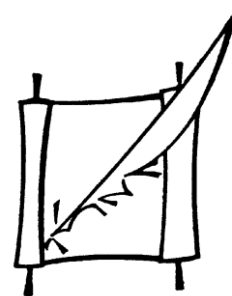


October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## The Mighty Angel Commissions John (Again!)

### **Revelation 10: 1- 11**



<sup>1</sup>Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, who was clothed about in a cloud, and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. <sup>2</sup>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, <sup>3</sup>and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring. When he called out, the seven thunders spoke their own voices. <sup>4</sup>And when the seven thunders spoke, 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 those things." <sup>5</sup>And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven <sup>6</sup>and swore by the One who lives forever and ever, he who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, [he swore] that no longer will there be time, <sup>7</sup>but rather that in the days of the sound of the seventh angel, when he is about to blow his trumpet, then the mystery of God would be completed, just as he promised to his own slaves, the prophets.

<sup>8</sup>Then 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." <sup>9</sup>So 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." <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>And I was told, "It is necessary that you again prophesy over many peoples and nations and languages and kings."

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1 "mighty angel"- Mighty (5:2, 18:21)- angel = messenger, this one has some **divine** qualities  
Such as:

"coming down from heaven"- his origin is the domain of God

"clothed about in a cloud"- reminiscent of Ex 13:21-22, Num 9:17-21, Dan 7:13, Mt 24:30, Ac 1:9

"the rainbow was upon his head"- In Greek: Iris (think halo) Rev 4:3- where was the rainbow?

"face like the sun"- Rev 1:16, Matt 17:2- The Transfiguration!

"legs like pillars of fire"- Ex. 13:21-22 again!

So who/what might this be? Gabriel ("Mighty Man of God")? An Arch-Angel? An image of Jesus?

2 "little scroll"- all one word in Greek, means the same thing as scroll or book.

"right foot on the sea, left foot on the land"- he and what he says is of worldwide significance

3 "like a roaring lion"- Rev. 5:5- the Lion of the Tribe of Judah- who is it? So whose voice speaks?

"The Seven Thunders"- Amos 1:2 and other OT references to God's thunderous voice + 7!

4 "Seal up..."- Dan 8:26. The purpose of the thundering voice is to highlight the angel's mission

5 "raised his right hand to heaven"- Dan 12:7, dramatizes the certainty & truthfulness of the message given to John and passed on to all

6 "the One who lives forever and ever"- given this one- "created heaven, earth, sea" who is this?

"no longer will there be time"- no more waiting, the Final Trumpet blast is near

- 7        “in the days of the sound of the 7<sup>th</sup> angel”- we do not know when this will be, but soon!
- “the mystery of God”- whatever it is, it is a gracious promise made from old to prophets
- “as he promised”- literally, as he *gospelled*- verb form of the noun Gospel
- “slaves” and servants are the same word in Greek, why choose slaves? Rom 6:20-23

*Brighton: The “mystery” is the coming about of the kingdom of the cosmos of Yahweh and of his Messiah at the end of the present world (11:15). By means of the seventh trumpet-angel John will see the completion of this mystery of God, when, in his kingdom and that of his Christ, God will rule forever (11:15-19). (page 270)*

- 9        “take and eat it”- Ezekiel 2:8; 3:1-3. the message must be inwardly digested in order to be relayed
- 10-11    sweet in the mouth, bitter in the stomach- sweet as it is Gospel and salvation for all who believe.  
          Bitter for those who on the last day are faced with the consequences of their faithlessness.

Over/about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings.- the fourfold reference may indicate the whole world is to hear this proclamation.