

# Hope for The Future: A Study in the Book of the Revelation

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## 10 – THE SIXTH TRUMPET & THE MIGHTY ANGEL (REVELATION 9:13-10:11)

### Review:

#### A. The key verse (1:19)

- The key to understanding the book is found in Revelation 1:19

#### B. A basic outline

1. What You Have Seen (Chapter 1)
2. What is Now (Chapters 2-3)
3. What will take place later (Chapters 4-22)

#### C. A Basic Mindset

1. Don't be dogmatic about your interpretations.
2. Biblical prophecy only gives us a partial picture.

### I. The Sixth Trumpet (Revelation 9:13-9:21)

#### A. The Command (9:13-14)

##### 1. The voice (9:13)

- When the sixth trumpet is sounded, John hears a voice from altar before God.

##### 2. The command to release (9:14)

- The sixth angel is commanded to release four demons from imprisonment.

#### B. The Four Angels (9:15-19)

##### 1. The timing of their release (9:15a)

- The release of these four is minutely timed.

##### 2. Their purpose (9:15b)

- They are to destroy a third of the world's population.

##### 3. A Great Army (9:16-19)

###### a. The size of the army (9:16)

# Hope for The Future: A Study in the Book of the Revelation

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- John sees an army of 200 million mounted soldiers.
- This army can be human or demonic.

b. The description of the army (9:17)

- Whether symbolically or literally, the text implies an awesome invading force.

c. The destruction of a third of mankind (9:18)

- This army brings a plague that destroys a third of mankind.

d. The power of the army (9:19)

- This army has enormous power to bring destruction.

C. The Lack of Repentance (9:20-21)

1. The refusal to repent (9:20a)

- In spite of the judgments, men will still refuse to repent and turn to God.

2. Areas of repentance (9:20b-21)

a. Idolatry (9:20b)

- They will refuse to repent and turn from their worship of false idols.

b. Sin (9:21)

- They will refuse to repent and turn from their sins.

II. The Mighty Angel and the Little Scroll (Revelation 10:1-11)

A. The Introduction of the Angel Holding the Scroll (10:1-4)

1. The description of the angel (10:1)

- This angel is described in a dramatic fashion.
- He is clothed in a cloud and wears a rainbow as a hat.
- His face shines like the sun and he has feet of fire.

2. The scroll (10:2)

- John sees that he has a little scroll in his hand.

# Hope for The Future: A Study in the Book of the Revelation

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- The angel stands upon earth signifying that the message is for all.

## 3. The cry of the angel (10:3)

- He shouted like the roar of a lion.
- The scene is certainly one to inspire awe.
- When this angel shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.
- The identity of the seven thunders is not known.

## 4. The command not to write (10:4)

- John prepares to write down what the seven thunders said.
- He is commanded not to write down the utterances.

### Scripture 2 Corinthians 12:1-4

<sup>1</sup> It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: <sup>2</sup> I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. <sup>3</sup> And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—<sup>4</sup> how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

## B. The Announcement of the Impending End (10:5-7)

### 1. The angel swears before heaven (10:5-6)

- The mighty angel solemnly swears by God that there will be no more delay.

### 2. The angel announces the intent of the seventh trumpet (10:7)

- The seventh trumpet indicates the accomplishment of the mystery of God.
- The mystery of God had been previously announced to God's prophets.
- This refers to the fulfillment of many passages which refer to the second coming.

## C. The Eating of the Scroll (10:8-11)

### 1. The command to take the scroll (10:8)

- John is commanded to take the scroll from the mighty angel.

### 2. John asks for the scroll (10:9)

## Hope for The Future: A Study in the Book of the Revelation

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- John asks the mighty angel for the scroll.
- The angel tells John to eat the scroll.

### Scripture Ezekiel 2:9-3:3

<sup>9</sup> Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out to me. In it was a scroll, <sup>10</sup> which he unrolled before me. On both sides of it were written words of lament and mourning and woe.

<sup>1</sup> And he said to me, "Son of man, eat what is before you, eat this scroll; then go and speak to the people of Israel." <sup>2</sup> So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat.

<sup>3</sup> Then he said to me, "Son of man, eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it." So I ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.

### 3. John eats the scroll (10:10)

- John eats the scroll, which is sweet to taste but bitter to the stomach.

### 4. The command to prophecy (10:11)

- John is told to proclaim the contents to everyone.