

Decoding Revelation Week 5

Revelation was written to correct, prepare, and encourage us.

Tribulation - Three Groups of Individuals

Believers - Protection and Persecution

Unbelievers - Wrath Before Judgment

Satan, Beast and False Prophet - Destruction and Doom

Seals, Interlude, Trumpets, Interlude, Bowls, Interlude, Return of Christ

#1 THE PREEMINENCE OF GOD'S WORD (10)

The strong angel (10:1) – a messenger from God.

Angel's face – The holiness of God

Clothed in clouds – The judgment of God

Rainbow – The faithfulness of God

The little scroll (book) (10:2) – The prophetic word of God.

Rev. 5:1 - the title deed to the earth and story of redemption and judgment.

The 7 peals of thunder (10:4) – The unrevealed judgments of God.

"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law." Deut. 29:29 (NAU) (see also: Job 37)

The eating of the little scroll (book) (10:9) – The Bible is to be internalized.

Ezek. 2:9, 3:1, Jer. 15:16-17

Sweet – Sweet to the soul

Bitter – an unveiling of God's judgment

Life Application

1. God's Word is sweet - it satisfies the soul

"The law of the LORD...is sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb." Ps 19:10

2. God's Word is bitter - it reveals the judgment of God.

See: Rev. 11:18, 20:11-15

3. God's Word is to be eaten - it must be internalized through regular study.

#2 THE PERSEVERENCE OF GOD'S WITNESSES (12)

The measuring rod (11:1) – protection to believers

The Temple of God, the altar, and those that worship in it (11:1-1) – true believers.

Outside Temple court and Jerusalem (11:2-2) - represents unbelievers.

Two witnesses (11:3) - The preaching of the Gospel before the final wrath and judgment.

The Beast (11:7) – The antichrist from the abyss.

The 7th Trumpet (11:15) – the beginning of the seven bowls.

A future heavenly scene (11:15-19)

Final reign of Christ

Judgment of the nations

Reward to the bondservants

The eternal temple of God

Life Application

1. God desires all to be saved

"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3:9 (NAU)

2. God holds back judgment for the last one to repent.

"For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord God. "Therefore, repent and live." Ezek. 18:32 (NAU)

3. Keep on witnessing even in the midst of strong opposition.

See: Acts 4:19-33

Scriptures Referenced: Revelation Ch. 10 and Ch. 11, Revelation 5:1, Deuteronomy 29:29, Ezekiel 2:9, Ezekiel 3:1, Jeremiah 15:16, Psalm 19:10, 1 Peter 5:8-11, Isaiah 40:28-31, Romans 8:1, Psalm 90:10, Psalm 90:12, 2 Peter 3:9, Ezekiel 18:32, Acts 4:19-33, Revelation 11:18, Revelation 20:11-15, Job 37.