

THE REVELATION

LESSON 17- REVELATION 10: INTERMISSION

Intro:

BIG IDEA: God _____ His people thru His _____ on His enemies.

Read 2 Peter 2:4-9. What was God able to do? Why did Peter want them to know this?

¹Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. ² He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land, ³and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring. When he called out, the seven thunders sounded. ⁴And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down." ⁵And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven ⁶and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, that there would be no more delay, ⁷but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.

- John sees another mighty _____ who is carrying a _____.
- His voice is like a lion's roar. Lions roar _____ committing to their attack- it _____ their prey.
- The seven thunders respond to his call, but John is _____ from writing it down.
- The angel swears an oath that there will be no more _____ - no more opportunities for _____.
- The 7th trumpet will _____ the mystery. Indication this _____ the process.

“God will not allow human rebellion to trace an endless cycle of injustice and misery; in fact, he hastens to his people’s relief.” **Dennis Johnson**⁵⁸

Historicist	Preterist	Futurist	Idealist
With the fall of the Roman Empire, the Catholic church filled the power void, becoming Antichrist.	The angel is Jesus (note the similarities with chapter 1). He roars like a lion, the Lion of the Tribe of	Some think the angel is Jesus (Ironsides, Morris), others that it is 'just' an angel (Ryrie, Walvoord).	This interlude resembles the one before the last seal. The angel is either Christ or a special

⁵⁸ Johnson, pp. 161.

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<p>The angel is often identified with Christ since the scroll is open (assuming it is the same scroll from earlier). This book is often viewed as the Bible which was kept from the people before the Reformation. The aggression of the Turks pushed Greeks scholars into Europe assisting the Renaissance. There are almost as many interpretations as there are thunders to be interpreted.</p>	<p>Judah (5:5) Most view the scroll as the same as in chapter 5. The 7 thunders are viewed as the voice of God (see Ps. 29). What was said was too horrible to write (though why is John not visibly moved). Chilton views it as simply for John's ears alone- but God wanted the church to know there were things He didn't want them to know.</p>	<p>The scroll is different from the one in chapter 5. It could be some Old Testament prophecies, a message to the church or a title deed.</p>	<p>envoy of His. Hendriksen notes that John did not worship the angel. The message is for the whole world (land & sea). The 7 thunders represent the voice of the Lord(see Ps. 29). Not all of God's counsel will be revealed.</p>
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Read Amos 3:7-8. What elements are present here?

⁸Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land." ⁹So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, "Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." ¹⁰And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it. It was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter. ¹¹And I was told, "You must again prophesy about many peoples and nations and languages and kings."

- The voice from heaven commands him to take the _____ from the _____.
- The scroll will be _____ in his mouth, but _____ in his stomach.
- John was _____, and the angel was _____.
- John is _____ to _____ about or before many people, nations, languages & kings.

Read Ezekiel 2:8-3:3. What is the context of this passage? Does this help us to understand the context of John's vision?

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“That gospel is in itself glorious and sweet. But its proclamation is always followed by bitter persecution.” **William Hendriksen**⁵⁹

This is true, but is that the reason for the bitterness in the context? Is it better to see it as the bitter taste of judgment (Metzger)?

“The word of God provides communion with him and his goodness; hence, sweetness accompanies even a message of woe.” **Vern Poythress**⁶⁰

Historicist	Preterist	Futurist	Idealist
This symbolizes the church receiving the Scriptures during the Reformation. (Why is John representing the future church?). The gospel is sweet, but the reaction by Rome was bitter persecution.	The allusion to Ezekiel shows clear parallelism. Both are about the destruction of Jerusalem for its idolatries. Some take this as a shift in the rest of the book to be the nations, particularly Rome.	Generally, the Scriptures must affect the messenger before preached. Some apply this to all Christians. The world is the subject of John’s message.	The whole world must now hear John’s message.

Is the message about the nations, or is the message to the nations about Israel’s destruction so they can be warned about their own coming judgment (see Hosea 1)?

What is the main point of application for this passage in light of what we have seen?

Conclusion:

⁵⁹ Hendriksen, pp. 125.

⁶⁰ Poythress, pp. 126.