

but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound the trumpet, the mystery of God also shall be completed, as he has made known the glad tidings to his own bondmen the prophets. - Rev 10:7

This Lesson Outline was prepared by John M. Wharton October 22, 2005

Sources -

All bible text, unless otherwise indicated, is the Darby Translation. ASV indicates the American Standard Version, with KJV indicating the King James Version. Quotations are often included from various classic Christian commentaries such as John Gill's Expositor, Jamieson, Fausset and Brown, Robertson's New Testament Word Pictures, and others. Greek and Hebrew word definitions are often included from the Strong's Concordance, unless otherwise indicated. All of these sources, both the bible texts, commentaries, and Strong's definition's are taken from the excellent source the e-Sword Bible computer program unless otherwise indicated.

Introduction -

In this chapter John sees an angel from God proclaiming that at the sounding of the seventh trumpet the mystery of God which has been proclaimed through His prophets from long ago will be accomplished. Then John is given a "little book" which tasted sweet as he ate it but was then bitter in his stomach representing the judgments he is to proclaim on nations and tongues.

Lesson Text - Revelation Chapter 10

Rev 10:1And I saw another strong angel coming down out of the heaven, clothed with a cloud, and the rainbow upon his head, and his countenance as the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire,

Comments -

coming downRobertson's New Testament Word Pictures indicates that the tense in this verse (as I understand it) shows that John saw the process of the angel's descent unlike the other angel seen, at the start of chapter 9, which had already fallen to earth before John saw him.

Rev 10:2and having in his hand a little opened book. And he set his right foot on the sea, and the left upon the earth,

Rev 10:3and cried with a loud voice as a lion roars. And when he cried, the seven thunders uttered their own voices.

Comments -

This surely isn't Christ Himself though he does seem by the symbolism in his appearance and with his voice like a lions to represent the authority of the Lord.

Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary from the e-Sword Program -

seven thunders--Greek, "the seven thunders." They form part of the Apocalyptic symbolism; and so are marked by the article as well known. Thus thunderings marked the opening of the seventh seal ([Rev 8:1](#), [Rev 8:5](#)); so also at the seventh vial ([Rev 16:17-18](#)). WORDSWORTH calls this the prophetic use of the article; "the thunders, of which more hereafter." Their full meaning shall be only known at the grand consummation marked by the seventh seal, the seventh trumpet ([Rev 11:19](#)), and the seventh vial.

[Rev 10:4](#)And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write: and I heard a voice out of the heaven saying, Seal the things which the seven thunders have spoken, and write them not.

[Rev 10:5](#)And the angel whom I saw stand on the sea and on the earth lifted up his right hand to the heaven,

[Rev 10:6](#)and swore by him that lives to the ages of ages, who created the heaven and the things that are in it, and the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be no longer delay;

[Rev 10:7](#)but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound the trumpet, the mystery of God also shall be completed, as he has made known the glad tidings to his own bondmen the prophets.

Comments -

and swore by him that lives to the ages of ages – a that this is an angel from God declaring His intent.

but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound the trumpet, the mystery of God also shall be completed- of God whatever that includes will be completed when the angel with the seventh trumpet sounds.

[Rev 10:8](#)And the voice which I heard out of the heaven *was* again speaking with me, and saying, Go, take the little book which is opened in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the earth.

[Rev 10:9](#)And I went to the angel, saying to him to give me the little book. And he says to me, Take and eat it up: and it shall make thy belly bitter, but in thy mouth it shall be sweet as honey.

Comments -

John's eating of the word of God here, was sweet at first impression as he was a true believer who had joy in God's word and His plans. But after it had settled into his stomach, the bitterness of what was contained in those words made itself more apparent to his mortal flesh which could appreciate what must have been the terrible import of the prophesies contained in those words. Perhaps the words spoke of what was about to happen to the earth and those inhabitants left alive on it. Remember, many have already died terrible deaths as a result of the incredible judgments God has already leveled on the earth to this point. The third woe judgment is about to sound and after that we still have, in the remaining chapters of the Revelation, a series of vials of judgment still to be poured upon the earth and also the full appearance of the Antichrist driving the beast to accomplish the horrible things he has planned for the earth's inhabitants.

[Rev 10:10](#)And I took the little book out of the hand of the angel, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth as honey, sweet; and when I had eaten it my belly was made bitter.

[Rev 10:11](#)And it was said to me, Thou must prophesy again as to peoples and

nations and tongues and many kings.

Summary -

We have seen John's account of the angel from God standing upon the earth and one foot in the sea who proclaimed that the seventh trumpet would sound next and then the mystery of God spoken to His prophets long ago will be accomplished. We also have seen John eat the "little book" which tasted sweet but then was bitter in his stomach. This represented the judgments he is still to proclaim on the nations and tongues of the earth.