

Morning Sermon October 3, 2021
“The Gospel Angel, the Little Book and John”
Revelation 10:1-11

I. *Who is this great angel who comes down from heaven? –*

10 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. Revelation 10:1 (NKJV)

1. *He is mighty –*
2. *He comes down from Heaven, not from the bottomless pit, not is he released from any river prison!*
3. *He is clothed with a cloud, signifying He is bringing some of heaven with him –*
4. *He has a rainbow on his head, a symbol of God’s grace –*

Genesis 9:12-17

5. *His face is like the sun, meaning he is an angel of light, and like Christ –*

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” John 8:12 (NKJV)

- A. *Some say this angel is Christ, because of all the above characteristics ↑ To me it seems possible,*
- B. *But I believe this is an angel representing Christ’s Gospel!*

In fact, he is very similar to the strong angel we met in chapter 5, both of them dealt with βιβλίον -translated in English scroll or book

2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?” Revelation 5:2 (NKJV)

6. *Feet “like pillars of fire” Represent justice more than mercy, but righteous justice is not inconsistent with Christ’s gospel! God’s justice is as much a part of Christ’s death on the cross as is His mercy –*

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, **26** to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:23–26 (NKJV)

7. *He has a little book open in his hand – Revelation 10:2 (NKJV)*
 - A. *Opened not sealed, not secret, but preached!*

8. *His feet are on the land and sea - And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land – Revelation 10:2 B (NKJV)*

The Gospel is to be preached everywhere, near and far

9. *He has a loud, “lion roars” like voice, out of which come “seven thunders” – Revelation 10:3-4*

A. *Loud voice / lion roar*

B. *Seven thunders / judgments? John was starting to write this, he does not ask questions, so apparently, he understood the message of these thunders, but he is stopped by a voice from Heaven from writing them, why? Because a mystery? Or because God would have John eat and not only write the message? I believe, these are not a mystery but rather than just write down the messages of the thunders, John must eat them first!*

10. *The angel swears “swore” by God the creator ... there should be delay no longer Revelation 10:6 B*

II. *The great message, contained in a little book, and seven mysterious thunders – Four times in this passage this book is called “little” -*

2 He had a little book open in his hand. *(It is sad how stupidly men interpret the symbolism of this little book, when the meaning is CLEAR!)*

... “Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel... Revelation 10:8 B (NKJV)

9 So I went to the angel and said to him, “Give me the little book.”

And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth."

¹⁰ Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it... Revelation 10:9-10 A (NKJV)

1. *What is the significance of the SIZE of the little book? - The Book is little because time is short! Especially time to repent and believe the Gospel! This is CLEAR – "there should be delay no longer..." – Revelation 10:6 B (NKJV)*

, ⁷ but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished ... Revelation 10:7 A

2. *The Little Lamb's scroll chapter 5 with the seven seals contained all or most of history in it. This little book describes the little bit of time LEFT, offers a last taste of the Gospel –*

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Psalm 34:8 (NKJV)

3. *The thunder voices that come out of the Angel's lion voice are almost certainly speaking of God's justice that is coming quickly, like Christ Himself –*

¹¹ Behold, I am coming quickly!... Revelation 3:11 (NKJV)

⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." Revelation 22:7 (NKJV)

¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. Revelation 22:12 (NKJV)

¹⁴ The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly. Revelation 11:14 (NKJV)

III. *To preach the gospel, we must eat the gospel, it must be and or become our life -*

⁸ Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth." ⁹ So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book." And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth." ¹⁰ Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand

and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. ¹¹ And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings." Revelation 10:8-11 (NKJV)

1. *John would have written down the message of the thunders, but God requires he eats the book –*

2. *This is something God requires of every preacher, and in one degree or another every true Christian – Matthew 4:4 (NKJV)*

⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

A. *Something I learned before preaching my first sermon*

B. *Something I am still learning ...*

3. *The taste of the "little book" –*

A. *Sweet as honey in the mouth, so is God's Word –*

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Psalm 19:10 (NKJV)

B. *Bitter in the stomach – Revelation 10:9 A and 10:10 B*

C. *The bitter is because of the thunders, the judgments, and because of the sad responses of men, who refuse to repent –*

⁸ Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory. Revelation 16:8–9 (NKJV)

4. *Note, in contrast to the Revelation 5 Biblia, which was in the hand of God on His throne and given only to Christ, Who alone was worthy as the Lamb, this book is in the hand of an angel, albeit a strong angel and is given to John, an apostle, but an ordinary man, (like us) and he is given and we are given this great commission –*

¹¹ And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings." Revelation 10:11 (NKJV)

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