

## I. The Context

- A. Revelation chapter 10 and most of chapter 11, is an angelic explanation (parenthetical section) that follows after the crisis described in Revelation 9 before the 7th Trumpet is unveiled.
- B. In Revelation 9, the demons of the 6th Trumpet have killed 1/3 of the earth, leaving many in deception and confusion. Many do not believe it is the judgment of God on something they are doing wrong. They possibly attribute the calamity they're experiencing to the two witnesses.

*And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. Revelation 11:10*

- 1. There will be many signs and wonders at that time that are NOT from God (Revelation 13:13; 16:14; 18:23; 19:20; 2 Thessalonians 2:8–9). One thing Jesus warned of concerning this timeframe was deception. He emphasized deception even more than persecution. Deception has eternal consequences.

*"Take heed that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup>Many will come... and will deceive many...<sup>11</sup>Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many...<sup>24</sup>For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." Matthew 24:4–5, 11, 24*

*The Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons. 1 Timothy 4:1*

- C. Certainly John is left breathless at the refusal to repent as he sees the trumpet judgments unfold. Then a "mighty angel" descends from heaven to give further insight.
- D. He reveals His goodness towards the many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings who are raging against Him by promising to prepare, establish, commission and send prophetic messengers to "plead His case with all flesh" (Jeremiah 25:31) to both plead and judge, (Isaiah 3:13) compelling any who will come to the wedding to come in (Luke 14:23).
- E. God gives His solemn oath to bring this trouble to a conclusion and not delay any longer (Rev. 10:5–6).  
*"For there will be greater anguish (tribulation) than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive. <sup>22</sup>But it will be shortened for the sake of God's chosen ones." Matthew 24:21–22*
- F. God assures His people that He will release prophetic direction and great power to help them endure. In Revelation 10, God promises to release new, significant prophetic understanding that will help people avoid deception and overcome confusion.

- G. In Revelation 11, the two witnesses will preach with great power and release God's judgments against the Antichrist for 3½ years.
- H. There will be a great outpouring of the Spirit (Joel 2:28–32; Acts 2:17–21; Ephesians 4:11–13; Revelation 11:10, 18; 16:6; 18:20, 24). All believers will receive prophetic dreams and visions. The Lord released a "down payment" on Joel's prophecy on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:16). Yet it was not completely fulfilled in Peter's generation. In Acts 2, the Spirit rested on only 120 believers in one city. The fullness of Joel's prophecy requires a global outpouring of God's Spirit.

## II. The Mighty Angel

*I saw another mighty angel...clothed with a cloud. A rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. <sup>2</sup>He had a little book open in his hand. He set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, <sup>3</sup>and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars. Revelation 10:1–3*

- A. John describes a mighty angel: the very glory of that angel, the might of that angel, is in itself a statement about the sovereign power of God in this hour. His army is mighty.
- B. The rainbow (biblical sign of promise) on the head of the angel is the sign of God's commitment to follow through on His promise to the nations, even at the height of their wickedness. He will work furiously until the very end to save any who could be reached.  
*...then the Lord said in His heart: "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living thing as I have done." Genesis 8:21*

## III. The Seven Thunders

*When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices [messages]. <sup>4</sup>When the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice...saying, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them." Revelation 10:3–4*

- A. There are seven prophetic insights to be given in that day. It will help the Church in a significant way.
- B. The idea of sealing them up is to not let it be disclosed until it's time. It is for that specific hour of history. John understood the seven messages enough to be able to write them. He was told to seal them until it's time. Maybe the Two Witnesses give the messages?
- C. Daniel 10-12 is a parallel passage to Revelation 10–13. Daniel sealed up prophetic information with an angel of similar glory and a similar oath related to the same 3½ years (Daniel 12:4–10).

