

# The Book of Revelation

## Chapter 10

### Introductory Notes

- We enter now to an interlude that takes place between the Sixth and Seventh Trumpets.
- There are a great many opinions on almost every aspect of this chapter.

### 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 like Michael. Reasons against it being Christ:
  - 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 like those pre-Incarnation.
  - 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.
  - John makes no attempt to worship the angel.
  - He is described as *another* “mighty angel”. We met another “strong angel” in Revelation 5:2 that is clearly not Christ. This angel appears to be like that one.
- vs. 1 – the description is similar to Christ’s in chapter 1, etc., but I think this is an angel revealed in all its power.
- 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). I think this may refer to what has already been revealed by the prophets (vs. 7) about what is to come in the Tribulation. An angel is literally “a messenger”, and this angel’s job is to deliver the message of the little book.
- vs. 2 – standing on sea and shore displays universal authority.
- vs. 3-4 – The message of the mighty angel is revealed: the little book is open and John is able to digest it (literally, in vs. 9). The information given by the seven thunders is hidden from us, no doubt a message of warning to be revealed at the proper time.
- vs. 5-7 – The mighty angel heralds the coming judgments upon the world and the victory of Christ.

- vs. 5 – the angel is swearing by almighty God that what he is saying is true. Raising hands was custom when swearing an oath - Genesis 14:22-24, Nehemiah 8:6
- vs. 6 - “there should be time no longer” – “time is up”, this refers to the immediacy of God’s judgment and not the ceasing of time itself.
- vs. 7 – “the days of the seventh angel” – probably the duration of the events in Revelation 11:15-19:21
- vs. 7 - “mystery” - does not mean that it is unknown. It refers to parts of God’s plan that He willed to keep hidden, at least partially, 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 – sweet to taste, bitter to digest – there is a wonderful event coming when Christ returns at Armageddon, but the events between chapters 11 and 19 are horrible to consider.
- 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.
  - Note the witnesses that appear before the Seventh Trumpet: the mighty angel, John, the Two Witnesses. God is giving mankind a warning of what is to come.