

Revelation

The Angel and the Little Scroll—Revelation 10:1–11

Topics: Angels, Creation, Delay, Encouragement, God’s Will, Guidance, Instructions, Judgment, Obedience, Responsibility, Silence, Surprises, Witnessing

Open It

1. What is something for which you have waited a long time?

Revelation 10:1–11 (ESV)

¹Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire.
²He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land,
³and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring. When he called out, the seven thunders sounded.
⁴And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down.”
⁵And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven
⁶and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, that there would be no more delay,
⁷but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.
⁸Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, “Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”
⁹So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, “Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.”
¹⁰And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it. It was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter.
¹¹And I was told, “You must again prophesy about many peoples and nations and languages and kings.”

Explore It

2. What did the mighty angel do? (10:2–3)
3. What command did John receive from heaven? (10:4)
4. What did the mighty angel do after John sealed up what the seven thunders said? (10:5–6)
5. What announcement did the angel make? (10:6–7)
6. What did the voice from heaven tell John to do? (10:8)
7. What did the angel tell John to do with the little scroll? (10:9)
8. What warning did the angel give John? (10:9)
9. What happened when John ate the scroll? (10:10)

10. What is the last thing John was told at this time? (10:11)

Get It

11. What do you think is symbolized by John's eating the scroll of God's words and finding it sweet in his mouth and sour in his stomach?
12. In what situations has God's Word ever tasted sweet at first hearing but then sour as you "digested" it?

Apply It

13. How can you practice patience and trust today in an area of your life where God's working seems to have been delayed?