

# The Mighty Angel and the Little Book

## 10:1-11

### Introductory Notes

- We enter now into what appears to be another parenthetical interlude.
- We step back from the narrative and take what appears to be a broader view of the Tribulation and God's judgment.

### Outline

- The Mighty Angel - vs. 1-7
- The Little Book - vs. 8-11

### Notes

- vs. 1 - Who is this angel? One popular theory is that it is Christ, but I think it is a very powerful angel
  - Christ is sometimes referred to, especially in the Old Testament as "the Angel of the Lord" (as in Genesis 16:7). However, His majesty and glory are not hidden in Revelation and His other appearances are quite apparent.
  - In vs. 6 this angel swears by, thus admitting the superiority of, God. Christ is co-equal with the Father.
  - This angel comes "down from heaven", yet Christ only returns at Armageddon.
- vs. 2 - the "little book" - I don't think this is the same as the seven-sealed book in chapter 5. Different Greek words are used for each (*biblion* and *biblaridion* if you want to get technical). This book must lay out some part of God's design for the Tribulation period, but one that will remain hidden until that time. This could represent to part of the God's plan that has been revealed to us, contrasted with the larger plan we will see next that remains hidden.
- vs. 4 - Note that we don't have all the details are answers as somethings God will keep hidden until the proper time.
- vs. 6 - "there should be time no longer" - this refers to the immediacy of God's judgment and not the ceasing of time itself.
- vs. 7 - "mystery" - does not mean that it is unknown. It refers to parts of God's plan that He willed to keep, at least partially, hidden until their revelation.
- vs. 9 - this is similar to experiences of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 2:9-10, 3:1-4,14) and Jeremiah (Jeremiah 15:16-18)
- vs. 10 - the contrast between bitterness and sweetness is used to illustrate the contrast between the blessings and curses of God. While the Bible tells the sweet story that God gave His only begotten Son, it also tells the of the bitter truth that those who reject Christ are doomed for eternity.
- vs. 11 - God's not done with John. Think about it: we are reading his words thousands of miles and years from that point in time. John's message still rings out throughout the world.