

Revelation 10: The Overlooked Interlude

Revelation 10 | Sunday, June 21 | Revelation Series

Hal Lindsey Media Ministries · hallindsey.com

OVERVIEW

Hal begins with a complaint: most expositors who write commentaries on this book have very little to say about chapter 10 and simply gloss over it. He thinks it is extremely important, and before he opens it he stops to place it. Twelve consecutive judgments have now fallen — six in the seals, and the six trumpets that came out of the seventh seal — bringing the reader very near the end of the seven-year period. What follows is the longest interlude in the book, and Hal spends the first half of the message sketching the whole of it, chapter by chapter, out to the end of history. Then chapter 10 itself: a strong angel clothed with a cloud, rainbow on his head, face like the sun, feet like pillars of fire, one foot on the sea and one on the land. The Greek word for “another,” *allos*, ties him to the strong angel of chapter 5, and Hal calls him the ambassador from galaxy H — H for heaven. There will be delay no longer.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Revelation 10:1–2 — A strong angel clothed with a cloud, feet like pillars of fire, a little scroll open in his hand

Revelation 10:3–4 — The seven peals of thunder; seal up what they said and do not write them

Revelation 10:5–7 — He swears by him who lives forever that there will be delay no longer

Revelation 10:8–11 — Take it and eat it — bitter in the stomach, sweet as honey in the mouth

Revelation 5:2 — The first strong angel: who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?

Revelation 9 — The last half of the chapter, where a third of the population of the earth is wiped out

Revelation 11 — The two great prophets, and the temple with a Gentile temple beside it

Revelation 17:18 — The woman you saw is that great city which is ruling over the kings of the earth

KEY TERMS

The interlude — the longest pause in the book — the chronology stops just short of the final judgments while God holds up and gives mankind one more chance

Allos — Greek for another of the same kind — the word used of this angel, tying him to the strong angel of chapter 5

Heteros — another of a different kind; the distinction English never makes, and the word not used here

The ambassador from galaxy H — Hal's name for the strong angel of chapter 10 — H for heaven

A strong angel — the word means mighty angel; Hal reasons that he has to be a cherub, and one of the archangels

Cherub — not a cute roly-poly baby but a being of immense power — Lucifer was a cherub, and the highest of them all

Mystery Babylon — a false religious system wedded with economics, which the Antichrist uses to bring the whole world under his control

The great white throne — the last judgment, where only unbelievers stand — its purpose is not to see whether you made it, but to show you why you did not

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Answer from the message itself. Every answer is in the teaching.

1. Why does Hal say this chapter gets overlooked?

2. Where are we in the book when chapter 10 opens?

3. What does Hal say the interlude is for?

4. What does Hal preview as coming in the rest of the interlude?

5. What does Hal say about the two antichrists?

6. How does he identify mystery Babylon?

7. Who stands at the great white throne, and what is the judgment for?

8. What is the difference between allos and heteros?

9. Why does that word send Hal back to chapter 5?

10. What does Hal conclude about this angel's rank?

11. What is the angel doing with one foot on the sea and one on the land?

12. What does the angel swear, and what is the one thing Hal says he does not know?

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

1. God stops the judgments one more time to give people another chance. What does that tell you about the God who is running this?

2. Hal says most commentators skip this chapter. What have you skipped in Scripture because it seemed poetic or obscure — and what might be in it?

3. There is something written in this book that we are told not to know. How comfortable are you with God keeping some things sealed?

4. The little book is sweet in the mouth and bitter in the stomach. Where has a truth from God been both to you?

5. At the great white throne the deeds a person thought were good are the ones brought up. What does that do to the way you think about your own record?

6. The angel declares that there will be delay no longer. If God's patience has a limit, how should that shape what you do with the time you have?

MEMORY VERSE

"And I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire."

— Revelation 10:1, as Hal reads it in this message