

"The Little Scroll"

Part 1

Revelation 10:1-11

Introduction: In the past two of our studies from the book of Revelation we looked at chapter 9 and it was in chapter 9 where we were permitted to see the 5th and the 6th Trumpet Judgments and in both of those judgments we could see the demonic influence which will happen during the Tribulation. In Trumpet #5 the abyss was opened and there was the release of the chained angels and John called them locusts. They will torment men 5 months but will not be permitted to inflict death upon any. Then when the 6th Trumpet sounded we saw the 4 angels which are currently bound in the Euphrates River loosed upon the earth. They will lead an army of demons the will be innumerable, John tells us he was told the number of them was two hundred thousand thousand which would be 200 million. Someone who left here last week made a good point about this army. There has been over the years many who have taught that this is an army from China because of how many soldiers they have. But the person last week said it will be a demonic army because if it were a human army then men could explain the slaughter of one third of the population as "THE CAUSALITIES OF WAR". They would not see it as SUPERNATURAL and it is SUPERNATURAL. Just like the BURNING OF THE GREEN GRASS. These are judgments designed by God so that fallen man will NOT be able to explain them away and they will KNOW FOR SURE they are from God. This is an extension of the grace of God to the unsaved of the Tribulation period.

Today we are going to step into chapter 10. We are stepping into an interlude that will start in 10:1 and take us through 11:14. We had the very same pattern after the 6th Seal Judgment. Here we see it again after the 6th Trumpet Judgment.

The Overview

I want to begin this section by giving to you an overview of what we are about to consider. Just as chapter 7 allowed us to look to the earth and see that God was in control and He was extending grace to the people of the Tribulation by sending the 144,000 Jewish missionaries so in the section before us we will see that amid all that is happening in this part of the Tribulation God is still in control.

The Tribulation will not begin with Judgments that are left to chance. God has the entire Tribulation period planned out and He has His purposes that will be fulfilled.

I. Lessons from the Mighty Angel

Notice Revelation 10:1

The appearance of this angel is very interesting and his appearance speaks many things to the Bible student.

- 1. He comes down from heaven so therefore we can determine that he has been sent from God.**

He is not a fallen angel but he is a righteous angel sent to carry out the will of God. We are not told who he is but there are many who do speculation. Some say it is Jesus Christ, some say it is Michael and others say he is Gabriel. I do not believe he is either of these. He is simply a MIGHTY angel sent from God to carry out the will of God.

- 2. He is clothed with a cloud and he has a rainbow upon his head.**

Clouds are often associated with angels in the Scriptures. The rainbow here I believe is very significant. The RAINBOW belongs to God and it is a sign of His covenant which He made with Noah and all who would come from Noah.

Genesis 9:8-15

⁸ And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

⁹ And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

¹⁰ And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

¹¹ And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

¹² And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

¹³ I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

¹⁴ And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

¹⁵ And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

The RAINBOW was a token of God's faithfulness and it still is today. He promised that He would never destroy life on earth with a global flood again.

But what does the RAINBOW mean here in Revelation? I believe it speaks of God's faithfulness to His promises. He has promised that He will establish His Covenant with Israel, He has promised that He will establish His Kingdom on the earth, and He has promised that He will cleanse the earth of all wickedness.

This reminder of His faithfulness will be very important during the Tribulation. Those who are still alive now and have been saved in the Tribulation will certainly be terrified by what is happening around the globe. The demonic armies, the destruction of much of the food supplies, the bitter waters and the death of over one half of the population. This mention of the RAINBOW will bring comfort and encouragement to the believers of the Tribulation.

Application:

The application for us here is twofold:

- a. **When we make a promise, we need to be True to our word.**

Matthew 5:33-37

³³ Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

³⁴ But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

³⁵ Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

³⁶ Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

³⁷ But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

- b. **We can rest in the promises of our Lord.**

Notice Revelation 10:1 again.

3. His face was shining like the sun.

This tells us the angel mentioned here has come directly from the presence of God. Remember how Moses' face shone after he returned from the mountain? This angel's face is aglow because he radiates the glory of God from living in the presence of God.

Application:

The closer we walk with God the more we also reflect our Lord. This is God's will for each of us.

2 Corinthians 4:1-11

Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

² But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

³ But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

⁵ For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

⁶ For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

⁸ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

¹¹ For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

Philippians 1:20-21

²⁰ *According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.*

²¹ *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

4. His feet as pillars of fire.

Notice Revelation 10:1

In the Bible fire speaks of the judgment of God so we can therefore determine this angel has been sent to carry out the judgment of God. It is also very interesting that his feet and his legs are described as PILLARS. Pillars are solid and they are unbendable. This speaks of the UNCOMPROMISING character of God. He will never soften His view of sin. He will never allow sin in His presence.

Isaiah 53:4-6

⁴ *Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.*

⁵ *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

⁶ *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

The angel's feet and legs speak of God's UNCOMPROMISING view of sin and His right to bring judgment upon those who refuse to repent and turn to Jesus Christ.

This thought is very sobering when we combine it with what we looked at last week in the close of the message.

Revelation 9:20-21

²⁰ *And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:*

²¹ *Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.*

These people will NOT be able to escape the judgment of God. God will bring judgments which man will NOT be able to explain away and the deceitful heart of man will convince him that he can escape the Judgment of God.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

⁹ *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

¹⁰ **I the LORD search the heart**, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Numbers 32:23

²³ *But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and **be sure your sin will find you out.***

Application:

What is the application to you and me who are believers?

As we walk the rest of our days on this earth let us be very sure we do NOT develop a compromising spirit. We should never BEND to conform to the world.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

² *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Satan cannot steal away our salvation but he can steal away our testimony if we are not careful.

1 Peter 5:8

⁸ *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

Matthew 5:13-16

¹³ **Ye are the salt of the earth**: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

¹⁴ **Ye are the light of the world.** *A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.*

¹⁵ *Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.*

¹⁶ *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

Jesus gave 2 titles to His disciples and both apply to our lives. We are to be salt and light in this sin filled world in which we live in.

1 Peter 2:5, 9

⁵ *Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*

⁹ *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a **peculiar** people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;*

The word "PECULIAR" means "PRESERVING". This goes back to the fact we are the Salt of the Earth and the Light of the World. We are to live our lives in a way that others are convicted when they see us living in obedience to God's Word.

Conclusion:

Next week we shall get into the prophetic substance of this chapter. As we close today let me give you some questions:

1. How much of Christ are you reflecting to those around you?
2. How are you doing as salt of the earth?
3. How are you doing as the light of the world?
4. Are you bending and conforming to the ways of the world?
5. Do you have a compromising spirit?