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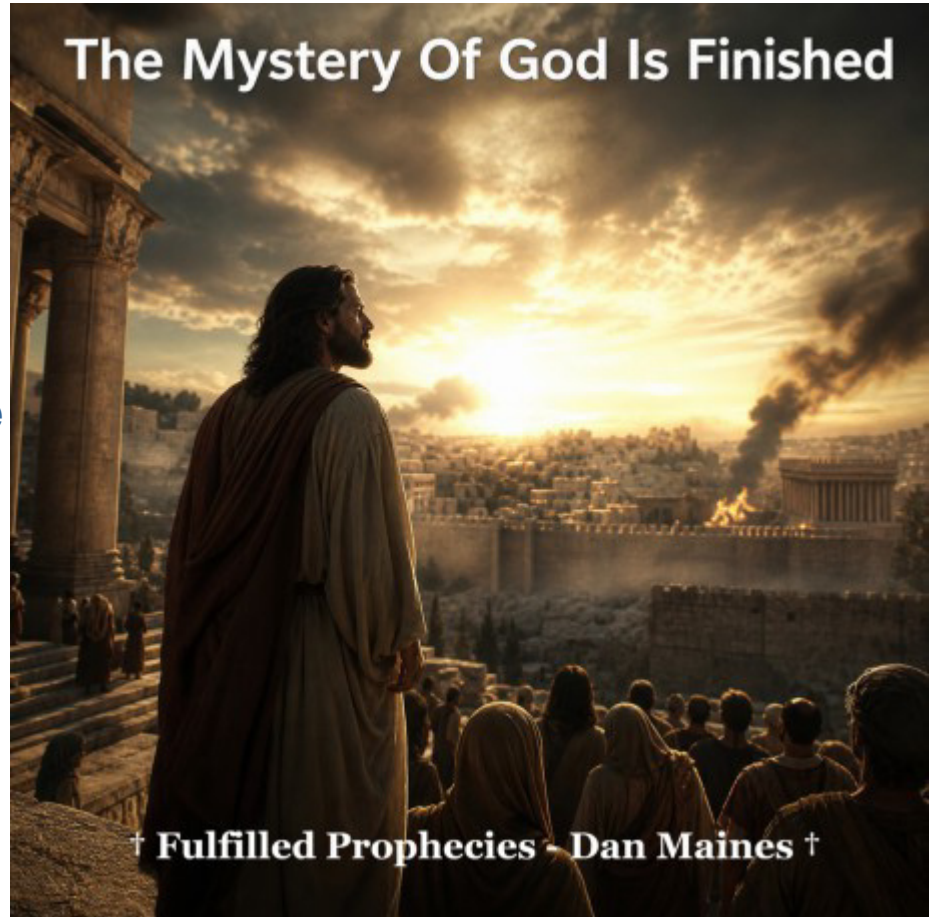
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Revelation 10 - The Mystery Of God Is Finished



By Dan Maines

The Mystery Of God Is Finished

Introduction

† Revelation 10 doesn't stand alone, it brings together everything God spoke through the Law, the Prophets, and Christ, and declares its completion (Revelation 10:7; Luke 24:44)

† The timing language removes all delay and places fulfillment in their generation, exactly as Jesus said (Revelation 10:6;

Matthew 24:34)

† This chapter ties together the Law, the Prophets, and the Gospel, showing the mystery wasn't future but reaching its completion (Romans 16:25-26; Ephesians 3:3-5)

Revelation 10:1-2

I saw another strong angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was on his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire; and he had in his hand a little scroll, which was open. He placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;

† The imagery reflects divine authority and covenant presence, the same glory language used of Christ (Revelation 1:13-16; Matthew 17:2)

† The cloud and rainbow point to covenant fulfillment, not a new future system (Genesis 9:13; Hebrews 8:13)

† The little book being open shows what was once sealed is now revealed (Daniel 12:4; Revelation 22:10)

Revelation 10:3-4

and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices. When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken, and do not write them."

† The voice like a lion shows authority and judgment, consistent with Christ's role (Hosea 11:10; Amos 3:8)

† The sealing of the thunders shows not all details were revealed, but the events were already in motion (Deuteronomy

29:29; Acts 1:7)

† This confirms Revelation wasn't written for distant generations but for those facing imminent events (Revelation 1:1; Luke 21:22)

Revelation 10:5-7

Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there will no longer be a delay, but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He announced to His servants the prophets.

† There shall be delay no longer destroys the idea of a long future gap and places fulfillment in their time (Revelation 1:3; Matthew 24:34)

† The mystery of God being finished is the completion of what was hidden and now revealed in Christ (Colossians 1:26-27; Ephesians 3:6)

† The good tidings declared to the prophets proves this is fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy (Luke 24:44; Acts 3:18)

† The finishing of the mystery includes the gospel reaching the nations, showing completion of the commission (Colossians 1:23; Matthew 24:14)

Daniel 12:4

But as for you, Daniel, keep these words secret and seal up the book until the end of time; many will roam about, and knowledge will increase."

† Daniel was told to seal the book until the time of the end, showing it wasn't for his generation (Daniel 12:9; 1 Peter 1:10-12)

† Revelation shows the book open, proving John's audience was living in that time of the end (Revelation 10:2; Revelation 22:10)

† This connects the timing directly to the first century, not a distant future (Revelation 1:1; Luke 21:31-32)

Daniel 12:7

And I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time; and as soon as they finish smashing the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed.

† The oath and raised hand match Revelation 10, tying both passages to the same moment of completion (Revelation 10:5-6; Daniel 12:7)

† The shattering of the holy people points to the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the Old Covenant system (Luke 21:20-22; Matthew 24:2)

† All these things shall be finished aligns directly with the mystery of God being finished (Revelation 10:7; Hebrews 9:26)

Revelation 10:8-10

Then the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the scroll which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land." And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little scroll. And he *said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." I

took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it was sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.

† Eating the scroll mirrors Ezekiel's commission, showing John is delivering a prophetic message of judgment (Ezekiel 2:8-3:3; Jeremiah 15:16)

† The sweetness reflects God's truth, while the bitterness reflects the coming judgment on Jerusalem (Psalm 19:9-10; Luke 19:41-44)

† This confirms the message includes both fulfillment and destruction tied to that generation (Matthew 23:36; Luke 21:22)

Revelation 10:11

And they *said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples, nations, languages, and kings."

† The message extends beyond Israel to the nations, showing the mystery includes the Gentiles (Ephesians 3:6; Colossians 1:27)

† This fulfills the promise that the gospel would go to all nations before the end (Matthew 24:14; Colossians 1:23)

† The impact of these events would reach kings and nations, not remain local (Acts 17:6; Luke 2:1)

Colossians 1:26-27

that is, the mystery which had been hidden from the past ages and generations, but now has been revealed to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is, the mystery that is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

† The mystery was already manifested in Paul's time, not still waiting today (Colossians 1:26; Romans 16:25-26)

† Christ in you shows the New Covenant reality replacing the old system (John 14:23; Hebrews 8:10)

† The inclusion of the Gentiles proves the covenant expansion had already begun (Ephesians 2:14-16; Acts 15:14)

Revelation 11:15

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

† The seventh trumpet marks completion of the process described in Revelation 10 (Revelation 10:7; 1 Corinthians 15:24)

† The kingdom becoming Christ's shows the full transfer of authority (Daniel 7:14; Hebrews 12:28)

† This fulfills Jesus' promise that some standing there would see it happen (Matthew 16:27-28; Mark 9:1)

Hebrews 9:26

Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been revealed to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

† The end of the ages was already present in the first century, not in the distant future (Hebrews 9:26; 1 Corinthians 10:11)

† This confirms the timing of Revelation 10 as part of that same end period (Revelation 10:7; Matthew 24:3)

† Christ's work was already bringing the old age to its conclusion (Hebrews 8:13; Galatians 4:4)

1 Corinthians 10:11

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

† Paul says the ends of the ages had already come upon them, confirming first century fulfillment (1 Corinthians 10:11; Hebrews 9:26)

† This matches the declaration that the mystery would be finished without delay (Revelation 10:6-7; Revelation 1:1)

† It shows the apostles understood they were living in the time of completion (Romans 13:11-12; James 5:8)

Acts 2:16-17

but this is what has been spoken through the prophet Joel:

'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says,
'THAT I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;
AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS WILL PROPHECY,
AND YOUR YOUNG MEN WILL SEE VISIONS,
AND YOUR OLD MEN WILL HAVE DREAMS;

† Peter declares the fulfillment had already begun in his time (Acts 2:16; Joel 2:28)

† This shows the prophetic timeline was already in motion, not waiting for a future age (Acts 2:17; Hebrews 1:2)

† Revelation 10 marks the completion of what began at Pentecost (Revelation 10:7; Acts 2:33)

Historical References

† Irenaeus connected the fulfillment of prophecy with events tied to that generation, showing early understanding of completion (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies* Book 5; Matthew 24:34)

† Eusebius recorded the destruction of Jerusalem as the fulfillment of Christ's warnings (Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*; Matthew 24:2)

† Josephus documented the events of AD 70, confirming the end of the age exactly as prophesied (Josephus, *Wars of the Jews*; Luke 21:20-22)

How It Applies To Us Today

† We aren't waiting for the mystery to be finished, it has already been completed in Christ (Revelation 10:7; Colossians 1:26)

† We live in the fully revealed kingdom where Christ reigns now (Revelation 11:15; Hebrews 1:8)

† This truth removes fear of future speculation and anchors us in what has already been fulfilled (John 19:30; Hebrews 8:13)

† It calls us to walk in the New Covenant reality instead of looking for what has already passed (2 Corinthians 5:17; Hebrews 12:22-24)

Q & A Appendix

Q What is the mystery of God?

A The revealed plan of God in Christ bringing Jews and Gentiles into one body (Ephesians 3:3-6; Colossians 1:26-27)

Q When was the mystery finished?

A At the sounding of the seventh trumpet during the events

leading to AD 70 (Revelation 10:7; Revelation 11:15)

Q How do we know this wasn't future?

A Because Scripture says there would be no more delay and it was near in their time (Revelation 10:6; Revelation 1:1-3)

Q What does the little book represent?

A The revealed and unsealed prophecy now being fulfilled (Revelation 10:2; Daniel 12:4)

Q Why was it sweet and bitter?

A Sweet because it's God's truth, bitter because it involved judgment on Jerusalem (Ezekiel 3:3; Luke 19:41-44)

Q If the mystery is finished, why do many still not understand it?

A Because fulfillment doesn't require universal understanding, just as many did not understand Christ even after He fulfilled prophecy (Luke 24:25-27; John 12:37)

Q Does the mystery being finished mean prophecy stopped?

A No, it means what the prophets spoke about was fulfilled, not that God stopped speaking or working (Revelation 10:7; Luke 24:44)

Q How does the mystery connect to the destruction of Jerusalem?

A The mystery included the end of the Old Covenant system, which was completed when Jerusalem was judged (Daniel 12:7; Luke 21:20-22)

Q What role does the seventh trumpet play in this?

A It marks the completion of God's plan, not the beginning of a future event (Revelation 10:7; Revelation 11:15)

Q If the mystery is finished, what are we living in now?

A We are living in the fully established New Covenant where

Christ reigns (Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 11:15)

Q Did the apostles believe they were near the end?

A Yes, they said the end of the ages had already come upon them (1 Corinthians 10:11; James 5:8)

Q How does Daniel 12 prove this was first century?

A It says all would be finished when the power of the holy people was shattered, which happened in AD 70 (Daniel 12:7; Matthew 24:2)

Q What does no more delay really mean?

A It means there was no postponement, the events were about to happen in their time (Revelation 10:6; Revelation 1:1)

Q How does this affect the idea of a future end times?

A It shows the end spoken of was the end of the Old Covenant age, not the end of the physical world (Hebrews 9:26; Matthew 24:3)

Q Why is the message both sweet and bitter?

A Because it brings truth and fulfillment, but also judgment on those rejecting it (Revelation 10:9-10; Luke 19:41-44)

Q Does the finished mystery mean God's plan is complete?

A Yes, everything spoken through the prophets concerning redemption and covenant transition was fulfilled (Revelation 10:7; Romans 16:25-26)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Revelation 10:1-11; Daniel 12:4; Daniel 12:7; Colossians 1:26-27; Revelation 11:15; Hebrews 9:26; 1 Corinthians 10:11;

Acts 2:16-17

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies Book 5; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History; Josephus, Wars of the Jews

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