



THE MIGHTY ANGEL GIVES JOHN A LITTLE SCROLL JOHN WAS TOLD TO PROPHECY TO MANY PEOPLES AND NATIONS REVELATION CHAPTER 10 VERSE BY VERSE COMMENTARY

SUMMARY OF REVELATION CHAPTER 10

Revelation chapter 10 John saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. This angel was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars. He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand.

The angel said: "There will be no more delay! But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets."

John was told to take the little scroll from the angel's hand and eat it. It tasted as sweet as honey in John's mouth, but when he had eaten it, John's stomach turned sour. Then John was told, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings."

Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: "Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land."

Revelation 10:8 (NIV)



Rev 10:1 Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars.

Rev 10:2 He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land,

Rev 10: 3 and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.

Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars. The image of this angel is so great some have wondered if it is actually Jesus Christ. But John describes it as a “mighty angel”, so it could not be Christ, the Son of God.

“He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land.” In the Book of Revelation, the sea is the spiritual world. This angel was standing at the interface between the spiritual realm and the human earthly realm, with one foot on the sea and one foot on land.



“And he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.” The thunders are called the “seven thunders” to bring them before us as another collection of sevens. The seven thunders are the sixth set of sevens in Revelation, and into harmony with the seven seals, the seven trumpets, the seven vials, the seven mountains and the seven kings.

John says it was not a seven-fold peal of thunder, but seven distinct thunders (seven “voices”), which spoke individually in their own voices. We can only image what they said to John. It must have been of tremendous importance and part of the mystery of God.

His powerful voice was echoed by seven thunders; solemn and terrible ways of discovering the mind of God. We are not told know the subject matter of the seven thunders, nor God’s reasons for suppressing them. However we are given enough information in the Book of Revelation to understand the warnings about Islam from Jesus. Listen to Jesus. There is no path to the Father but through the sacrifice of Christ.

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

[Jesus said] “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

Rev 10:4 And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, “Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down.”

Rev 10:5 Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven.

“And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, “Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down.” John heard many great events of prophecy, but here, and only here in Revelation, we see the only things, of all which John heard, that he is commanded to keep secret. Why would God reveal these to John and then tell him to keep it secret? We do not know, but they were probably intended only for John, to help him understand the Book of Revelations that he was writing.

The episode may further indicate that the written contents of Revelation represent only a part of John’s actual vision. John has very similar language about the many miracles of Jesus in John 21:25.



John 21:25 (NIV)

Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

“Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven.”

Again the angel is standing on the interface between the spiritual world, the sea, and the human earthly realm, the land. In Daniel chapter 12 there is an oath similar to this, but the angel in Daniel has both hands lifted up, while here only one. The action was customary among the Jews in swearing to God. It means the words are absolutely true.

Daniel 12:5-7 (NIV)

Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others, one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank. One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, “How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?” The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever, saying, “It will be for a time, times and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed.”

This prophecy of Daniel (*“when the power of the holy people has been finally broken”*) ran from 706 AD, when the al-Aqsa mosque is completed on the Temple Mount, until 1948, when the new restored homeland of Israel is completed and Jews come out of the wilderness. The year 706 AD was the middle of the seven and three and one times (*“time, times and half a time”*) runs until 1948. The seventieth seven first began in 536 BC, when the Jews first came back to Israel from Babylon.

Rev 10:6 And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, “There will be no more delay!

Rev 10:7 But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.”

“And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, ‘There will be no more delay!’”
In Revelation the “sea” is the spiritual world. Not only did God create everything on earth, God also created everything in the spiritual world, the angels. The angels rejoiced (Job 38:4-7) when the earth was created, and therefore the angels in the “sea” are older than the earth.

Job 38:4-7 (NIV)

“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?”

We also learn in Job 38:8-11 that God set the boundary of the sea (*“when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place”*), not the watery oceans because the oceans have moved over time, but the interface between the earthly realm and the “sea”, the spiritual realm.

Job 38:8-11 (NIV)

“Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt?’”

“But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.” John is now told there should be time no longer; there shall be an end of the world. John understood of the time of the Daniel’s fourth beast, the terrible demonic system, the Islamic empire of Satan and Baal, will come to an end. The time of the afflictions of the church, whether by Rome or Islamic enemies, should be no more.

Rev 10:8 Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: “Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”

John is given the scroll in order to signify that the scroll’s contents were not to be kept secret like those of the seven thunders, but revealed for the instruction, direction, encouragement, or warning of mankind. The scroll’s contents are added to the entire Book of Revelation. The prophecy and warnings about the coming of Islam and the false prophet Mohammad is vital prophecy that concerned Satan and the beast Baal, as well as kings and nations, so it was to be made public for believers’ use and information. It is also to warn those that follow the Qur’an to repent and listen to the words of Jesus, the true Son of God.

Rev 10: 8 Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: “Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”

Rev 10: 9 So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, “Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but ‘in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.’”

Rev 10:10 I took the little scroll from the angel’s hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.

Rev 10:11 Then I was told, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings.”

John has added to this when eating the little scroll that *“It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.”* Many people feel pleasure in looking into future events, and all good men like to receive a word from God. But when this book of prophecy was thoroughly digested by John, the contents would be bitter; there were things so awful and terrible, such grievous persecutions of the people of God, such desolations in the earth, the rise of Islam, the daily prayer to the Kaaba by billions of deceived souls, the Shahada that denies Jesus is God, that the foresight and foreknowledge of them would be painful to his mind.

John’s sour stomach when seeing the future is similar to the sickly reaction of Daniel (Daniel 10:1-3) when Daniel saw the great spiritual war in the future.

Daniel 10:1-3 (NIV)

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar). Its message was true and it concerned a great war. The understanding of the message came to him in a vision. At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over.

“Then I was told, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings.” He is told that the bitterness will arise in connection with his prophecies with regard to peoples and kings. This carries us on to the vision in the next chapter, chapter 11, where the two witnesses (Michael and Gabriel) stand so solitary, and prophesy so mightily. John will have to tell the story of churches and peoples, the false prophet Mohammad, unmindful of their high calling and their allegiance to their true king, and of their hatred of God’s mightiest and purest witnesses. The end, indeed, will come. The Church will be victorious. The kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of Christ.

The connection of Revelation to Daniel is very strong. The two witnesses’ prophecies of Revelation 11 are connected to prophecy from Daniel and Ezekiel. Revelation chapter 11 prophecies about the two witnesses and the dead bodies coming back to life are connected to Daniel chapter 12 and Ezekiel chapter 37. There is very similar prophetic language in Ezekiel 37 (*“breathe into these slain, that they may live”*) and Daniel 12 (*“Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake”*) about seemingly dead slain Jewish bodies coming back to life. This occurred when Israel was restored in 1948, and Jews were trapped in Islamic countries for three and one half years until the end of 1951.