

Bible Prophecy and the book of Revelation, Lesson 15

Revelation 10:1-7 – We've now reached the second of three parentheses here in Revelation in the second of three tiers of judgment in an ascending order of devastations.

- ✓ Each of the tiers of judgment takes a break or parenthesis between the 6th and the 7th.
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Verse 1 – The identity of this angel has brought considerable discussion among theologians for years, and nobody has reached a solid conclusion so neither are we!

- ✓ Two camps of thought.

1. Christ – “angel” doesn't have to mean a specific being but just “messenger”.

- Jesus does show up as the angel of the Lord on several occasions in the Old Testament.
 - Has attributes previously describing Christ: fiery feet and a face like the sun.
 - Voice is like a lion.
 - Seems to stake His claim over the Land and the sea.
 - Face like the sun – **Revelation 1:16** and **Mathew 17** at the transfiguration Jesus appears this way.
 - Feet like pillars of fire = **Revelation 1:15** Jesus appears this way.
 - Roars like a lion = Is called the “Lion of the tribe of Judah” in chapter 5, **Proverbs 19:12**, **Joel 3:16**.
 - In Old Testament settings Jesus often appears as an angel.
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2. Angel

- Angels show up as angels!
 - Swears by God in heaven as if He isn't God.
 - His shining face could just merely represent his closeness to God just as Moses' closeness to God made His face shine.
 - The Greek word for “another” in “another strong angel” is the word “allos” or another of the same kind referring us back to **Revelation 5:2**.
 - All that to say it doesn't in the end matter which interpretation you take because it doesn't change the outcome of what this teaches.
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Verse 1 – “coming down out of heaven” as opposed to “falling from heaven” as in the case of the demon at the start of Chapter 9.

- ✓ “Rainbow” what does this represent?
 - ✓ it was originally a symbol that represented our relationship with God which is based on grace. It is out of grace that He will not destroy us.
 - ✓ Represents not just a promise about a flood about how God treats us with grace in all His promises.
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Verses 2-4 – This is the only thing sealed up in the book called “The Revealing.”

- ✓ If the Bible raises a question that the Bible doesn’t answer, there isn’t an answer. **Deuteronomy 29:29**
 - ✓ Does it bother you that God is holding out on us information? Get over it, because of all the things there is to know, we know so little.
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Verses 5-7 – Ever wonder where people came up with putting your left hand on the Bible and raising your right hand and swearing to tell the truth? Here it is!

- ✓ He swears...does God swear?? Indeed, He does: **Romans 14:11, Hebrews 6:13-18**
 - ✓ Why do we have people swear an oath when they take the witness stand? Because people are well known to lie!!
 - ✓ So, does God lie? Of course not, but in order that we may know the certainty of what He says, He stoops to our level of doing things.
 - ✓ What mystery is He talking about here? **Mystery and Dilemma of Evil:** that God allows evil to go on without, seemingly, judging it.
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- ✓ We must understand where we are in this process that the Bible assumes we know:
 1. Adam and Eve were not plan A and when that failed God instituted plan B which is through His Son.
 2. There has only been one plan for man.
 3. Conceived in eternity.
 4. Fertilized in the Garden and its after math.
 5. Pregnancy is now coming closer and closer to term.
 6. Labor will be seven years back labor (Tribulation is often described as labor—Jesus said that the 7 seals were the beginnings of labor pains)
 7. The delivery will be the Millennium and ultimately Eternity in which righteousness reigns from which we cannot fall.
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Verses 8-11 – This is the effect when we take in the Word of God: sweet to be forgiven and accepted.

- ✓ **Ezekiel 2:8-3:4**
 - ✓ Sweet to know this doesn’t apply to you – but bitter as you assimilate the truth that many will not turn to God for salvation.
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