

The End of the Mystery

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Revelation 10:1-11.

B. Many struggle with the apparent problem of a silent heaven.

II. The mystery of the angel.

A. The cloud that accompanied the angel signals that it is God because a cloud accompanied God in His Shekinah glory—the angel is Jesus.

B. A rainbow appears around His head—this points to the rainbow around the throne of God. (Revelation 4)

C. His face was like the sun and His feet were like fiery pillars pointing to Jesus. (Revelation 1)

D. There is indication that Israel is coming into play again after the return of Jesus, which is a great encouragement because all these events are still under control of the angel of God.

E. This angel of God is a powerful creature.

F. The seven thunders are sealed up to the readers—the only part of revelation that has been sealed up.

1. Psalm 29 may have a clue.

2. It is something that has not unfolded yet though. (II Corinthians 12)

III. The mystery of God.

A. When the seventh angel sounds, God says that there will be no more delay.

1. God will reign on earth after these events.

2. God has ruled, and over-ruled on earth.

3. However, He has never reigned. (Revelation 11:17)

B. God will begin His kingdom on earth by restoring His people Israel. (Ezekiel 36)

1. The promises belong to Israel.

2. The Gentiles are let in on the promises.

3. However, the promises to Israel will not be revoked.

IV. The mystery of the scroll.

- A. When a prophet eats a scroll, it is symbolic of the prophet taking the scroll in.
- B. The scroll tasted sweet at first, but then it became bitter when the prophet realized that he was a part of it.
- C. We are joyful when we receive good news from God, but it is easy to be bitter when He tells us that we must change.

Application questions:

1. How can John's depiction of the angel as a powerful entity be encouraging?

2. What is the role of Israel in the end times according to the speaker? How do the Gentiles fit in?

3. When have you received a "bitter" work from God? Why is it important that we receive not so good news from God sometimes as well as the good?
