

Revelation Lesson 105
The Mysteries of the Seven Thunders

Revelation 10:4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

Last time we noted that the Mighty Angel was just that – a mighty angel – not Jesus. Towards the end of our study we noted in verse 3 the following words: “And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.” We now arrive at verse 4 which has led to some considerable debate in Christian circles for the past two thousand years...

And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, - So we see that the Seven Thunders made their statements.

Now let's look at THUNDER. It appears in some form or another in the Bible some 26 times. But what is the meaning? Usually it will say just what it says – That it thundered as in a storm. Other times it sounds as thunder and points back to the Lord in some way or another. I got to looking in A DICTIONARY OF BIBLE TYPES and found the following insights:

In Job 26:14 – This was used to indicate that though our sense of hearing may realize that God is working, our minds are unable to understand the manner of it. In Psalm 77:18 – In this wonderful way God is telling us of His mighty power which is beyond human control and human comprehension. Then reference is made to Revelation 14:2 – It is symbolical of the great and mysterious power of God in that no one can understand it nor control it.

So over and over again in the Bible the symbolic message of thunder implies: power, the highness of God in that even when He speaks it is so awesome, high and powerful our finite minds cannot 100% comprehend it all.

But even though these things may seem to be the case, John seems to understand all this clearly 100%. But the great mystery is what are the seven thunders and what did they say?

To this I point out what J. Vernon McGee said: “It is a mere assumption to presume to know what the thunders spoke. There are wild speculators who have made ridiculous guesses. Vitranga interpreted the seven thunders as the seven Crusades. Danbuz made them the seven nations which received the Reformation. Elliott believed them to be the pope's bull against Luther. Several of the cults (such as the Seventh Day Adventists) have presumed to reveal the things which were uttered (the Seventh-Day Adventists say the Seven Thunders is the Book of Daniel). The Lord Jesus Christ said to John, “Seal them up. Don't write this down.” They remain to this day a secret which you don't know, I don't know, and no man knows. If we attempt to say what was spoken, in a few years we will find ourselves to be ridiculous. Why not leave it as it is and draw the lesson from it? Although Jesus Christ is being revealed in this Book, there are a great many things that God is not telling us.”

The late Evangelist Oliver B. Greene said: “There is no need to speculate on what the thunders said. Your guess is as good as mine; but you may rest assured that the message had to do with God's last gigantic, unheard of, indescribable judgment, when God “lowers the boom” in utter destruction.”

LaHaye says: “Since the Apostle John is commanded by the voice to seal up their utterances, it is foolish to conjecture any further.” All three of these men are A-100% right on the money.

I was about to write: - John states was about to write.

and I heard a voice – This is the voice of the Lord.

from heaven saying unto me, - The Lord is telling John something and we see from the reference that at this point John is still on the Earth – in the future. Now enter Oliver B. Greene, he says: “Will YOU be on earth when the seven thunders speak? You are the only one who can answer that question. If you are born again you will NOT be here – but if you are not born again, you may be here! If you heed the messages in the following verses: John 1:11-12, John 3:16-18, John 3:36, John 5:24, Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:13, Romans 10:17, Ephesians 2:8-9 and 1 John 1:9 – if you receive their words in faith and in trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will not be here.”

Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, - Here the Lord commands John to seal of the things which John heard. Daniel 12:9 “And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”

and write them not. - LaHaye says: “This is the only proclamation in the entire book of Revelation that is sealed up.”