

**I. Introduction to (Rev. 10-11)**

- A. Revelation 10:1-11:13 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> angelic explanation (parenthetical section) in the book of Revelation that follows after the progression of judgment events described in Revelation 9. Angelic explanations answer questions and bring background to the chronological events John is seeing.
- B. In this angelic explanation (Rev. 10:1-11:13), God assures His people that He will release worldwide prophetic direction, understanding, and great power to help them. They will be equipped with clarity and understanding to interpret the events that are happening and break off the confusion and delusion that the nations will be under.
- C. Jesus warns of deception far more than any other thing we must be prepared to face in the final days leading up to His return. The battle to overcoming deception is primarily won through intentionality of knowing the Word, eliminating compromise, and staying in godly fellowship. (Mat. 24:4-5, 11, 23-25)
1. In Revelation 10, God promised to release significant prophetic understanding that will help the church walk in their mission, avoid deception, and overcome confusion. (Dan. 11:33, 12:3-4, 10, Jhn 16:12-13)
  2. In Revelation 11, God raises up two primary leaders or two witnesses who will spearhead the worldwide intercession movement. They will preach with great power and release God's judgments against the Antichrist and his systems during the final 3½ years of this age. (Zech. 4:11-14)

**II. Prophetic Outpouring and Understanding (Rev. 10:1-7)**

- A. Description of the Angel (Rev. 10:1) - John describes a mighty angel coming down to the earth, I believe that the glory of that angel revealed in John's description of him is a statement about the measure of glory that God is going to release on the church in that hour.
1. Mighty angel: the release of the might, power, and courage
  2. Robed in a cloud of glory: the release of God's manifest glory
  3. Rainbow around his head: the release of God's promises and mercy
  4. Face shines like the sun: the release God's light and truth
  5. Feet are like pillars of fire: the release of God's leadership to establish love

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- B. Proclamation of 7 Prophetic Messages (Rev. 10:2-4) – The Angel comes down to earth and declares 7 prophetic messages (thunders) to the end time church. (Job 37:4-5; Ps. 29:3; Jhn 12:29; Rev. 10:4)
1. Little Book Open in his Right Hand – The idea that this book is open signifies that it's able to be seen and understood. In other words, it's knowable and relevant. Whatever the actual nature of the book, it's content and purpose is clear. It contains 7 distinct prophetic messages that will be released worldwide before the return of Jesus.
  2. The Angel Stands Upon the Land and Sea - Setting of feet on the land and sea is a strong biblical picture of possessing the inheritance. It also speaks of the all-encompassing nature of these prophetic messages reaching the worldwide bride of Christ. In the following chapters, two evil adversities will also come forth from the sea and land, which will attempt to establish their own sovereignty. This angel sets his foot on both, to signify full authority over all the earth, even over the adversary. (Dan. 12)
  3. Cried out like a Lion – These prophetic messages will be declared with boldness, authority, spiritual warfare, and power. (Is. 31:4, Amos 3:8, Hos. 11:10)
  4. Seven Thunders Uttered their Voice – John hears and understands seven distinct messages. These thunderous messages are best interpreted as coming from God Himself based upon references to thunder proceeding from the throne in (Rev. 4).
  5. Seal up the Words - He was forbidden to write them, but he grasped them. He was told to seal them until the last days. The idea of sealing them implies that they cannot be known now, but they would be known. They will be given at that time in which they have specific application in the final days preceding the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus. (Dan 12:9)
- C. No More Delay in Finishing the Mystery of God (Rev. 10:5-7) - This mighty angel whom John saw raised his hand to heaven, swore by God who lives forever and ever promising that there would be no more delay. Across the board scholars agree that this statement is speaking of the fulfillment of the primary promises of God. The wait for Jesus to eradicate sin and Satan, restore the earth, and dwell with humanity again will be over when the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is sounded.

1. The phrase “in the days” is plural. Seemingly there is a number of days that accompanies the event. My assumption is a deeper look at the feast of trumpets and other biblical references holds insights on that. (Lev. 23:23-25, 29:1-6)

### **III. The Participating Prophetic Bride (Rev. 10:8-11)**

- A. By eating the book John must do more than repeat the message given to him by the Lord, God wants him to bear the message in himself. The prophetic Bride will be transformed by “rhema” word of the Lord to accurately convey the heart of God and feel what He feels. His mercy demands prophetic messengers to be sent to the nations in the context of His judgments. (Ez. 3:1-3, Jer. 9:1, 15:16, 20:7-18; Lk. 19:41-44)
  1. Sweet – This refers to the life sustaining and exhilarating experience of personally encountering God and the intimacy that accompanies encounter. (Ps. 19:10, 119:103)
  2. Bitter – The prophetic message of repentance and judgment always carries with it great emotional pain and anguish. This bitterness is seen and felt by all the prophets in scripture. (Jer. 6:10:11, 15:17-18)

*The supernatural judgments of God alone rarely bring about repentance. When left to themselves unsaved individuals often respond to judgment in confusion, despair, and further hardening their hearts. The catalytic ingredient that enables Gods judgments to produce the desired response are activated prophetic vessels filled with boldness and truth. – Darrell Johnson*

### **IV. The Two Witnesses**

- A. The two witnesses will lead the prayer movement releasing God’s judgments on the Antichrist’s empire. This will be similar to what Moses and Aaron did in the Exodus concerning Pharaoh’s empire. The plagues of Egypt are the prototype of the end-time judgments. The confrontation between Moses, Aaron and the Pharaoh gives us insight into the confrontation between the two witnesses and the Antichrist. They will carry a heart of mourning over the state the nations. A clear principle of God’s kingdom is that a minimum of 2 witnesses are required to pass just judgment. (Mic. 7:15; Isa. 10:22-25; 11:12-16; 30:30; Jer. 16:14-15; 23:7-8; Ezek. 38:22; Joel 2:30).

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1. Measure the Temple (Rev. 11:1-2) – There is almost zero agreement about the interpretation of these two verses where John is asked to measure the temple. In my opinion the best references we have to this is when Ezekiel was shown a vision of an angel measuring the Temple that Jesus will build upon His return. I believe it must have something to do with measuring the level of voluntary love and maturity in Gods prophetic bride based on these other passages. (Ez. 40-43:7, Zech 2:2)
2. They will Prophecy 3 ½ years (Rev. 11:3) – This is same 3½ year tribulation time frame is mentioned in 4 different ways 8 times in scripture. The various language is: “1,260 days”, “times time and half a time”, “middle of the week (week of years)”, and “42 months”. I believe different terminology is used so that the meaning is clear and no one would easily be able to dismiss this significant prophetic time frame as symbolic. (Dan. 7:25, 9:27, 12:7; Rev. 11:3, 12:6, 12:14, 13:5)
3. They Have Power to Strike the Earth (Rev. 11:5-6) - The power that will be given will be in the measure necessary to cause the nations to pay attention to their message. Many will hear their message and respond in repentance. Others will rage against them and blame them personally for the trouble that is coming upon their nation. It’s my opinion that the same rage will be taken out on individuals who stand with the two witnesses. (1 Ki 18:16-18, 21:20, 22:8; Jer. 26:8-9, 38:4; Amo. 5:10; Jhn 15:18-19)
4. The Antichrist will Overcome and Kill Them (Rev. 11:7-10) The mercy of God will be to establish these two right in the middle of the most public place on earth. In the coming days that place will clearly be the city of Jerusalem in Israel. This is where the Antichrist will establish his government and where the two witnesses will confront him. At the end of the 3 ½ year tribulation period Jesus will allow them to be killed in order to show one last great sign and wonder before His return by resurrecting them 3 ½ days later.
5. The Breath of Life Entered Them (Rev. 11:11-13) - To signify their internal condition, the nations rejoice at their death by holding a worldwide holiday resembling Christmas. All those around the earth celebrating the death of the two anointed ones will watch in horror as they are resurrected. This final sign will cause many to turn to Jesus at the very last moment just before His return.