**Revelation Chapter 10**

**An Interlude: The Church at Work**

1. **The Angel: verse 1**
   1. “Another mighty angel”
      1. Not part of the seven-trumpet angels.
      2. His role is to recommission John on behalf of Jesus.
      3. Mighty
         1. Only three times in Revelation are angels referred to as mighty.
            1. 5:2; 10:1; 18:21
         2. Is this angel identified with God/Christ?
            1. Angel of the Lord
         3. “Mighty” is an adjective used in the Bible to show godly strength, might from God, or even God’s own might.
            1. Exodus 19:19; Deuteronomy 10:17.
   2. “Coming down from heaven”
      1. To come from heaven means to come from God.
         1. This angel comes under the authority of God.
   3. “wrapped in a cloud”
      1. In the Old Testament a cloud was associated with the presence of God.
         1. Exodus 13:21; 14:19,20; Numbers 9:17-21.
      2. In the New Testament God speaks to Jesus from a cloud while He was on the Mount of Transfiguration.
         1. Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35.
      3. This angel is “wrapped in a cloud” meaning he is wrapped in God’s authority.
   4. “rainbow over his head”
      1. In Revelation 4:3 we saw a rainbow encircle God’s heavenly throne.
      2. This rainbow here in 10:1 signifies the same thing as the rainbow in Rev. 4:3, that is God’s covenant of grace with the human race.
   5. “his face was like the sun”
      1. No other figure in the NT is described with a “face like the sun.”
      2. Christ is the radiance of God’s glory. This angel in Rev. 10 is a reflection of that glory.
         1. IN chapter 1 when John was in the presence of Christ’s glory he fell down as if dead. Here he does not do that.
   6. “legs like pillars of fire”
      1. These legs suggest a stable and fearful power the angel has been given.
         1. In Rev. 1:15 we saw that Jesus had brass like feet which conveyed His power over enemies like death and the grave.
         2. In the Old Testament pillars of fire conveyed God’s guidance and protection.
      2. As the church carries out her mission, she will be guided and protected by God.
2. **The scroll: verse 2**
   1. The prophetic message of Revelation
      1. John is to proclaim this message to the entire population of the earth (verse 11)
      2. Jesus was the one who was worthy (chapter 5) to open the scroll of the seven seals.
         1. This scroll is already open meaning it is in essence the same message of the seven-seal scroll.
   2. Eating of the scroll
      1. This message is to be a part of John.
         1. This message which is the church’s is to be share
   3. Standing on sea and land
      1. Sea and land express the totality of God’s creation.
      2. The angel standing upon both the sea and land tells us the mission God sent this angel will dominate the earth including its history and people.
         1. The powerful message of the Gospel is even greater than the two beasts that come out of the sea and land (Rev. 12 and 13).
3. **The sounds: verses 3 and 4**
   1. A voice like a roaring lion
      1. The angel speaks the voice of God.
         1. In the Bible only the voice of God (Hosea 11:10) and the angel of Revelation in this chapter have the voice like a lion.
   2. The seven thunders speak
      1. This sound enhances the stature of the angel. The angel is speaking on behalf of God.
         1. We have seen up to this point that the number seven symbolizes God’s presence through the Holy Spirit; holiness; and completeness.
         2. John and us today (the Church) must pay attention to this message.
4. **The Angel’s oath: verses 5-7**
   1. An oath of assurance.
      1. The message and the mission of the angel will be completed within history.
   2. The mystery of God (verse 7)
      1. This is the coming of God’s kingdom to this earth.
         1. 11:15 the seventh trumpet angel announces the return of Jesus.
      2. Mystery
         1. The plan of God’s salvation and its announcement were hidden and kept secret from those who were the enemies of God.
            1. Colossians 1:26; Acts 2:23; 1 Corinthians 2:6-9
5. **John and the Scroll: verses 8-11** 
   1. Eat and preach
      1. OT background includes Ezekiel’s vision of God’s heavenly glory. He too was commanded to eat the scroll and then preach God’s Word.
         1. Ezekiel 1-3
      2. The eating symbolizes that the message is to be a part of John. It’s not just a message for others but for him personally.
   2. The command to proclaim the Word
      1. Today the church must engage in the mission God has given her.
         1. Matthew 28:16-20