



+INTRODUCTION

Still within the period of the sixth trumpet, an interlude takes place. John sees a mighty angel descend from heaven carrying an open scroll. The identity of this angel has been widely speculated upon throughout history, ranging anywhere from Jesus, to an archangel. This mighty messenger sets one foot on the sea and one on the land, possibly as an action declaring victory over this newly reclaimed territory (Rev. 11:15).

Curiously, John hears a voice from out of heaven calling him to take the open scroll and eat it. This action is reminiscent to the prophet Ezekiel when he too was urged to eat the scroll and then prophecy. This "eating the scroll", would seem to be a symbolic/imaginative way of illustrating the importance of consuming/ingesting God's word.

Jewish people have always had high regard for God's word. From creation itself being **spoken** into existence, to the law being delivered to Moses, inscribed upon the two tablets of stone, God's word has been viewed as, "life-giving".

There are at least three experiences John has to his, "eating the word".

- 1. **SWEETNESS TO THE TASTE:** God's word, when used as a lens to view Him rightly, reveals

+READ (Revelation 10)

Read this passage out loud together as a group/family before asking any of the below questions.

+OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION/APPLICATION

- 1. Many scholars see Daniel 10:4-12:13 as a complimentary verse to Rev. 10:1-7. How are these two passages similar?
- 2. Why do you think John was ordered to, "eat the scroll" Rev. 10:10. Have you ever had an experience when "eating the word" that the experience was:
 - a. **sweet**...describe it
 - b. **bitter**...describe it
- 3. What do you think the main message is for us from Rev. 10:9-11?

+MEMORY VERSE/MEDITATION VERSE

Rev. 10:9 ..he said to me, Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.

Jesus, allowing us to see Him as beautiful. This beauty of God, brings sweetness, and a humility.

- 2. **BITTERNESS TO THE STOMACH:** While God's word reveals his indescribable worth as well as the blessings afforded to those who love Him, it also speaks judgement to those who despise and dishonor Christ, by preferring other god's and idols. It's in light of this future appointment of the judgement to come commingled with the present suffering in the world due to disobedience to it, this scroll takes on a bitterness.
- 3. **COMMISSION TO PROCLAIM:** God's word creates a reaction in the heart of those who've been impacted by it's revelation. John is commissioned to announce and declare the message he revealed to many peoples, nations, tongues and kings (Rev. 10:11).

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