119:103

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

Ezekiel and Jeremiah knew what it was to consume the "Word" before they could share it with others.

Jeremiah 15:16

¹⁶ Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Ezekiel 2:9-3:4

⁹ And when I looked, behold, an hand *was* sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book *was* therein; ¹⁰ And he spread it before me; and it *was* written within and without: and *there was* written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe. ¹ Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. ² So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. ³ And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. ⁴ And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.

Note:

When John swallowed the Book, he found that it was both a blessing and burden. It was sweet and it was bitter at the same time.

The sweetness of this Book can be found in its passages about the grace, love and mercy of our God. When we read of Jesus dying for our sins and rising from the dead it is so very sweet. When we read of Heaven; it is so sweet. When we read that He will meet our needs;

never leave us; and come to take us home some day that is also so sweet! When the sinner reads that Jesus will save him if he will only come to Jesus by faith that is sweeter than words can describe. This is a book filled with sweetness!

But, it is also a Book filled with bitterness. This Book tells us about a Hell that awaits all the lost. It is this Book that the Spirit of God uses to convict the hearts of saints and sinners alike of sin. This Book tells of judgment, wrath and damnation. It is a bitter book too.

Sometimes I read my Bible and I am thrilled and blessed and helped. Other times I read it and I am convicted over something it's revealed in my life.

It is a bittersweet Book!

B. The Word of God must be released

John was told to share the message of the Book with others. The same burden has been placed on our shoulders today. We are to take this Book with both its blessings and its bitterness and share its message with a lost and dying world.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end

of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15

¹⁵And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

God did not give us His Word for our benefit only; He gave us His Word to share with this lost and dying world.

Close:

We need to go forth with the Word of God in our hearts and on our lips, with the message "Jesus Saves."